



S T A N D I N G F I R M
M I N I S T R I E S

POWER WALKING!

my wife, Jan, loves to take long walks early in the morning. While on vacation, she walked up to six miles a day. Some of her fellow travelers take it a step further. Their enthusiasm results in carrying weights, swinging their arms, moving along at a rapid pace...I guess that's the group who are turned on by what's called *power walking*.

I'm teaching through the Book of Ephesians this fall. In that Book, which has been referred to as "The Grand Canyon of Scripture", we find a form of *power walking* that has been practiced for centuries before today's physical exercise came along.

The believer's life on earth is constantly described in the Bible as a *walk*. Gen. 5:24 tells us "*Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.*" God told Abraham to "*walk before me*" (Gen. 17:1). Beginning in chapter 4 of Ephesians, Paul describes the Christian life as a *walk* in at least 5 places.

Now...before you can *walk* or live in a way that honors the Lord you must recognize your inadequacy. So... might as well go ahead and admit it...you're not able to live the Christian life! Many believers in our day are asking "**Where's the power?**" "I've tried everything, I've been to all the seminars, church services, and cru-

sades. I've been zapped and slapped by the preacher, made countless trips to the altar, read a ton of books, listened to piles of tapes, etc. I've tried spiritual gifts that promised to fill me with the Holy Spirit's power, I've been prayed & prophesied over, and told that something called the anointing had been transferred to me. But I still seem to lack the power to *walk*, to live the Christian life on a consistent basis." Believe it or not that's the testimony of more believers than we'll ever know. Maybe it's yours.

"Where's the power?"

Many years ago, Dr. Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ, wrote a little booklet which explained how to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Bill said it was like spiritual breathing. *Exhale* meaning confess all my sin to the Lord and *inhale* meaning receiving the filling of the Spirit. That's a short explanation. That booklet has helped many believers to learn to *walk* a spirit-filled life.

In this newsletter I would like to share with you something from God's Word that will help you understand how the filling of the Spirit takes place in a believers life. It's not new. It's just not being taught very much, therefore, it might sound new to someone reading this.

POWER WALKING

"Where do I get the power to live the Christian life? How do I *walk* in the power of the Spirit? Now watch

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"Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong."
(I Corinthians 16:13)

this...the only weapon God has given you in your battle against the forces of evil, is found in Eph. 6:17 and called “the sword of the Spirit.” Paul then says that the sword of the Spirit is the Word of God. When Paul says that God’s Word is “the sword of the Spirit”, he’s saying that the Scriptures are the instrument through which the Holy Spirit demonstrates His power.

Therefore, when we take in the Word of God...when we read it and believe it...and consistently spend time in it...we are empowered by the Holy Spirit! And we experience His power over the forces of darkness that hold men in bondage. But that’s not all. We also release the power of the Holy Spirit over the inward lusts that war against us.

I read recently of an old Scottish Christian who said, “I have a most depraved and sinful nature, and do what I will, I find I cannot make myself holy. My friends cannot do it for me, nor do I think an angel in heaven could. One thing alone does it — reading and believing what I read in that blessed Book; that does it.” Get it? The Word of God has the power of the Spirit in it.

Well...what’s that got to do with being filled with the Spirit? Good question. The Bible gives us the answer. Remember, the best way to interpret the Bible is to use the Bible.

EPHESIANS 5:18

After spending three chapters telling us of our position and all that we have in Christ, Paul begins in chapter 4 telling us to now walk in those truths...

“...walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called” (Eph. 4:1).

He goes on to instruct us on how to walk in relation to other believers, in relation to spiritual gifts, in relation to our former life, in relation to evil, our home life, our marriage, our children, our parents, our employers, and our spiritual enemies.

And...the power to walk in the ways which he outlines is found in 5:18... “And do not get drunk with wine for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.” Now watch carefully...there’s a lot at stake here if you and I are to walk in power.

Next, Paul gives us a list of the results of being filled with the Spirit. “...speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ (Eph. 5:19-21). Paul says when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, the Spirit produces certain results.

COLOSSIANS 3:16

Keeping in mind what you’ve just read, look at Paul’s words to the Colossians: “Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,

giving thanks through Him to God the Father” (3:16-17).

SAME RESULTS

The results of being filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18), and letting the Word of Christ richly dwell within you (Col. 3:16), are essentially the same! This is vitally important for our understanding of

My friends cannot do it for me, nor do I think an angel in heaven could. One thing alone does it — reading and believing what I read in that blessed Book; that does it.”

standing of how the Holy Spirit empowers our lives through the Word of God. Everything necessary for

our personal growth in Christ, for spiritual maturity, and for equipping us to walk in the power of the Spirit of God is found in the inspired Word of God!

WHAT’S THE CONNECTION?

There is a critical and vital connection between Eph. 5:18 & Col. 3:16. We are told to be filled with the Spirit in the Ephesians passage. According to the Colossians passage...the Holy Spirit fills us as the Word of Christ (God) is richly dwelling in us. **In other words...one way in which believers are filled with the Spirit...is to allow Him to implant the Word of God deep into our hearts.** Being filled with the Spirit equips us to walk in power...the power of the Spirit.

NOW WHAT?

Well...if you believe the Bible is true, and it is...then, make it a part of your daily life to read the Word of God and allow it to fill your heart and mind with God’s truth. If you are like the multitudes of believers who are

discouraged due to the lack of power in their lives...please recognize right now, that true God-produced power will come from your submission to His Word...not from avoiding it or making excuses for not spending time in it. The psalmist wrote, *"I will walk at liberty, for I seek Thy precepts"* (Ps. 119:45). That word "liberty" implies that the restrictions of sin are broken and the believer is set free to live in the fullness of life. That's the life Jesus was speaking of when He said, *"...I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly"* (John 10:10b).

The God who loves you and will throughout eternity...wants to fill you with His Spirit, which will result in the power to walk through this world in victory.

These are wonderful truths. I've been learning them for many, many years. I'm still learning them, right along with you.

A PERSONAL CHALLENGE

Will you take my challenge and spend whatever amount of time you can...each day for the next 30-days...reading God's Word? Read any book you want. Maybe you'd like to read the Book of Ephesians...only 6 short chapters. You will find wonderful results. God's word will work in your heart and who knows, you

might see changes you thought were impossible in dealing with the world, the flesh and the devil. I pray you will.

THERE'S POWER IN THE WORD!

In these last days, and who in their right mind doesn't believe they are, God continues to reveal Himself through His written Word. The power to change every believer and use him as an agent in bringing change in others...is in the Word of God.

Not only do you and I need to understand that, but the Church as a whole desperately needs leaders who understand and believe it. Regretfully, too many pastors today continue to believe that the power of the church lies in styles or strategies of ministry.

I was there once. That's all I knew in those early years when we had only 86 people. And although we experienced phenomenal numerical growth by using marketing techniques...it was nothing compared to the spiritual and numerical growth we experienced when I finally discovered that my responsibility behind that pulpit was to open God's Book and teach His people verse by verse through the Scriptures (Eph. 4:11-12). There's no question that the power that brought nearly 4,000 people every Sunday was in the Word of

God.

The power to save men's souls is in the Word, not, as Paul says, in "superiority of speech or of wisdom...or in persuasive words of wisdom" (I Cor. 2:2,4). In one of the 13 books I read while on vacation, (*that's a lot for me*)...the author told about a brilliant physician who went to hear evangelist Dwight L. Moody just for a laugh. He later confessed, *"I knew he was not a scholar, and I felt sure I could find many flaws in his argument. But I found that I could not get at the man. He just fired one Bible text after another at me till they went home to my heart straight as bullets from a rifle. I tell you, Moody's power is in the way he has his Bible at the tip of his tongue."*

Today, as always, the church needs both **proclamation** and **demonstration**. I've been excited for years, and still am, over the fact that God has allowed me to *proclaim* His Word. And, like you, I'm constantly learning that in order for me to *demonstrate* His Word by my life...I must bathe myself in it...and experience the filling of His Spirit. Then...and only then...can I go through this life **power walking**.

Still Standing Firm,

Pat (I Cor. 16:13)

Sun City School Of The Bible

Begins 7th Year...OCTOBER 20TH!

Standing Firm's Sun City Bible Study * Wednesday Mornings From 8:00-9:00

See Pg. 7 for more details, the number to call for information, or, look on our website at www.standingfirmministries.com for a map providing directions.

Pat's Eye On The World!

BABY TOSSED ON FREEWAY IS BETTER OFF! the baby... *Read on.*

Americans watched the news video in horror! A little 8-month-old baby girl, strapped in her infant seat, was tossed out of a moving car onto the freeway. We used to reserve such treatment for animals, but human beings continue to discover new and shocking ways to demonstrate total depravity! Thankfully...the little baby who landed on the freeway, was unhurt. And she's *better off* than thousands of other little babies who *might* be born in America.



How could that be? Well, if a new administration takes over after the upcoming election, chances are the Partial Birth Abortion Ban will be dropped. A lady at Planned Parenthood in Phoenix, told me they were fighting for it. If that happens, the following scenario will return to our nation.

Every day mothers will *almost* have babies. Many of those babies will *almost* be born. But before the baby is completely delivered...before it emerges into the world...it will be killed!

Now...being a civilized society...we don't call it killing or murder. We call it PBA in order to soothe the conscience of America. I hate to even put these next words in print, but it's necessary. Here's a brief, very brief look, at the horrific scene in laymen's terms. The doctor, hereafter referred to as "the barbarian"...only *partly* delivers

Then, "the barbarian" inserts a pair of scissors into the baby's head, opening an entrance at the baby's skull, which exposes the brain. Next, "the barbarian", who is being well compensated for his evil back room deed, inserts a stainless steel catheter which is used to suck out the baby's brains and collapse its skull. That's PBA.

Because of the ban on PBA, babies are safe from this gruesome death...for the time being. If the ban is dropped, we won't see the "barbarians" on news videos. We couldn't handle it. We won't be exposed to seeing those babies killed every day...and there won't be any little baby body bags. No...those little babies, or what's left of them, will be quietly dropped into industrial strength, stainless steel garbage disposals, in some dark corner of hundreds of "killing clinics" across the nation.

Now, we'll still call it a "good" thing...because it protects a woman's right to choose...while ignoring a human's right to life. Liberal theologians and politicians wouldn't dare call it EVIL. They find good company among the nation's *black-robed terrorists*, who pose as judges. Living in the fog of moral relativism, we have become a nation influenced by men and women of whom Isaiah wrote, "*Woe to those who call evil good...*" (Isaiah 5:20).

God commanded "*Thou shalt do no murder.*" (Ex. 20:13). The word for *kill* in the KJV is a Hebrew word that can only mean *murder* and always means intentional killing. Abortion is premeditated, intentional killing, on demand.

In the final analysis, the "freeway baby" *is better off*. Why? That little innocent baby at least got a chance to enter the world and live for 8 months before she had to face her own personal "barbarian".-PRAY!



YOUR CHURCH BETTER HAVE FIRE INSURANCE!

Because it might get torched if the operators of a new website have their way. I'm not providing the web address because some young believers may not be mature enough to deal with the material. However, if you want it, call my office.

If you're Jewish, it might be your Synagogue that gets torched. The website states their goal is the "*...burning down of the last temple and the shattering of the last church.*" The site advocates an orchestrated campaign of arson and violence against Jews and Christians.

So, what's new? The Jews have suffered the burning of their synagogues for centuries. What's new is the call to burn down the Christian's places of worship.

This call for violence shouldn't be a surprise for true believers. Because Jesus said true



believers would be persecuted, even to the point of death...and...because **Christian-bashing is at an all time high in America!**

Unstable people can be negatively influenced by the media, and might reach a point where they would commit violence against Christians. Think about it. Whenever a Hollywood movie includes anything about Christians, they're depicted as fools, idiots, hypocrites, money-grubbers and/or villains. On top of that the news media appears to be on a crusade to equate evangelicals with Islamic fundamentalists. In a September 9th story, *World Net Daily* says that even New Age guru Al Gore gets his licks in against Christianity by comparing the professed faith of George W. Bush to fundamentalist Islam. Gore said Bush's faith emphasizes "vengeance" and "brimstone" just like radical Islam.

The website goes so far as to predict KILLING CHRISTIANS AND JEWS...***“Once this is achieved, the executions of die-hard Christians and Jews should bother no one.”*** But remember what Jesus said, *“They will make you outcasts, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God. And these things they will do, because they have not known the Father, or Me. But these things I have spoken to you, that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them”* (John 16:2-4).

HOMOSEXUALITY CAN MAKE CRIMINALS OF US

ALL! I stood in the pulpit at Northwest Community Church in Phoenix, 20 years ago, and said, *“The day will come in America when a pastor will be arrested for teaching God’s Word on the subject of homosexuality.”* That day hasn’t come to America...yet. But it is coming to other parts of the world and it very well could be on its way here.

Example: Ake Green is a pastor in the Pentecostal movement in Sweden. He was recently sent to jail for a month because he offended homosexuals in a sermon. What did he say? Standing behind his pulpit, he described homosexuality as *“abnormal, a horrible cancerous tumor in the body of society.”*

What about freedom of religion? The president of a Swedish gay rights federation, said the sentence didn’t have anything to do with the pastor’s religious freedoms. According to *ENI*, he said, *“Religious freedom could never be used to offend people.” Really? Well...apparently Jesus didn’t know that when He was here.*

WND reported that the prosecutor in the case said that *“Collecting Bible cites on this topic as he (Pastor Green) did, does make this hate speech.”* Like Canada and Sweden, will a similar hate crime bill one day be passed in the U.S.A.? If and when it is, men of God will continue to teach the



Word of God which describes homosexuality as “indecent acts”, also translated as *“the shameless deed”* (Romans 1:27).

If a similar law is passed in America, true believers will continue doing what they’re now doing: 1) Loving and praying for homosexuals and their families, 2) Attempting to reach them with the Gospel, their only hope of salvation, and 3) Teaching what God says on the subject in His Word.

Then homosexuality will have succeeded in making criminals of us all. A small price to pay for the honor and privilege of **standing firm** in the faith.

NEED A HUG?...

The Berean Call and *NYDN* reports that a woman called Mata Amritanadamay is a hugger, but not an ordinary hugger. She’s called the *Hugging Saint*. 50 years old, dressed in a white sari, with a diamond-studded nose ring, she sits in her chair, on a raised platform, while thousands line-up for a hug which some believe has the power to heal. One devotee who got a hug said, *“It was like riding the express train to true happiness and peace!”* I don’t think so.



Jesus doesn’t promise to give hugs...but He does promise, *among other things*, to save us from our sins, place His life within us, give us joy unspeakable, peace *with God and the peace of God!*

Jan's Latest Painting Expands Art Ministry To Include Christmas Cards.

Jan Shaughnessy's most recent painting, entitled "**God's Greatest Gift**"[©], has drawn an enthusiastic response from those who have seen it. As we've reported in previous newsletters, Jan had never painted until August 2002.

It didn't take long to see that God had given her a unique talent through which to express her faith in Christ. Her first three paintings emphasize the *Rapture*.

So many people wanted those paintings that she was encouraged to have them reproduced. It all began with her mailman, who is a believer. He was one of the first to see her initial painting entitled "*Left Behind I*" and asked if she could paint another one for him. That started her on a mission to find someone who could reproduce her paintings, leading to a young artist's shop in Sun City, Arizona. Her paintings are now reproduced on canvas and *giclee's* (formerly called lithographs)...in sizes 18" by 24" and 8" by 10".

Although many reproductions have been purchased, Jan has made minimal profit. There are several reasons for that. *First*...she considers what she's doing to be a ministry. *Second*...although professional artists have encouraged her to at least double the price, she wants people to be able to afford to own her paintings which can also be used as witnessing tools. *Third*...she uses any profit to reproduce more paintings. *Fourth*...she needs funds to market her paintings.

Jan says, "*In my wildest dreams, I never expected to be able to have such a wonderful ministry.*" Several reproductions have been purchased as gifts, one friend recently purchased one as an anniversary gift for his wife. In addition, a local gallery has invited her to place her works in a catalogue of fine art which will be produced and sent to galleries around the U.S. She's not sure that's God's will right now.

CHRISTMAS CARDS!

The sign in the above painting reads "**Jesus...The Reason For The Season.**" A friend suggested that it be made into Christmas cards. The truth is

that it has become more difficult each year to find cards that have anything to do with Jesus Christ. So...Christmas cards are now a reality! The card measures approximately 5" by 7" and the inside reads: "*May this season bring you great rejoicing over **GOD'S GREATEST GIFT***" and includes Paul's words in II Cor. 9:15, "*Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!*"

NOW AVAILABLE

Jan already has orders for nearly 700 cards friends who have heard about them. A package of 12 cards and envelopes is available for \$11. To order simply fill-out and mail the form below.



This is not a ministry of *Standing Firm*, therefore, purchases are not tax-deductible. If you receive this newsletter by email, you can see the beautiful colors in the painting. You can view and purchase all of Jan's paintings at the SFM offices, where she has set up a little gallery of her own. It's exciting to watch what God is doing.

Please send me:

_____ Packs of "*God's Greatest Gift*" Christmas cards. (12 cards and envelopes per pack @ \$11.00 each...cards not sold individually). **Total \$** _____

If mailing is required...*Postage & Handling is \$3.95 for 1 pack. Add \$1.00 for each pack thereafter.* **Total \$** _____

Orders totaling more than 5 packs, call for Postage & Handling prices. (623.972.9688)

Total enclosed (cards plus postage & handling) \$ _____

****Make checks payable to JAN SHAUGHNESSY**

(check one:) Check Money Order Sorry...*No credit card or C.O.D. orders.*

Do not mail, I will pick up cards at: Bible study SFM office

Please send to: _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone: (optional) _____

*Mail to: **Jan Shaughnessy, 15417 Lake Forest Dr., Sun City, AZ 85351**

Phone number: **(623) 972-9688** (*Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery)

NOTE: No orders taken after Nov. 1st. for delivery by Dec. 1st.



WE ARE ON THE OFFENSIVE!

We only have one *offensive* weapon in the list of the pieces of armor in Eph. 6. Paul calls it the sword of the Spirit (Vs. 17)...and identifies it as THE WORD OF GOD.

That’s what we’re using to reach prisoners for Christ. We do it through our Basic Bible Truths course, taking them directly to the Scripture which speaks to their hearts, convicts them of their sin...and points them to their only hope, Jesus Christ.

According to a study released on June 23, the American Bar Association states, “*The U.S. criminal justice system...needs to consider more effective alternatives*” than merely time spent in prison. That same month, TIME magazine reported that “*The U.S. has the world’s largest prison population — 2 million — and a repeat-offender rate of more than 50%...Those who attend regular Bible study classes may be half as likely to be rejailed within 3 years after release.*”

You can teach inmates a new skill, but that doesn’t change the heart. However...the Word of God DOES! That’s why we are asking all of our friends to pray specifically that the Lord will provide a more effective means of getting His Word to prisoners.

PRAYER PROJECT: Our goal is to have our BBT course printed and bound, with tear-out pages which can be sent back to us for grading. Doing so would make access into institutions easier. We presently print the studies and volunteers bind them with a plastic curl material. Some institutions take out the binding material before giving them to the inmates. Will you pray with us about this project? We believe if this is God’s will...and we need it in His work...He will provide. We rest in Him.

BIBLE STUDIES



Glendale

THURSDAY EVENINGS

7 — 8 at home of Lifsey’s

5702 W. Windrose Drive

For Directions Call 623.878.6892

Sun City School Of The Bible

EVERY WEDNESDAY

8:00 — 9:00 AM

13215 N. 94th Drive

South of Thunderbird

For Directions Call 623.972.9892

You Can Reach Us By Phone

623.972.9892 — 623.972.9688

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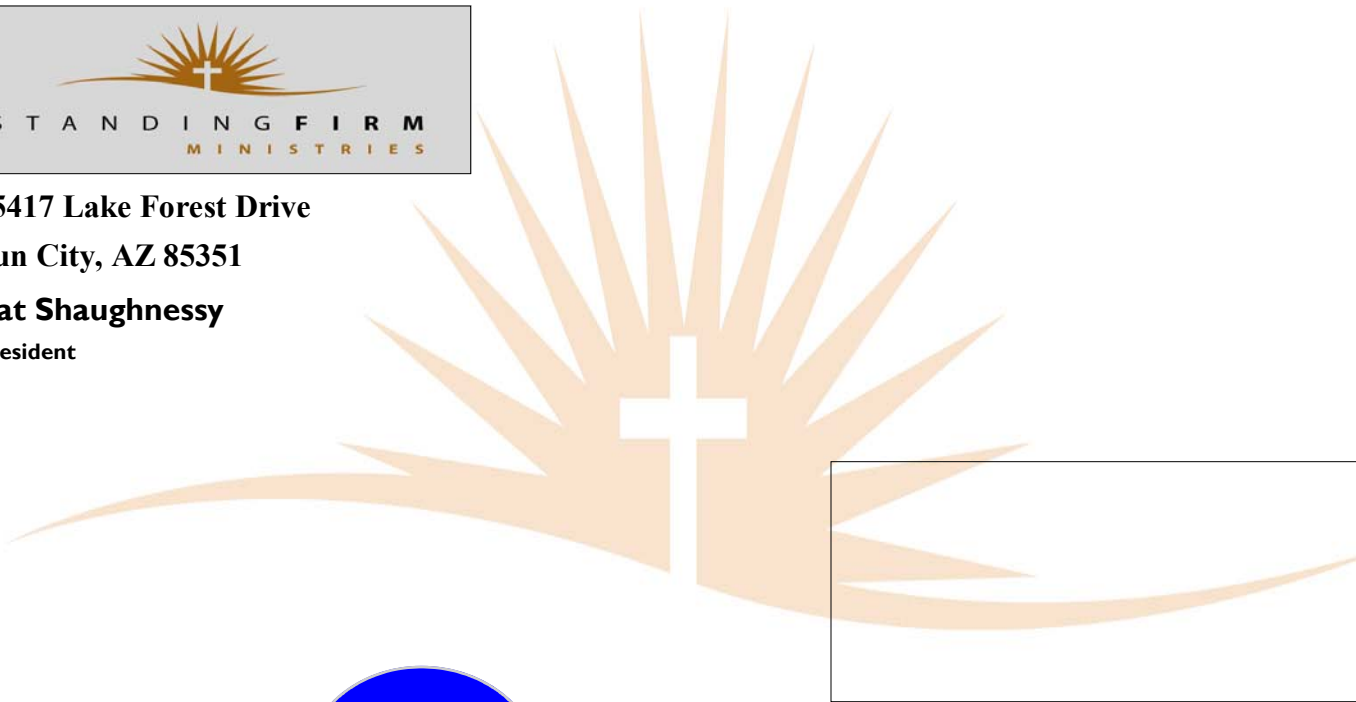
623.972.3004

On The Web

www.standingfirmministries.com



15417 Lake Forest Drive
Sun City, AZ 85351
Pat Shaughnessy
 President



INSIDE...

ARE YOU POWER WALKING?

What Is Standing Firm Ministries?

Standing Firm Ministries is an evangelistic, Bible-teaching ministry. Pat Shaughnessy is Bible teacher and President of SFM. Our purpose is described in four words: **ENCOURAGING** and **EDUCATING** believers who desire to learn the Word of God... **EXPOSING** spiritual deception, and **EVANGELIZING** those who have not yet come into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This ministry is carried-out in various Bible studies in the Phoenix area, to prisoners across the U. S., speaking by invitation in churches, seminars, retreats, banquets, and wherever else opportunities present themselves. Pat Shaughnessy became a believer in Jesus Christ shortly after being released from jail in 1961. He pastored a church that grew from 87 to nearly 4,000 in Sunday morning attendance. His testimony is a story of the grace of God, as is true with all believers in Christ. The Lord has graciously given him opportunity to speak in a variety of settings across the U.S. and abroad. He has been married to Jan for 43 years and has 4 children and 10 grandchildren. He is accountable for his life and ministry to the SFM board of directors. SFM is a 501c3 non-profit corporation, supported by those who believe in its goals and purposes, and those who have been blessed by the ministry. SFM is overseen by a board of directors who have full authority over all corporate affairs and assets. All gifts are tax deductible.

Support gifts can be mailed to:

15417 Lake Forest Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351

For more information and more of Pat's testimony:

www.
 standingfirmministries.com