

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Volume 28, Issue 2

Sound Booth Revelations

Fay Nelson



How often our expectations are met in surprising ways, or are totally replaced by something far, far better! Our travel schedule means that a Sunday at our home fellowship is one where we go expecting to worship and not be responsible for any practical part of the service.

A couple of weeks ago as I stood with my home fellowship to worship, I noticed that the worship leader was staring at me with great intensity. When she finally got my attention she nodded toward the sound booth. I arrived to find Israel Southern, one of our junior staffers, trying to run sound as well as the computerized system which projects the words onto a big screen.

His relief was palpable when I came in and together we got things working smoothly. I had given my morning to the Lord as I had walked to the booth—exchanging a time of blissful worship for a morning of hard work and many overlapping responsibilities so that the whole congregation could have a time to focus on God.

We took turns at the computer and encouraged each other with cues. Though very different than the time I had anticipated, the time in that booth quickly became very precious. Israel and I sang and worshipped with the congregation and managed to get the proper words on the screen at the proper time. We had it down by the third song!

And then Israel gave one of the best sermons I've ever heard. He looked at me and said, "Isn't it funny—I can hear my dad's voice over all the others, even up here." There were 350 people singing. His dad was on the front row. We were in a sound booth at the back of the church, boxed in and sitting 6 feet above the congregation.

He could hear his dad's voice because he has spent his life listening to it. He knows it intimately. Israel's father's worship—without benefit of a mike—stood out to him because he knows that voice so well.

Jesus gave an illustration in John 10:1-5 about a shepherd and some sheep—the sheep (God's people) will follow the shepherd (Jesus) because they know His voice and trust Him. He is good. He provides for us—life, hope, joy, healing, provision, salvation now and forever, purpose, and all that we need.

As I sat in the sound booth, Israel's one sentence sermon resonated in my spirit. God reminded me of His great love for me—for all of us—and the fact that He speaks to us unceasingly. As we listen to Him, spend time with Him, learn the sound and timbre and nuances of His voice, we gain greater assurance that He does love us, is there for us.

Do you need to know beyond the shadow of a doubt that you are deeply, truly, irrevocably and unalterably loved? Listen for His voice. Even if you are in the back of a huge room, sitting in a box and 350 people are singing or shouting or clamoring, you'll be able to pick out His voice. As we celebrate Christmas, we are reminded of the great lengths to which God went so that we **could** hear His voice. And our prayer for you is that you will hear His voice, hear it better than you've ever heard it before, and that He will bless you as never before.

For a child
will be born
to us, a son
will be given
to us;
and the
government
will rest
on His
shoulders;
and His
name will be
called
Wonderful
Counselor,
Mighty God,
Eternal
Father,
Prince of
Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Our Heart for You

CliffAnn Perry

For years we've said Creative Ministries is a partnership and we've asked you to pray for our needs. We've rejoiced together as God has answered prayers.

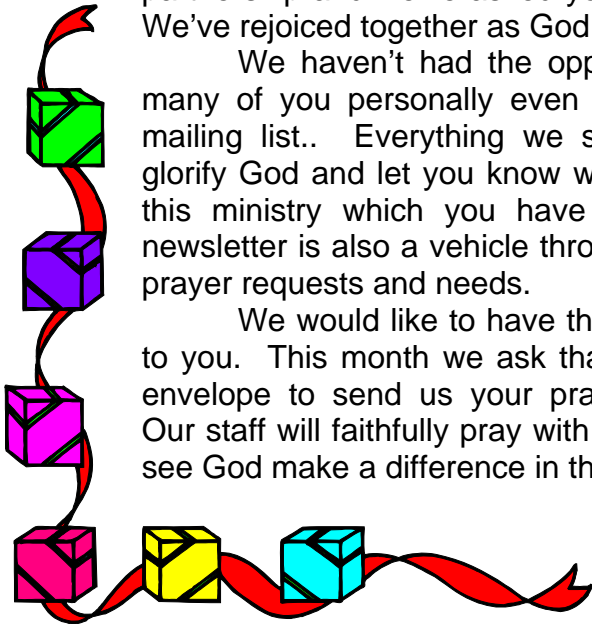
We haven't had the opportunity to get to know many of you personally even though you are on our mailing list.. Everything we send out is intended to glorify God and let you know what He is doing through this ministry which you have helped support. This newsletter is also a vehicle through which we share our prayer requests and needs.

We would like to have the opportunity to minister to you. This month we ask that you use the enclosed envelope to send us your prayer requests or needs. Our staff will faithfully pray with you. And together we'll see God make a difference in the world!



PO Box 1603
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

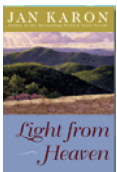
Phone: 252.441.7976
Email: coranon@charter.net



We Recommend!



A Christmas Offering, Integrity's new release in its **iworship** series has a disc which has a DVD side with Christmas music and video, and a CD side which has different songs. This series is phenomenal—wonderful music ministered by great musicians and outstanding video footage. It is available in local stores and online as well.



We approached Jan Karon's 9th Mitford novel, **Light from Heaven**, with both joy and grief as it is the final book in the series. However, the grief faded in the delightful unfolding of the story and also the promise that the main characters will be featured in three additional books in years to come. Available everywhere and heavily discounted as it has climbed to the top of the best seller charts.



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Schedule and Prayer Requests

December 14-15th
December 17th
January

First United Methodist Church, Cape May Courthouse, NJ
Children of the City, Brooklyn, NY
Exploratory trip to Managua, Nicaragua; ministry in Jaco, Costa Rica; and workshops in Higuey, Dominican Republic.

Please pray with us for fruitful ministry, safety in travel, and that we will hear God's voice clearly and obey quickly! Also, that our time at home can be productive—a desperate need! Thank you for your prayers, your concern, and all that you do to make our ministry possible.