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## HOOR OF POWER OF 15.06.2008

### PROGRAM OPENING/TRUMPET FANFARE/V.O.

VO: Today on the Hour of Power: Eight is Enough television star Willie Aames honestly shares his battle with teenage addiction and his wife's tragic childhood.

WILLIE: She had been a rape victim every day from the day she was eleven and younger, until she was almost 15. Her mother was in a cult in Los Angeles, and her mother helped these men rape her.

VO: Then, the amazing voice of Ronnie Freeman.

RONNIE: So Jesus thank You for patience, thank You for grace, thank You for interceding and pleading for our case. Thank you..

VO: In a world filled with anxiety, let Pastor Schuller hand you the keys to a life filled with peace.

RAS: I believe in the power of prayer and I'm convinced that when embrace prayer into your life that anxiety as you know it will be changed.

VO: Join us today for the best hour on television, the Hour of Power with Robert Schuller.

### HYMN - "Joyful, Joyful.."

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before You, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day. Amen! Amen! Amen!

### GOOD MORNING/INVOCATION

RAS: Good morning and welcome to the Crystal Cathedral. It is a beautiful time that we have every time we have where we can come together and be brought together by God and fellowship together as God continues to give us the spirit of His conviction, of His love for us in our lives. And so we're here today to express that love to others. Would you please take a moment right now, shake the hands of those standing next to you and behind you and say God loves you and so do I. Would you please join me for a moment of prayer right now? Dear Heavenly Father we thank You that You're a God who comes and enters hearts and minds with the reality of Your power, that through Your power mountains are moved. That through Your power healing takes place, that through Your power our lives are transformed. We receive healing and hope and health and goodness. And so we thank You Lord for touching every single soul with the reality of Your goodness. And so we thank You always and praise Your name, Amen.

### HYMN - "Medley – Jesus is All the World/The Lord's My Shepherd"

Jesus is all the world to me, my life, my joy, my all; He is my strength from day to day, without Him, I would fall. When I am sad, to Him I go, no other one can cheer me so; When I am sad, He makes me glad; He's my friend.

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie in pastures green He leads me the quiet waters by. My soul He does restore again; And me to walk does make within the paths of righteousness, e'en for His own name's sake. And

though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill; For You are with me and Your rod and staff, my comfort still.

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

SCRIPTURE – Philippians 4 - RHS

RHS: You may be seated. I invite you if you have a bible with you, you may open it to Philippians chapter 4 verses 4-9 as we hear these wonderful words in preparation for my sons' terrific sermon.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again, rejoice. Let your gentleness be evident to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, yes in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests known to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, what a collection of words. Hear them now: whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about these things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from Me, or seen in Me, put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

This is the word of the Lord.

RHS INTRODUCES VANGUARD UNIV. CONCERT CHOIR

RHS: Listen to this beautiful anthem by the Vanguard University Concert Choir under the direction of James Melton, right here in Costa Mesa, California, a great Christian College.

ANTHEM – VANGUARD UNIV. CONCERT CHOIR - "The Word Was God"

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. In the beginning was the Word, and the word was with God, and the Word was God. In the beginning was the word and the word was with God, and the Word was God. In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the Word was God. In the beginning was the word and the word was with God, and the Word was God.

All things were made that have been made. Nothing was made, He has not made. All things were made that have been made. Nothing was made, He has not made.

All things were made by Him, all things were made by Him, in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was with God, and the Word, and the Word, and the Word, and the Word was God!

RAS THANK YOU TO VANGUARD UNIV. CONCERT CHOIR

RAS: Thank you Vanguard Choir. Wonderful music, great harmonies, rhythms, tremendous choir from a tremendous school.

INTERVIEW – WILLIE AAMES

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RAS: ROBERT A. SCHULLER      WA: WILLIE AAMES

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RAS: My guest today is Willie Aames. And he was at the peak of Hollywood success, having starred in the hit shows Eight is Enough and Charles in Charge. He was making a million dollars a year and spending most of that, unfortunately, on his drug addiction. His future wife, Maylo Upton, was a Hollywood statistic, a teenage runaway living on the streets, wandering the boulevards and back alleys in search of drugs. Amazingly their lives would divinely intersect and they would eventually experience the healing power of God's amazing grace. They've captured their true life stories in this book entitled Grace is Enough, Would you please welcome to the Crystal Cathedral, Willie Aames? Willie, God loves you..

WA: Good morning.

RAS: ..and so do we.

RAS: Take us back. There was a time where you were at the top of your career, Hollywood's poster child.

WA: Well yeah, you know throughout the 60's and the 70's, I grew up here in Orange County and I had been working in the film and television industry but it was really in the 70's when Eight is Enough hit and we were the number one show in the country that things really took off for me, but they also went downward as well. And when you look at so many kids today, they're doing the same thing that I was doing. I think we just have more media about it today, which is one of the reasons we wanted to write the book. Because for me, I look at myself as a garden variety Hollywood train wreck and unfortunately, they're so many of us now that you can have a garden variety.

And you know I was making over a million dollars a year, I was..

RAS: Well describe what that is. What does a train wreck look like?

WA: Well, I don't want to name names; me. When you are brought up with that much success and when you're brought up in an environment that continually handles you, and forces you to be what they want, not what you need really, you begin to not want to be caged and so you lash out in any way you can. Every teenager does it, but when it starts at eight and it finishes in that industry, you have a tendency to want to lash out at anything: fights, drugs, sex, alcohol; I mean anything you can get your hands on to scream leave me alone, will somebody please help me. And that's really.. it's what its like. I think we all know there's so many of us that have done this kind of thing. When we wrote the book, I wanted people to get an idea of what the emotions were like that were going through my head. I never grew up, I never once thought of myself as special at all. I mean at three years old, one of my earliest memories was trying to hang myself at three.

RAS: Now why would you try to hang yourself at three years old?

WA: Because even at that age, without the alcohol and the drugs and everything else, yeah I think we have a bigger problem than just drugs or alcohol. It's in us. I didn't felt like I was worth anything, and I wondered would anybody care, would it be okay and what would it be like if I died? And that was the first time I tried to hang myself. That's one of my earliest memories. And I didn't

realize that that was the same question I was going to ask through having dinner at the White House, through all of those different things.

And while I was doing that, there was another person who didn't have a family, wasn't eating at the White House. She had been a rape victim every day from the day she was 11 and younger until she was almost 15. Her mother was in a cult in Los Angeles. And her mother helped these men rape her. And she ran away and she knew that she couldn't go back anywhere. She had to completely disappear or they'd put her back in the same situation. There were no child protection laws then. And she lived and she ate out of trash cans on Hollywood Blvd. And she later became my wife.

RAS: How old were you when you met Maylo?

WA: I was in my 20's.

RAS: And she?

WA: She was in her early; we were both in our early 20's.

RAS: So she'd been on the streets for awhile then.

WA: For quite awhile. And I had no idea what her background was and she had no idea what my background was, and that's the funny thing about it. I mean, if there's a good side, she had no idea who I was. She'd never seen Eight is Enough, didn't have a TV. You know and everybody was talking a little bit and she said who is this geek? And then she told me, you're a geek.

RAS: Well how did these two very, very different lives intersect?

WA: I had gone through a horrible divorce. I had really taken everything that the world had given me and then some, and threw all of it away and used it for as much destruction on myself as I could. My wife Maylo found that there was an open audition for a dance scholarship and she figured if she could get that scholarship, she'd have a place to sleep at night. She could stay at the studio. And she got the scholarship. A few months later, an agent saw her and cast her in this show, and I was the guest star on the show. I didn't want to do it, it was cable and back then cable was worse than anything. I mean anything. Anything but cable. Now I'll take anything, anything! Somebody accused me the other day of doing Celebrity Fit Club this time around, so that my career would take off again. I said my career already took off. Took off about 15 years ago, I haven't seen it since.

RAS: But you meet Maylo on this cable shoot and I assume you started dating then?

WA: Well I kind of got pushed into it, cause I'd been through this divorce, I was working on the dive boats out of Santa Barbara, and I just wanted to be left alone. And she wanted nothing to do with me because I was already about six months sober, and she was still using. So she was like what are we going to do, talk? You know and I finally said well will you go out with me and she said yeah, right. You're like Huckleberry Finn, so if you take everybody on the cast and crew out to lunch, I'll go to lunch with you.

RAS: So that's what you did.

WA: Next day I took 40 people out to lunch and sat down across from her and went your move. And she and I had a lot to work on but what I saw in her was something that I saw in me, and that was a deep pain and a deep desire to matter. And that was all I ever wanted. I mean I've never cared about being an actor. I just wanted to matter. And she had that same thing and that's what brought us together, even though she was eating out of trash cans and I was eating at the White House, what we found was that our hurts were the same at the same time, and that our needs were the same and our desire to want to be a part of this world in some way that makes sense to us, its all the same.

And so when we got past the surface, I found a soul mate. And we came from two completely different backgrounds. And she heard a ministry on the radio, and that's why we strongly recommend that you support ministries like this because it does reach people. I know it, I'm one of them. And we went down to the church, and I saw some people that were giving their story up there that had been through divorce. I was always taught if you were divorced, that was it, you know. And I realized that they had something I never had. I'd had money, cars, houses, whatever. They had hope and I didn't even know what it was. I really didn't. I looked at these people on stage and I thought they looked a lot like you guys. And I was in the back and I thought that's it. They have hope. As a creature, as a thing, they could be better than what I knew I was on the inside. And I got saved that day. Maylo came a few days afterwards, and we were baptized one Sunday morning and married that afternoon, 25 years ago last month.

RAS: Wow. You can applaud that, absolutely.

WA: Amazing. Yeah, its amazing.

RAS: So that really turned you around. Did it make a difference in your lives?

WA: I never understand what being a man was about. I didn't think I'd ever be married period until I read what a man was supposed to be in the Bible. And I read that and I went; before I married Maylo. I said I can do this. This I can do. And it opened up everything: strength. We've been through a lot of stuff and our lives just continue to get stranger and stranger, and I love it. We've been through cancer with Maylo, we lost a baby, Maylo suffers from Lupus which she sends her regrets that she couldn't be here this morning because of that. We've been rich, we've been poor, really poor. And through all of that, I've never worried once about whether or not my wife was going to stay with me or whether or not we're going to get through it. Not once.

RAS: If there is someone here that is listening to us today and there may be somebody in the Cathedral right now who is still abusing drugs and alcohol and they're addicted and they're listening to your testimony of how God changed your life. What do you say to them today?

WA: You've got to be honest. If you are wondering if you're addicted, you're probably addicted. So just be honest with yourself. That's the first step. The second step is to surround yourself with some people. When I first became a Christian I had a dream and I was in a barn and Jesus was there and there was a pastor outside the barn. And I was wondering if I could do it and Jesus said don't worry there'll be many along the way to pick you up. And that first person would be my pastor. Get around some people that will help pick you up. It's okay to fall; it's not okay to fall alone. You got to be around some people that will help pick you up. And then third is this; it was such a tough one for me. God - what is it? You know, who is He, what is He? And for many people they were telling me, I'd say what's the God part? And they'd say well its God, as you understand Him. And somebody told me it was a Garfield mug. I was like don't want that one. And then they said well it's whatever you understand God to be. And I said well I don't want a God I can understand. I want a God that is so big I can't understand Him and if I'm following a God that I created, I'm just following an alcoholic addict God. I want something bigger than that and you've got to find that. If you're the one creating what God who should or could be or can be in your life, than you're playing God and we know how well we do at that. Find Him. Find those people that will help pick you up along the way because I guarantee it you're going to need it. They have me, many times. This morning, you picked me up this morning.

RAS: Well thank you.

WA: I appreciate it.

RAS: Thank you.

WA: Thank you.

RAS: If you're struggling with addictions today and or if you know somebody whose struggling with addictions go onto our website at [hourofpower.org](http://hourofpower.org) and we have on there some things you can do, some concrete things and steps you can take that will help make a difference to give you the freedom to break those chains of addiction and realize the freedom that God wants for you and has for your life.

Well Willie we want to thank you for your testimony. We want to thank you that you responded to the call of God. And we just want you to know that God's going to be with you wherever and if there's ever anything I can do to help you, I'm there. And it's a great book; I'm going to encourage people to buy it. And so just go with God and..

WA: Thank you.

RAS: ..allow His grace to just completely enfold you in every way.

WA: Thank you.

RAS: God loves you and so do we.

WA: God bless. Thank you.

SOLO – RONNIE FREEMAN – “The Other Side”

It's a long and windy road on the way to freedom. It's a rough and rocky hill to climb sometimes. It's harder than they say; tougher than they think it is to get to the other side.

And I have heard the stories, so I'm sure it can be done and some arrive there sooner than the other ones. For most it takes a lifetime, few just over night to get to the other side.

So Jesus, thank You for patience, thank You for grace, thank You for interceding and pleading for our case. Thank You, You're committed to do what it takes to get us to the other side. Your love makes me want to fight for the other side.

Seems like You'd get tired of me after all this time, after all the holes I've dug, then fallen down inside. But still Your mercy wakes me with the morning light inviting me to the other side.

Jesus, thank You for patience, thank You for grace, thank You for interceding and pleading for our case. Thank You, You're committed to do what it takes to get us to the other side. Your love makes me want to fight for the other side.

Some are searching, some have found, some were walking but have fallen down. We are all on common ground because we all need You, need You now. Jesus, thank You for patience, thank You for grace, thank You for interceding and pleading for our case. Thank You, You're committed to do what it takes to get us to the other side. Your love makes me want to fight for the other side. Thank You Jesus.

RAS THANK YOU TO RONNIE FREEMAN

RAS: Thank you Ronnie. Thank you so much for coming and sharing your music with us. It's beautiful music. If you want to get a copy of his CD its entitled "God Speaking" and he'll go over to the book center and he'll sign it for you if you would like his autograph. Its Ronnie Freeman; thanks again. God loves you, God bless you.

RF: Thank you.

#### MESSAGE/PRAYER - ROBERT A. SCHULLER

##### "Transcend Anxiety with Prayer"

RAS: I am reading on page 1236, Philippians 4 beginning with the sixth verse and here's what it says: "Do not be anxious about anything but in every situation by prayer and petition with thanksgiving present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." What a charge for us; "Do not be anxious about anything!" That is a very difficult thing for the human being to do. Some of you may agree with that statement and some of you may not. I think most everyone will agree with it because the average person focuses their anxiety in the following way: Forty percent of our thoughts and our feelings are things that will never happen. Thirty percent are things about the past that cannot be changed. Twelve percent are things about criticism by others, which is mostly untrue. Ten percent is about health, which gets worse with stress and anxiety and only eight percent are about real problems that we really face. So by all means more than ninety-two percent of our anxiety is unwarranted anxiety and yet it's one of the things that the human being tends to do.

A man who is recognized as the greatest prayer of all time was a man by the name of George Muller. He said this, he said, "The beginning of anxiety is the end of faith and the beginning of true faith is the end of anxiety." And he knew what he was talking about. He was born in 1805. He was born to oppression father and mother. His mother died when he was but three years old. His father collected the revenue for the state so he was basically a tax collector. It was a well paid position at that time in society. And his father would give him an allowance, a very handsome allowance of which he would spend in debauchery and in as he would call it sinful living. And so he did. And when he ran out of money all he would do is go and when his father wasn't looking he'd put his hands in the till and take the more money he needed.

Well eventually that caught up with him and he spent time in prison by the time he was 16. And his father thought that this would be a good way to teach his son some morals would be to send him to seminary. So he actually sent his son to seminary with the thought that he might have a better life.

Well seminary didn't do anything for him. He continued his same lifestyle there and when his allowance would run out and he needed more money he would simply steal and continue his life of theft. Well he did that until one day he walked into a church meeting mid-week where he went and he saw people praying for the first time. And he saw them kneeling and praying. He said up till then prayer was really something that you just read out of a book and he knelt and he prayed. And as he prayed he realized that God was going to make a difference in his life and he changed his life and his life seriously changed.

And not long after that he moved to England where he founded in Bristol an orphanage that accommodated over two thousand orphans. And all of the buildings they said there were made of solid granite. And here's one of the unique things. He never once asked for a penny to help support this orphanage. It was

completely self-supporting and the way it was supported through his own testimony was on bended knee and through prayer.

God works and God answers prayer and as George Muller testified and exemplified at the beginning of anxiety is the end of faith and the beginning of true faith is the end of anxiety. And those are those words that we receive from St. Paul today. "Do not be anxious about anything but in every situation by prayer and petition with thanksgiving make your requests to God." And so the end of anxiety is found, it begins, with prayer.

And that's why this morning we're going to conclude this service with a time of prayer. I've asked many of you to go and collect different prayer requests from your neighbors and your friends and your associates and your family members. And I'm confident that many of you have many prayer requests and today we're going to pray for them. Because I believe in the power of prayer, this church believes in the power of prayer. We have developed a prayer community online that is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and you can go online and you can pray for people and you can request prayer. We have it happen all the time. I personally pray for people who ask me to pray for them. And I get different prayer requests from different times.

I had a prayer that said this recently. It says, "I'm a young pastor in Africa and I need a prayer for my church for God's favor and directions. I have about fifty to sixty congregation that God should bless the church and its members and connect the church to the international. The name of the church is I Am Chapel in Ghana West Africa." And people from around the world come and they pray together. It's one big community of prayer of thousands of people literally from every country and continent on planet earth coming together for prayer. And if you need prayer today you can go online and you can request prayer. I believe in the power of prayer. And I'm convinced that when you embrace prayer into your life that anxiety as you know it will be changed.

How many people have ever heard of Josh McDowell? He is known in Christian circles as an apologetic. An apologetic is someone who looks at the scriptures and explains how the scriptures all enhance and embrace and support one another. And he is a theologian and a teacher. Well he wasn't raised in a Christian home and he wasn't raised in a Christian manner. He became a Christian as a young man. As he studied the bible he saw these contradictions and someone else came along and showed him how the contradictions weren't contradictions but actually complementary of each other. And that changed his life. That opened his eyes to the reality of who Christ is.

And it wasn't long after that that his mother passed away. And his heart was broken for her because he had no idea what her spiritual life was like. He never had a chance to talk to her about it. And he started praying. His prayer was that God would show him, would reveal to him the life that his mother had, any spiritual life that she had. And as he was praying he decided he was going to walk to the end of the pier. He was living here in Southern California. And he walked to the end of this pier and at the end of the pier he saw this woman sitting in a lawn chair fishing. And he just struck up a conversation with her and she asked him so where are you from? You know most Californians have a second home. Well he had actually migrated to California from Michigan and so he says well you know I was raised in a little town in Michigan but you've never heard of it, it's called Union City and before he could say the words because he would always say near Battle Creek, because some people know where Battle Creek is, she said oh, it's near Battle Creek. He goes, really? You knew that? How did you know that? She goes oh well have you ever heard of a McDowell family? He goes yes,

that's my name. My name is Josh McDowell. And she says well my cousin lived there. She was a McDowell and her name was and she mentioned his mother's name. He didn't even know she existed. And so he said, do you know what? I've been praying that God would share with me and somehow reveal to me something about my mother's spiritual life. Can you tell me anything about my mother's spiritual life? And she says well I didn't see her for years, but I can tell you this much: we were teenagers and a traveling evangelist came and they had a tent and we went to this revival that they had there and the two of us went forward in this revival and we accepted Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and savior. And that was the answer that Josh needed for his prayers.

And God came and connected him with the impossible odds. And people will call it a coincidence and people who don't believe in the power of God and don't believe in prayer will just call it coincidence. But I call it a God incident. Where God comes in and He answers prayer and He makes a difference in our lives; because that's how anxiety is relieved from our minds and our hearts and that's how we acquire the peace of God that He has for every single one of us through prayer, through petition and through thanksgiving.

What is petition? Petition is a form of prayer where we come to God and we request, we ask Him for certain things to fulfill the needs that we have in our heart, the needs that we have for our physical needs, the things that most people refer to when they think of prayer. The challenge that most people have is they don't know how to pray and I've had many people ask me how do you pray? And that's a very common question. In fact it was a question that Christ's apostles asked Christ Himself and Christ Himself has taught us to pray. His Apostles came to Him and said, "Lord teaches us to pray." And Jesus said, "Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever," Amen.

Those are our instructions on how to pray and if you go and you look at this prayer that Christ gave us we can find out very clearly that there are four points that you can embrace to help guide you through a life of prayer that will be productive and successful. Instead of immediately jumping into petition where we constantly ask God for things which is the human inclination because when we are hurt, when we are in the fox hole all you can think about is Lord save me and out it comes. But that's not the way Christ taught us to pray. He taught us to first of all recognize who God is. He said it, "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name." We use our own words. Recognize what God has done for you in the past. Recognize the splendor and the glory and the power that He has. Only then and only then do you then take the next step of recognizing and petitioning God and encouraging him to make a difference in our lives. And so I want to encourage you to use the Lord's Prayer as a stepping stone and as a tool to pray.

Children haven't always learned that and as a result of that we get some very interesting prayers. Debbie, a seven year old said this she said, "Dear God, please send a new baby for mommy. The new baby you sent last week cries too much." And then an eight year old named, Norma, she said, "Dear God, how many angels are there in heaven? I want to be the first kid in class to know the answer." And another one said, "This is my prayer: could you please give my brother some brains? So far he doesn't have any." And Hank, a seven-year-old said, "Thank you for the nice day today. You even fooled the TV weatherman." You know children's prayers are beautiful prayers because they come from the heart. And as

we learn to pray from the heart with recognition of who God is and then petitioning God and submitting to His authority and giving thanks for all things, which is really what the Lord's Prayer does. It gives us these four pillars with which to establish our prayer lives. We will begin to realize the magnitude of how God continues to step into our lives and perform miracles, God instances. "Don't be anxious for anything but in every situation by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, with thanksgiving."

I received a prayer request online recently of a woman who has absolutely no reason to be thankful. But she concludes her statements by saying thanks. She says, "Dr. Schuller I've been requesting prayer for several months now and I wanted to update you on my health. This will probably be my last update. I just got out of the hospital and I'm receiving hospice care here at home. I have psoriasis of the liver caused by Nash disease. I know that I'm going to heaven with my heavenly Lord, and I'm not afraid, but I am very afraid of the turning and the transition from earth to heaven and I'm also struggling with the fact that I'm only forty-nine years old, but please continue to pray for me. Pray for that transition. Thank you for your prayers and thank you Lord for the forty-nine years I've had.

So when you think of God, what do you think of? And those are the thoughts that come out of your mind to begin your prayer. Oh Lord, You created everything. Oh God, You gave me my family. Oh God, You helped me through all of these things in my life. Oh God, You continue to perform miracles on a daily basis for people everywhere. Oh God, nothing is impossible with You. And you continue on this litany as long as you need, or as long as you want, talking about the power of God and who He is. Who He is to you, your heavenly Father. And that's the way we begin our prayers. "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." That's topic number two. And what we do at that point is we recognize that His sovereignty in our lives is more important than who we are and our wants and our wishes and our desires and our hopes. That God knows better than us, our needs and what's really good for us than we know for ourselves. So in here we are saying Lord, I have all these wants and desires but You know what I really need. Lord, let Your will be done and we submit ourselves in this section, to His authority. We allow His authority to take place in our lives.

Then we come to the third section where we start to petition God. "Give us this day our daily bread, forgive us our sins as we forgive the sins of others. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." And these are all petitions. We are asking God for what we think we need in our lives, and at the same time, we're recognizing the fact that it covers the whole spectrum. For the physical and the financial, the material and the inanimate, it includes the tangible and the intangible, it includes every single area of our life. That's all included in those wonderful words. So we petition Him.

And finally we give thanks to God for everything. "For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever." We thank Him and in every way we thank God for everything He's ever done, everything He's doing, and everything He will do through us and for us. It's petition. In all things, in all situations we pray and we petition in thanksgiving. And as we learn to be thankful, we learn that a thankful heart is a positive heart. We learn that a thankful mind is a positive mind and a thankful positive mind is a mind that has the ability to do far more for the Kingdom of God and God can use a positive and a healthy mind and body and soul in a powerful way to make a powerful difference in our world today.

One young man who realized that was a name of Michael. He worked on communications towers and his coworker noticed that he was always positive. He would ask him, how are you today? And his response was if I was any better I'd be twins. Can anyone explain what that means? I've heard that a dozen times; I've never been able to figure that out. It makes absolutely no sense to me whatsoever, but that's what he said. And he was always positive and he was always giving a positive twist on everything that took place in the company. And as tragedy sometimes happens he tragically fell from one of the communications towers and was seriously injured. They didn't know if he would live or die. And the paramedics came and they saw him and as they started addressing him they asked him a question: are you allergic to anything? And he could see the terror in their face because he was afraid they thought he was dying. And he didn't want them to think that he was dying. He wanted them to know that he was going to live and that he was going to survive. So this thought immediately ran through his head as a positive thinker he said yes I am. And they stopped everything they said, what? I'm allergic to gravity. And they all laughed and they calmed down and peace came over their hearts and they addressed his issues and they took him to the emergency room and he survived.

A positive heart, a positive mind will always outlive, will out last, will have the ability to deal with stress and anxiety in such a way that life becomes a life of thanksgiving to God for all things. And so "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation by prayer, petition with thanksgiving present your requests to God and the peace of God that transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." And so this morning we're going to practice. We're going to practice the instructions to release our anxieties to God, to allow the peace of God to flow into our hearts and our minds.

#### INVITATION TO PRAYER - RAS

RAS: And I want to invite you as the music is performed today, to come forward and place your prayer requests on the tables that we have on the right and the left of the podium, and you can leave them there and if you do then we will pray for them tonight in our evening service. We'll continue to pray for them in our staff chapels. If you want to take some of these prayer requests with you and if you want to commit to praying for them everyday for the next week or two take some of these with you and pray for them as well. And so I invite you now to continue in the spirit of prayer and come and present your requests to God.

#### ANTHEM – VANGUARD UNIV. CONCERT CHOIR - "Alleluia"

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

#### PRAYER – RAS

RAS: Dear Heavenly Father, You know every single prayer that is here today. You've heard them all. We know that You will answer our prayers. You will answer them in various ways and in the end we will know that You truly are God,

that You've cared for us, that You've been there to hold us up. And so we thank You Lord for the opportunities we have to pray. So we lift these prayers to You and we thank You for everything and we praise Your name always and forever, Amen.

HYMN - "Medley - My Hope is Built on Nothing Less/Trusting Jesus"  
My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ the solid Rock I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His love, support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. On Christ the solid Rock I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand. Trusting Jesus every day, trusting through my daily way; Even when my faith is small, trusting Jesus - that is all. Trusting as the moments fly, trusting as the days go by, trusting Him whatever befall, trusting Jesus - that is all.

Brightly does His Spirit shine into this small heart of mine; With His strength I cannot fall, trusting Jesus - that is all. Trusting as the moments fly, trusting as the days go by, trusting Him whatever befall, trusting Jesus - that is all, is all!

#### BENEDICTION - RAS

RAS: And now may the blessings of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit touch your hearts and your minds and give you the peace that transcends all understanding and may you go forth with joy and be led forth with peace today, tomorrow and always, Amen.