

Below are Nelson's CF letter and the coaches' praises & prayer requests. Please, let us know if you have difficulty receiving or reading this email.

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Thank you,
Coaches of Influence

Mighty men and women of God,

October 24, 2008

I want to share in this letter some inspired and true words written by Bill Perkins of *A Million Mighty Men*. The world system might call this "THOSE MOST UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED".

A lot of men think the best leaders are those who have a track record of uninterrupted successes. With that in mind they feverishly work to cover up past failures and magnify every success. And yet, nothing inspires others more than seeing a man who not only won a few battles but lost a few as well.

We must dispel from our minds the idea that strong men never fail. Journalist, Richard J. Needham once said, "Strong people make as many ghastly mistakes as weak people. The difference is that strong people admit them, laugh at them, and learn from them. That is how they become strong." Powerful insight! Don't you agree?

An excellent example would be David's Mighty Men. Did you know they were not always "mighty"? In Second Samuel 22:2 it says of these men, "*All those who were in distress or debt or discontented gathered around him (David), and he became their leader.*"

For whatever reason, these future mighty men hadn't succeeded in King Saul's army. In fact, they hadn't done too well in any facet of life. None of them had been voted "Most Likely to Succeed" by the faculty of their Ivy League school. Their picture had not appeared on the cover of Time magazine, "Man of the Year" edition.

Nobody had nominated them for a good citizen award. On the contrary, these men had been thrown into the meat grinder of life and emerged emotionally battered and mentally distraught. These men had suffered a string of financial and relational setbacks. And when God inspired the writing of their story, He didn't cover up their bleak history, He highlighted it.

These men became strong because they learned how, by God's grace, to overcome failure. And if you want to exercise strong leadership with your family, at work, or in any other setting – allow others to see you fall. The fact is – those closest to you already know that you periodically fail. And you can bet that they're watching to see how you'll respond when you stumble. If you pretend it wasn't a failure, or minimize it, or become cynical, or stop dreaming because of the failure, they will learn from that as well.

Wives, children, fellow-workers, and friends do not need to see perfection in you. They need to see an authentic man who is in process. One who admits when he stumbles, get ups, wipes off the dust, and moves on with more determination. As Mighty Men we must learn to fail by example.

Locking arms,
Bill

Coaches, remember EVERYONE you have under your leadership is a God-given gift, a diamond (yet to be revealed). You may not see it, but you'll be part of God's development process and it will be revealed in glory. Howard Hendricks used to say, "The kids that won all the awards in school, the world is still waiting to hear from, but those that were the challenges, even those that were troublesome, they are the ones making an impact today". Love them all in the power and Spirit of Jesus Christ and continue to make a difference.

Onward and upward,

PRAISE AND PRAYER, October 24, 2008

	PRAISES	PLEASE, PRAY FOR:
<u>OUT OF AREA</u>		
John Elders		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Movement amongst the cross country and track teams. - Practical application of God's Word to impact me in all areas of my life.
Del Harris		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our relocation and adjustment in moving to Chicago. - Healing for our son Nic's labrum injury. Pray for him as he prepares for the basketball season. - My wife, Ann, who is in Texas preparing to down-size our home in Frisco. - Tyrus Thomas, Chicago Bulls player, and my opportunities to encourage him with scripture.
Jon Mack		Dave Padilla, who is battling a rare blood problem.
Paul Mokeski		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My wife, Linda, who is looking for a job. - Us since we have relocated to California and are trying to get settled in.
<u>CORONA</u>		
Arlen Elvik	My girls' volleyball team has come together and is playing quite well.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continued healing for John Sawaya's stomach cancer. - The faculty of Santiago High School, who are believers, to come together for regular prayer.
Jack Krebs	Family is healthy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Healing for my wife Laura's eye problem. - My neighbor, Brenda, who fell and broke her wrist.
Sam Hieronymus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I enjoyed hearing David Hocking teach at our church. - I was encouraged in the Book of Psalms to abide in and depend on, and wait on the Lord. 	My two sons, Andrew and Paul, to have a spiritual hunger and desire to put God first in all they do.
Tim Sweeney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the love of my family and friends - For the opportunity to place God first in these most difficult times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The economy and our nation's leaders. - The people who are suffering because of the collapse. - Healing for Jon, Leila, Joao, and Laura.
Al Verdun	- For my grandson Nolan's great	- SALVATION FOR FAMILY IN-

	recovery from surgery - For my wife, Jan, who is a great partner and special friend in the Lord	LAWS. - The Lord to lead me in serving Him.
<u>CHINO HILLS</u>		
Bill		- My master schedule at school. - My son's and daughter's family finances.
Bob		- Health of fellow teacher. - My brother's health. - A student at school. - Teaching assignment.
Derek	My daughter's medical check-up went well, and she continues to improve.	- My daughter's health. - A student/athlete at school.
Ken		- The impact of the economy at my wife's law firm. - My wife's mother's health. - My son's job interview.
Jeff	Church attendance	Family friends.
Mike		Strength for new school year.
Scott		- My brother-in-law's work situation. - My daughter as she starts the new school year.
<u>HOPE INT'L</u>		
Kim Jaramillo	- For protecting four athletes who were in a car accident - For a loving husband and a beautiful daughter	- A quick recovery for the four athletes who are suffering wounds from the car accident. - Healing for one of our athletes who is struggling with injuries from his sport.
Tim Gooszen		- My mom and grandma because they are moving in with my sister's family. - My father-in-law, who is losing his house. His health and job are also in limbo. - The sanity of coaches and the athletic department as a whole. - Sanity and health for my wife while I am away from home so much.
Greg Pappas	The health of our student body and our athletes	- My son, Jordan, who has a learning disability. - A player who has family issues.
Felix Haufe		- Healing for the four athletes who were in a car accident. - One of my players who is going through a trial with her boyfriend and forgets about her teammates. - The Lord to bless every student and athlete, and let God speak in their

		lives.
Aaron Siefker	- My dad's successful thyroid surgery	God to continue to speak in my girls' lives.
Joe Lurker		- My sister's walk with Christ. - My brother's baby. - My team to get the big picture.
<u>MURRIETA</u>		
Bob Blechen	- God has answered many prayers for healing. - God has been good to us financially, and we are comfortable when the economy tanks and our assets lose value.	- The MRI test results to show our daughter's back is healing and that there will be no further surgery. - Johnny, who needs help in career opportunities and decisions. - Our church and its issues. - The leaders of our government as they struggle with our economy.
Tony Peralta	- Praise God for the good results and quick recovery regarding Elaine Brannigan's cancer surgery. - For my wife and kids, who are a constant joy in my life - God's Word reveals His great love for His creation.	- God's love to transform the hearts of His church and that His love would be given away freely to those who do not know Him; and because of that, be responsible to the Gospel. - Sal and his growth as a young Christian. - Tom Wilson and his family. - The Cartwright family.
Bryan Voshell	- Coaching staff is complete. - Days are going smoothly.	- More family time. - New kids to mesh with the team.
Todd Thornburg	I am currently reading 1 st John and feeling that God is confirming His presence.	
Sal Ortiz	To be alive, together, and beautiful	- Our family. - Our team. - My son and daughter, who are in high school, to stay away from evil and bad influences.
<u>PASADENA</u>		
Timothy Tucker	Our athletic director, Tony Brooks, and all he does at Pasadena High School	- The Terzian family. - Dominguez High School basketball program.
Todd Terzian	I like my kids and classes at school.	- My family during a difficult time. - Business and personal relationships.
Scott Thacker		- Wisdom in how to develop freshman leaders on our novice squad. - The family of a junior varsity student who earned a one-year suspension due to a second drug violation.
Tim Godley	- Kids are doing well. - New house - New job	- A good start at the new job. - Finances.
Phil Torres	Everyone at our house is doing fine.	Energy and patience to do well with my kids.

Rick Caragher	God is faithful and His mercies are new every morning. He sustains us.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My daughter to own her faith. - One of my senior athletes, who is struggling in his faith walk.
<u>PLACENTIA</u>		
Steve Barber	I was able to get away on a three-day vacation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Senior leadership for Downey High School Soccer. - Protection for the Williams family. - My rapport and attitude with my players. - My brother-in-law to recover from being sick. - A J.V. soccer coach for Downey High School. - Me to finish strong with my fasting schedule.
Rod Turner	My son, who is in eighth grade, is becoming more responsible, and is enjoying his Sunday School class and doing his B.I.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our family since our grandmother passed away. - Work and finances.
Pete Vargas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I picked up the keys to my apartment in Brea. - I have unloaded four years of baggage. - God has given me a heart to try to do my best in my work. - I have a good church and good friends. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A successful transition in moving to Brea. - A new or more dependable vehicle. - The ability to develop strong ties with students, parents, teachers, and administrators. - Wisdom in building new friendships. - My friend, Margaret, who had breast cancer surgery.
Brian Mustain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I'm getting an extra class to help with our finances. - For continued improvement of my wife's health - For God's work in my life and for His protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A student who had a head injury, and for his family. - My boys to get healthy and to stay healthy. - Tough relationships. - Strength to fight through fatigue. - Wisdom in difficult times.
John Cyrus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My small group keeps encouraging my wife and me. - My wife is growing in the Lord and is supporting what I do. - El Dorado faculty has a Bible Study lead by Connie Grosse that is very encouraging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My two daughters who are in college to keep walking with God and to find a church to plug into. - My youngest daughter, Michelle, to grow in her small group. - Comfort for our principal, Karen Wilkins, since the passing away of her husband. - Healing for my right knee.
Greg Higashi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pastor at church is making a difference in the community. - My mother-in-law feels happy about moving to Seal Beach. - The Lord gave me an awesomely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our principal's health. - All students, athletes, and coaches at Brea High School.

	perfect wife for me.	
Dane Ilertsen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Praise God for being with my daughter, who is living in her first apartment in Glendora. - For a great God who loves us no matter what 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Gossman family. Bonnie has cancer and her lungs are filling up with fluid and she is in tremendous pain.
Nelson Cook	God provided the funds so my step-daughter, Michelle, could go to a treatment center in Arizona.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Michelle's growth, healing, and attitudes, while she is at the treatment center in Arizona. - My wife Sandy's back. It continues to be a problem for her every day. - Our October 29th Gold Challenge fund raiser. I'm asking God to give us 25 to 30 golfers who will help us raise 30K to 40K net. - God to raise up leadership in several Coaches' Fellowships. - Me as I try to get more monthly donors.
Derek Gossman		God to take away the pain my wife is experiencing. Pray for God to provide the doctors with wisdom to attack the cancer.
Robb Perrance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The grace of God is totally amazing. The undeserved love of the Lord is unbelievable, but praise God for His love. - For my wife and family - The Lord continues to sustain me and hold me up. His faithfulness is fresh and new every morning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SALVATION FOR A FRIEND. - Me to be gracious and express love to people like Jesus. - My leadership. Pray I will be sensitive to the needs of the players on our teams, the coaches who are coaching them, and the parents and people in the community. - Me to focus on the Creator and not on creation and the things of this world. - Our principal's health.
Wayne Carlson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My family is attending church regularly on Sunday. - My mom's health is good. - My son, Chris, is doing well in college. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My two boys, Craig and Chris, to continue to find direction for their life. - My wife to try to lower her stress level on her job. - Eastside Christian Church and a smooth transition to a new pastor. - My older son, Craig, to find a regular job.
<u>MISSION</u> <u>VIEJO</u>		
Chris Rivera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are expecting our first child. - God's provision in our lives 	SALVATION FOR MY IN-LAW'S.
CJ Del Balso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Great kids to work with at CVCS - Good health - God has blessed my wife and me 	- SALVATION FOR MY SISTER and FOR MY BROTHER and his FIANCEÉ.

	<p>in our finances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CVCS football team is steadily improving. - Powerful teaching at the Life Church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The leadership of the Life Church as they search for new church property. - New enrollments at CVCS.
Chris Fore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Even though our football team is 0-5, our boys are a real blessing to me. - God's Word encourages me that our life is temporary and there is a great future. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My health because I have been battling a cold for three weeks. - God's wisdom and grace for my leadership in athletics and chapel programs. - My wife and me to have patience with each other since we now have two children under the age of two. - God's strength as we get through a very tough football season.
Mike Logan	God is blessing my opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full, restful sleep. - Time management. - Discipline.
Ryan Curammeng	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CVCS Retreat went well. - My family is growing closer to each other. - God provides in numerous ways. - My wife is a blessing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teachers and students to stay healthy. - God to bless the ACM Conference in Ohio. - God's will in the upcoming elections. - CVCS enrollment to increase.
Bruce Sanborn	Praise God! Wait upon the Lord. He will help you.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Lord to continue to watch over my daughter, Brianne, who lives in New York. Pray she will find work in her theater career. - My wife Dianne's health. - Wisdom in making some tough decisions in our family business. - Our daughter, Erin, and her placement in an adult special ed program.
Jack Iverson	For the Christian players and parents in San Clemente's Volleyball program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members of COIN to visit these Christian web sites for the Lord's direction in the coming election: * citizenlink.com and focusvoter.com - My 92-year-old mother who is relocating from Minnesota to Yucaipa, CA.
Tim Butler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For God's sovereignty - God is in control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mark McElroy. - My cross country team. - My FCA group.
<u>AZUSA</u> <u>PACIFIC</u>		
Jarret Myers	For God's peace in the storm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direction in my life. - My family's health.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - God to intervene and bring peace to Kenny Lawler. - Tony Cougoule, who is a former coach. - Healing for Mike Callero, who has terminal skin cancer.
Brian Willmer	God blesses me with a wonderful wife and healthy children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The attitude of my players as we have struggled this year. - Discernment as I deal with some discipline issues.
Jeff Platt		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SALVATION FOR MY BEST FRIEND'S DAD, who has lung cancer. - Jim Mandala, who has had strokes and is on life support. - A coach who has a ten-year-old sister who's been given two weeks to live.
Bill Zernickow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - God provides all my needs. He has never left me. - My wife and children love God. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pasadena City College and Kenny Lawler. - Brian Mustain and his family. - San Dimas and my effect on the school. - Jarret Myers and the past year.
Nelson Cook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My son-in-law graduated from the Sheriff's Academy on October 15th. - For my two daughters and their marriages - All three of my daughters are in a great Beth Moore Bible Study with some other young women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My wife, Sandy, who is really struggling with her back. She is in constant pain and not comfortable in any position. - Me and sensitivity to God as we are refining the ministry to be more precise. We want to do a few things well, rather than spread our resources out too wide. - My step-daughter, Michelle, who is in an eating disorder facility in Arizona. Pray for her complete healing. - COIN's Golf Challenge on October 29th.

BULLETIN BOARD

HEAD J.V. BOYS' VOLLEYBALL and TENNIS COACH needed at Brea Olinda High School. If interested, please, *contact* Greg Higashi, Boys Athletic Director, at 714-990-7850, ext. 1501.

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH and ASSISTANTS and a J.V. BOYS' BASKETBALL COACH needed at Spirit Academy, located in Tustin, CA. *Contact* John Simons, Athletic Director, at athletics@spiritacademy.org or 714-746-9375.

VARSITY BOYS' FOOTBALL DEFENSIVE COACH and WOMEN'S GOLF COACH needed at Capistrano Valley Christian School. *Contact* Chris Fore at cfore@cvcs.org for more information.

VARSITY BOYS' SOCCER HEAD COACH needed at St. Michael's Prep. *Contact* Aaron Meschuk at 949-858-0222, ext. 272.

WRESTLING, SWIMMING, SOFTBALL, and TRACK COACHES needed at Valley High School, Sacramento, CA. *Contact* Stephanie Haas, Athletic Director, at slhaas@egusd.net.