



# *Parakletos*

## Alongside Ministries

Mentoring, Modeling, Motivating and  
Ministering Prayer to a New Generation

Did you ever wish you could bring that conference speaker back to your church for your congregation to hear what you just experienced? Well, now you can. Pastor Dick LaFountain has just retired from 40 years of pastoral ministry and preaching and is available to partner with your church as he brings his gifts and anointing from God to your church family. This is not a weekend blitz or a flash in the pan one day preaching event but an extended time of multiple weekends of preaching, teaching, prayer and motivation.

### Seminar & Preaching Topics

#### **“Break Through” Preaching Series**

- Lord, Teach Me To Pray - *Be Still and Know God* (6) \*
- His Presence – *In Heaven, In Your Heart, In Your Home, His House* (4)
- Praying With Power – *Boldness Before the Throne of Grace* (8)
- Praying Through the Storm – *Praying When All Seems Lost* (4)
- Crying Out To God – *Passionate Praying* (4)
- Forgiveness – *When You Pray, Forgive* (7)
- The Healing Touch – *Laying on Hands-Anointing with Oil-Prayer of Faith* (8)
- Deliverance Us From Evil – *Are You a Victor or Victim? from Ephesians* (8)

*\*Required for year one to establish healthy prayer habits.*

**Samples of all these sermons and series are available on our Ministry Today web site along with an abundance of helps for prayer and ministry.**

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*A Ministry Partnership with Rev. Richard W. LaFountain*

*1 Corinthians 11:23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you...*

*Romans 1:11 For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.*

*2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that you havet heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*

In the past, revival meetings and special services worked to compliment your ministry and add an outside voice that brought conviction and blessing to our congregations. That outside voice served to inspire and rejuvenate our churches, and at the same time it did not compete with our pastoral role as the main preacher teacher. The reality is that revival meetings don't work anymore. Even long weekend emphases are tough to gather a crowd and most of our people don't go to church family camps either where they can get this outside voice.

I want to suggest a new model for the outside voice for revival and refreshing that is not a short term but a long term fix. It involves bringing to your congregation an outside voice that compliments your preaching and ministry, and at the same time provides other needed ministry services without the expense of bringing on a new staff person. There are times when you as the primary caregiver and nurturer need a significant break to rest and be refreshed. You need an advocate, a "*parakletos*," one called alongside to assist you.

After 40 years of successful ministry I am now free to assist other pastors particularly in the areas of preaching and prayer. I am stepping down form a very successful preaching and pastoring ministry to slow down my pace, but I don't want to stop altogether. I would love to serve together with you as that much needed periodic outside voice that can complement your ministry.

This is not a pulpit supply ministry. I do not want to do pulpit supply for one reason – it's too temporary and simply fills a Sunday slot without building a relationship with the people to whom I preach. I cannot build a significant relationship with the pastor or church in one service and expect a lasting impact. I believe preaching involves shepherding, that is, it involves a heart for the people to whom the Word is preached. I suggest my role to be a more integrated ministry role as an outside temporary associate pastor who is called alongside to assist you in your preaching and teaching ministry. If you just need someone to fill the pulpit there are lots of other pulpit suppliers available. At this time I am not one of them.

**Pastor, here is what I offer you:**

## **For the Congregation...**

An Outside Voice – each year I bring three thematic and expositional weekends of preaching and teaching to your congregation. This amounts to at least six (6) messages on prayer brought to your congregation during a 12-month period. That is equivalent to or better than the revival crusade in that we have time together with you, not just preaching services.

A Prayer Trainer – my ministry for the last 20 years has had a strong focus on prayer. I have preached, taught, modeled, and written extensively on renewing our prayer lives with a passion for prayer and the presence of God in our worship. I suggest that this training is a vital part of our extended preaching/teaching series. I would like to do that in your church, just as I have done it in my churches, in the following ways:

Teaching Prayer – 6 sessions teaching six biblical principles of prayer. For churches that are close it could be conducted during the prayer meeting or another weeknight. This teaching centers on *Developing Intimacy with God*. It will be a dramatic re-training of believers to pray in ways that make prayer exciting and enjoyable. There are other teachings on prayer that I could do but this needs to be the primary foundational teaching. Books and workbooks will be required and it is important that people sign up and show up for the entire series. This teaching can be done as a one day seminar on a Sunday afternoon. Each weekend we are with you we will conduct another Sunday afternoon Seminar on important Biblical principles.

Leading Prayer Events – I will lead a Quiet Prayer Retreat once a year. Quiet prayer retreats have become a staple for your church in Grove City where we have offered it twice each year. I suggest the retreat be scheduled from Friday 5 pm to Saturday 5 pm at a convenient local camp facility. The first retreat could be conducted at the end of the prayer training series or in the beginning of the second series. I will to conduct a church-wide Concert of Prayer on our closing Sunday evening.

Training Elders – In our church once a year we conduct practical training for elders which outlines their proscribed duties and teaching them practical ministry skills in the line of eldership duties. A significant part of this training involves training men to anoint and pray for the sick, and how to pray with people at the altar.

## **For you the Pastor...**

- A Prayer Partner – spiritual director, accountability partner, prayer partner, listener, advisor, friend.
- A Mentor to Train You to Lead Prayer & Planning – I train pastors to do 2 ½ day retreats three times a year either alone or with their staff to catch God’s vision for the church and to articulate strategies and plans for the year. This involves vision and strategic planning.
- A Resource Person – resources for ministry and prayer, bulletin inserts, books, booklets, CDs, and web sites, etc.
- An Advocate – before your elders and board for your need of refreshing, sabbatical, study leaves, prayer retreats. I suggest in subsequent years (after the first year) that the pastor be provided a month long sabbatical during my month of preaching and teaching.
- A Respite from the Labor – 2 Cor 11:28 “Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, *the care of all the churches.*” You deserve a break today.

Without the senior pastor changing his prayer life and habits my preaching and teaching the church will have little affect. People follow the shepherd. They will not become more passionate for prayer and the presence of God than their pastor. They need a model. I am not that model. You are. Therefore, in most cases, we ask that the pastor enter into a mentoring relationship for the year. The pastor is the key to change in the church. Our goal and purpose is to coach you to become a Praying Pastor that leads his flock to be a House of Prayer.

The Commitment:

The commitment needs to be by the senior pastor and the church elder/board. This is a partnership in ministry and it is a decision to seek to become a “prayer saturated church” where the presence of the Lord is palpable and demonstrable. No church can become “prayer saturated” without the pastor becoming a “prayer saturated” pastor.

This schedule is tailored for churches within driving distance of our base in Grove City, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh. We consider up to a 2 hour drive a reasonable distance. This plan makes me a ministry partner with you at key points during the year. Based on the above suggested schedule of preaching and teaching I would potentially be with your local church and pastor about 20 days during the year. Since I do not wish to be preaching more than 9 or 10 months out of the year July, and August would not be available for scheduling.

## Recommended Weekend Schedules

### **First Weekend**

Sunday Kick-off – am Preaching on “*Lord, Teach Us to Pray*”  
Sunday afternoon training – with workbook & hands on teaching  
Optional: Sunday light meal – followed by fellowship – Q&A

### **Second Weekend**

Friday 5 pm to Saturday 5 pm – *A Quiet Church Prayer Retreat*  
Sunday Morning – Preaching on *Healing* and Altar Ministry  
Sunday Afternoon – Mentoring Elders & Key Leaders  
Sunday Evening Service – Preaching and/or *Concert of Prayer*

### **Third Weekend** – two weekends and weekday ministries

Sunday AM - Preaching on "*Are You a Victor or a Victim?*"  
Sunday Afternoon - 3-Hr Seminar "*The Authority of the Believer*"  
Optional: Sunday PM - Preaching on "*Believing God's Promises*"

## Other Seminar & Preaching Topics

### **“Break Through” Preaching Series**

- Lord, Teach Me To Pray - *Be Still and Know God* (6) \*
- His Presence – *In Heaven, In Your Heart, In Your Home, His House* (4)
- Praying With Power – *Boldness Before the Throne of Grace* (8)
- Praying Through the Storm – *Praying When All Seems Lost* (4)
- The Prayer of Jabez – *O Lord Bless Me Indeed* (4)
- Crying Out To God – *Passionate Praying* (4)
- Forgiveness – *When You Pray, Forgive* (7)
- The Healing Touch – *Laying on Hands-Anointing with Oil-Prayer of Faith* (8)
- Deliverance Us From Evil – *Are You a Victor or Victim? from Ephesians* (8)

Other Themes: (Consider involving us twice a year for spring and fall campaigns)

- Stinkin’ Thinkin’ – Phil 2:5 – *Let this mind be in you which was in Jesus Christ* (8)
- Love & Respect – Ephesians 5:25-26 *The Healthy Marriage Relationship* (7)
- Christmas Themes - Names of Christ (15) *I Love the Name of Jesus!*

\*Required for year one to establish healthy prayer habits.

**You might consider using our ministry over multiple years.**

### Year One

“Break Through” Preaching Series – *Lord, Teach Me To Pray* – aims at motivating your congregation to change their prayer habits and learn to spend time with God alone in prayer and ignite their love of prayer as intimacy with God. Other Prayer Weekend topics are – *Experiencing Anointing & Healing*, and *Deliver Us From Evil*.

### Year Two

“Break Through” Preaching Series – *Stinkin’ Thinkin’* – focuses on bringing our minds into conformity with God’s word and truth. It motivates faith and changing of attitudes that cause dysfunction of emotions, relationships, and marriage. This series has been powerfully used of God in several churches, church family camps, and one doctor gives the series to depressed clients. The “Break Through” Preaching Series – *Forgiveness* – that impacts our relationship with God and our ability to forgive others. Then the “Break Through” Preaching Series – *Love & Respect* – aims at motivating married men and women to become like Christ in loving and respecting one another. It is one of our most popular and impacting series. It also introduces Life Groups for in-depth study of these principles in the DVD Series *Love and Respect*.

**Samples of these sermon series are available on our web sites.**

[www.GroveCityAlliance.org](http://www.GroveCityAlliance.org) &  
[www.MinistryToday.org](http://www.MinistryToday.org)