

March 16, 2014

## *Mostly Personal...*

Loved Ones,

Recently Steve Hill died after a long fight with cancer. You may remember him as the evangelist so graciously used by God during the Brownsville Revival in Pensacola. South Carolina Secretary Ed Nelson tells this story about Steve:

*When Steve sought to be an Assemblies of God missionary in Argentina while living in Tallahassee, Florida, I was with the Assemblies of God World Missions in Springfield, MO, and conducted his initial interview at his home. It had not been that long since he was a longhaired hippie-type coming out of the 60s-70s when he was messed up in a world of sin. Jesus radically changed him, and he became a radical for Jesus. What a difference this one transformed life made in countless thousands of others.*

*When he went to Argentina, the country was in a high tide of revival. He tasted it with a desire to see it happen in America, which would come later. In short, out of this Argentine experience as well as other revival experiences he had in Great Britain, along with the heart-searching of Pastor John Kilpatrick, revival broke out in 1995 at Brownsville Assembly of God, Pensacola, Florida. The next five years are in the history books with what is called 'The Brownsville Revival'.*

Steve died young, but his influence is still felt around the world.

It seems we've had too many deaths here lately. A couple of months ago Ashley Mitchell, a young adult, passed away. Two weeks ago Joseph Panoo died while still in his teens, and a greatly loved mother, Margie Mack, who lived a good, full life passed on as well. Little Josiah Jenkins went to heaven this week, and John Kelly was promoted to glory when we thought his best years on earth were still ahead. Others, dearly loved, have passed on in recent months, leaving great gaping holes in our hearts.

All of these lives have something in common – they all leave a legacy of love and influence. Each of them is still speaking volumes into the lives of those of us left behind. Like Abel, “though they are dead, they continue to speak” (Hebrews 11:4). It's no wonder the Beloved Disciple said, “the person who does the will of God abides forever” (1 John 2:17).

We never know how long our lives will last, but we can be sure, with God's help, to live a life that will bear fruit long after we are gone!

I love you,  
*Pastor Stephen*