

ISSUE No. 7

TEAM SPIRIT NEWS

JANUARY-MARCH 1986

JAMIE BUCKINGHAM

**REPENTANCE – THE FORGOTTEN
FACTOR/JIM HOLL**
HOUSE CHURCH FOCUS/TREVOR DEARING
I.D. NORMAN BARNES

**REPORTS:
LOUGHBOROUGH CONFERENCE**
JAMIE BUCKINGHAM VISIT

TEAM SPIRIT

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CURRENT COMMENTS

JAMIE AND JACKIE BUCKINGHAM breezed into Romford, blessed us, and breezed out again! Their willingness to come and be with us was both a surprise and a privilege, although all too brief. We thoroughly enjoyed having them with us, for, apart from Jamie's 'laid-back story telling' approach to ministry, they are just good fun to have around.

On reflection, the thing that impressed me most was that they took time to find out where we were in God's scheme of things, and they were just as willing to receive as they were to give. In sharing his heart with us, Jamie confirmed so much that God has been saying. We felt quite elated and also very secure that, by God's grace, we are pretty well on target as far as direction for the future is concerned. One illustration he used has been with me constantly – that of the surf board.

Without going into great detail (you can purchase the tape if you need that) Jamie used the analogy to help us understand the moving of the Holy Spirit in our generation. The surfer rides the wave, being carried forward by its tremendous power. Many of those of us involved in the charismatic movement have enjoyed the experience of God's power lifting and thrusting us into new dimensions of love and service. However, to take advantage of the next wave we have to swim back into position and prepare ourselves once again. Apart from the effort involved in doing this, there is also a need for patience at times when the sea goes dead. The temptation then is to get out and lie on the beach or to give up and go home. As a veteran 'charismatic surfer', Jamie assured us that the sign that another wave is approaching is felt in the seat of the pants! It cannot be seen, only felt by that gentle tug. At this point

the knowing surfer gets up on to his knees in readiness.

Like Jamie and Jackie we, with many others, have that feeling, that sixth sense, or should I say 'inner witness', that God is on the move again. After a long period of calm, during which we have had time to prepare (or go home as some have), God's wave is approaching. Will it be the final wave bringing in the fulness we all long for? Or will it be the biggest yet? Or even just another one of God's waves, insignificant to some, but nevertheless bringing the tide that much further up the beach? Who can say? But we do need to get on our knees or we may find ourselves taken by surprise and miss a vitally important stage in God's strategy for today.

JOHN NOBLE

FOR TAPES AND VIDEOS OF JAMIE'S MINISTRY SEE TEAM SELECTION ON BACK PAGE.

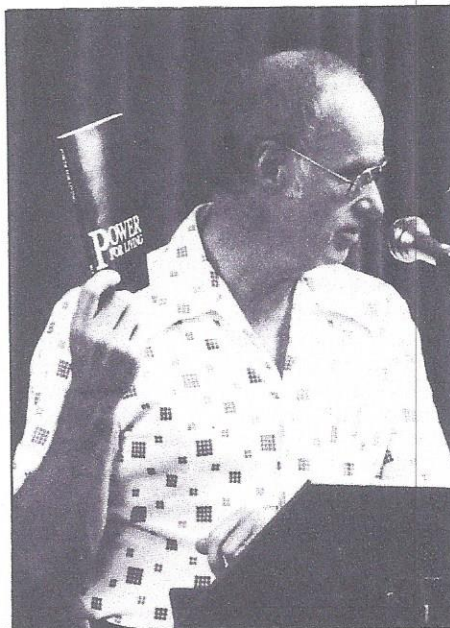
NEWS AND REPORTS

JAMIE BUCKINGHAM VISIT

ON THE WEEKEND OF 14-16 SEPTEMBER, we were privileged to have Jamie Buckingham come to share initially with Team and wives plus a few invited guests. The audience broadened out on Sunday at public meetings in Romford and on Monday evening at a Hotel in London, where Jamie spoke to members of Dave Tomlinson's and Gerald Coate's teams in addition to Team Spirit.

On Saturday he shared on encouragement, relating how he had, night after night, whenever at home, gone to his son at bedtime and spoken words of encouragement to him. By doing this he had built self-esteem, acceptance and faith into this particular son who had had considerable problems with reading and writing at school. When Jamie started to do this, the boy was well behind the rest of his age group in reading ability. Over the years he improved slowly but surely, until eventually he was able to attend agricultural college and is now the manager of a large cattle ranch in the States.

He also shared about his book 'Power for Living' which had been written under considerable pressure in a period of two weeks in order to meet deadlines that could not be altered. The book had literally been thrust upon Jamie and although there was considerable debate about its contents, it was published on time. It was being promoted at enormous cost by an organisation which wished to reach unsaved people only, and was being given away absolutely free of charge. The result was that eleven million copies were distributed. They all had a card in the back that people could sign and return, stating if they had surrendered their lives to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. The response was overwhelming; one million people returned the card and it was estimated that as



ONE IN ELEVEN MILLION



JAMIE AND JACKIE BUCKINGHAM

many again may have received the book secondhand and made the same crucial decision.

On Sunday folk gathered at the Dolphin Centre, Romford, to hear Jamie share his experiences and vision. He is a master story-teller, as many will know from his books such as 'Risky Living', 'Where Eagles Soar' and 'A way Through the Wilderness'. He held us captive as he related with a real sense of vulnerability about his failures and how God had taken hold of him, given his life new direction and a fresh

impetus. He encouraged all of us to let God use the gifts that he had placed within us, to let the Holy Spirit reawaken the vision and gifting that God had entrusted to us in order to fulfil God's desire and ours.

We were also thrilled as he shared with us about the different moves of God in recent church history. A sense of anticipation was evident and there was a real witness in our hearts as he spoke of what he believed to be a new wave of God's blessing which is starting. At present it is only barely discernible, but it can be felt, and it will be something far greater, stronger and lasting than anything we have experienced to date in our generation.

On Monday evening, as Jamie spoke with leaders and the various teams represented, there was a real sense of significance about his visit to this country. Gerald Coates prophesied at the end, and summed up what most of us had been feeling, that there was a real spirit of kindness about Jamie and his wife Jackie, a kindness that was not just a smile and a handshake, but something that was tangible in the way they spoke and acted and much appreciated by all who were privileged to spend some time with them.

We do not believe that this is the last we have seen of Jamie and Jackie and look forward eagerly to being able to invite them back again to share, perhaps with a larger group of people. Until then, we pray that God will bless their ministry and continue particularly to use Jamie's undoubted gift of writing.