Strengthen The Things That Remain (Rev. 3:2)

I. A CALL TO REMEMBER

- A. I believe that America is approaching the time of its greatest crisis and the body of Christ is in a spiritual emergency. And at this time, our staff involvement in the prayer room is at its weakest.
 - ²Be watchful, and <u>strengthen the things which remain</u>, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect [mature] before God. ³Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief [resulting in loss], and you will not know what hour I will come upon you. (Rev. 3:2-3)
- B. The Lord said, "I will establish 24-hour prayer in the spirit of the tabernacle of David" (1983). Central to our ministry assignment is the privilege of "keeping a 24/7 worship sanctuary."
- C. The Lord is establishing a "global altar of incense" (prayer with worship) to prepare for the greatest revival in the midst of the greatest hour of trouble in human history.
 - ³Then another angel...stood at the <u>altar</u> [heavenly altar of incense]. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the <u>golden altar</u> which was before the throne... ⁴And the...<u>prayers of the saints</u>, ascended before God... ⁵The angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and <u>threw it to the earth</u>. (Rev. 8:3-5)
 - ⁶I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent... (Isa. 62:6)
- D. In Nehemiah's generation, God's people were in a crisis. The walls around Jerusalem were broken and in need of repair so that God's purpose for His people would come to pass. The enemy resisted their efforts. This crisis can be applied to America, the Church, IHOPKC, etc.
 - 1...when Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, that he was furious and very indignant, and mocked the Jews...²"What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they fortify themselves?...Will they revive the stones from the heaps of rubbish—stones that are burned?" ⁴Hear, O our God...⁶So we built the wall...for the people had a mind to work. (Neh. 4:1-6)
- E. We must build the wall—it is time to re-align and set our hearts to repair the walls in our midst.

 10 Then Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is failing..." 13 Therefore I positioned men behind the lower parts of the wall, at the openings... 14 arose and said to the nobles, to the leaders, and to the rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses." 15 And it happened...that all of us returned to the wall, everyone to his work ... 17 Those who built on the wall, and those who carried burdens, loaded themselves so that with one hand they worked at construction, and with the other held a weapon. (Neh. 4:9-17)
- F. There is a great crisis in the land; many flee into silence while others run to the battlefront.
 - ²⁴All the men of Israel, when they saw the man [Goliath], <u>fled from him</u> and were <u>dreadfully</u> <u>afraid</u>..." ²⁶David spoke..., "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?" ..." ²⁹David said, "...Is there not a cause?" (1 Sam. 17:24-29)

- G. The Department of Justice sees some outspoken Christians as fostering "domestic extremism." The DOJ established "Domestic Terrorism Counsel," to combat the serious threat of domestic terrorism—including outspoken Christians! (See Mat Staver of the Liberty Counsel).
- H. In August 1975, Bob Jones heard an angel declare God's purpose over Kansas City and the Midwest of America as related to an increase of grace in "prophetic and intercession."
- I. "Proclaim Zechariah 4 and Ephesians 4, for this is where the Lord is taking you" (1984). He wants to establish an Ephesians 4 community of believers with a foundation of prayer (Zech. 4).

II. MY PROPOSALS

- A. Re-establish our weekly all staff fasting day on Tuesday and commit to the *10am and 4pm* prayer meetings (additionally either the 6am or 8pm for any wanting a *full* day of prayer).
- B. Re-establish the GBF by gathering together from **10am to 6pm** every month in the GPR.
- C. Seek to significantly reduce the amount of time that our staff travels in ministry.

III. SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- A. We ask each dept. head (worship leader, intern director, IHOPU VP, etc), to host meetings in which each team member shares what they *remember* about how God called them to IHOPKC.
 - ³Remember how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. (Rev. 3:3)
- B. We ask leaders to host at least *one more group meeting* to answer at least four of the following questions and to share the top three answers from your group with your divisional leader.
 - **Question #1**: What hinders you from going to the prayer room? What about your department keeps you from the prayer room? Or what should we change as an organization to help align more with 24/7 worship? Or what should you change as an individual to align more?
 - **Question #2**: How can we make our staff meetings more effective?
 - **Question #3**: Should we re-establish an all-staff fasting day on Tuesday? Would you seek to participate? Would you try come to the 10am and 4pm prayer meetings (6am for night watch)?
 - **Question #4**: Should we re-establish monthly GBF? Would you endeavor to participate? Would you try to come to the prayer room from 10am-6pm three days a month? Why or why not?
 - **Question #5**: How do you "measure success" for what you and your department does? Who defined that measurement of success—a leader over you or is it something that is assumed?
 - **Question #6**: What should we do to strength FCF so it functions more like a local church that you want to be a part of? What would help you feel more connected or to serve more effectively?
 - Question #7: How can we make our Missions Base better? How can you help?