



Montrose Bible Conference

Getting you out of the routine to experience God.

Where is your focus? What consumes your time? Where is your passion? During the end of last year as I thought about some of these issues I was reminded by God's Word to keep my focus where He wants it to be.

The apostle Paul, in a letter to the church at Corinth, wrote these words:

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NIV

So maybe a better question to ask you is, Where are your eyes fixed? You see it is so easy to fix our eyes on the things that are seen. The seen world is all around us yet we are reminded that the seen world is temporary. The world where we dwell appears to be lasting, yet God's Word reminds us that it will not last.

I just finished reading an excellent book called Safely Home by Randy Alcorn. It would be worth your time to read it, and I would be interested in knowing your thoughts after you read it. Although the book is fiction, it is based on events that have happened and continue to happen. It is a very interesting story of two men who were college roommates. One is American and one is Chinese. The American went to meet the Chinese friend in China almost 20 years after college. The book is an eye-opening story on the persecuted church. It gave me a vivid picture of how the persecuted church is so clearly focused on the unseen world.

Jesus is all we need. We as His followers often live as if He is only a small part of our lives. The persecuted church is able to separate the "stuff of life" from the reality of life. We do not lose hope! Yes, the waves may be rocking our boat, but the Anchor of our soul holds us firm and desires to renew us everyday. I want to encourage you to see Jesus in the storm and keep your eyes on Him. When you gaze on Him you can't help but praise Him.

Montrose Bible Conference relies on Jesus to help us carry out the mission He has given us of helping others to experience Him. Our confidence remains in Him that He will provide for all that He wants us to do. He ministers through people like you who partner with us to serve couples, ladies, teens, college students and so many others. Just like we already have during these first 2 months of this year.

Here is what some of our guests have said as a result of their time with us this year at our Couples' Conferences:

What I have learned I will apply. Thanks for opening my eyes.

Appreciated the last session the most and the concept of using today and not waiting to serve the Lord tomorrow.

I have to be a better leader for my family. I need to draw nearer to the Lord and draw upon his power to lead my family in the direction that he desires.

(I desire) to be a better helpmate & to be an example to my children, showing them how they should want what God has for them.

I just received this email from a man who attended camp at Montrose 20 years ago.

Must Read!

I just wanted to send my thanks for all the memories and years of fun I had while growing up in the 70's and 80's. If it wasn't for Montrose Bible Conference, Mrs. Jennings, and the Swartz's, my youth would have been bleak. I attended the Second Spanish Baptist church of NY. Born and raised in black harlem, my days as a youth were mostly running away from fights, or getting into fights. God's mercy allowed me (to go to) a godly church and a caring Youth Minister that made sure we attended the camp yearly. I "longed" for the summer to come to see my friends at camp over and over again. The group that went often misbehaved and we looked for every chance to challenge authority. If it wasn't for the love of our counselors like the Swartz's that matured all of us we won't be the people we are today (85% of the youth that went there are pastors today). I am 45 and God has liberated me of

liver and colon cancer this past month. This caused me to reflect on how awesome God's love has been for me all my years. I stay in touch with my old friends from the church I grew up in and it never fails that we end up remembering "the good times" we had at Montrose. May the Lord bless all who go there, and cause His grace to fall on them as it did me when I accepted Christ as my Savior on an open field, staring at the stars above.

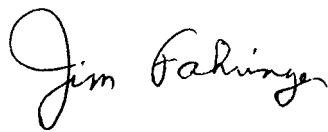
What an encouraging email to be reminded of God's faithfulness!
We praise and thank the Lord for showing us some testimonies of His grace and mercy in people's lives.

Would you consider partnering with us during 2010 as God directs you? We rely fully on God, but He uses people like you to accomplish His work. Our goal of donors for 2010 is to have 500 friends of the ministry partner with us. After the first two months of 2010 we have 89 partners. Would you help us reach our goal of 500 partners?

Your prayers and support have meant so much to this ministry and to the tens of thousands you have helped to impact through our various conferences, camps and retreats. Would you consider a gift today to help people come to know God and to focus on the reality of His world?

I am so thankful for what God does in this place. Your gift will help people experience peace in the midst of a world with so much unrest. Thank you for standing with me. May you and your family have a blessed Easter as we remember and celebrate a living Savior who changes lives for His glory!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Fahringer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned centrally below the typed name.

Jim Fahringer
Executive Director

P.S. Your partnership gift will offer the real message of hope. Thank you for your gift and prayers and for helping us meet our goal of 500 supporters for 2010.