



December 2007

Scataglini Ministries, Inc.

Sergio's Itinerary

JANUARY

Jan 10-12 Thurs-Sat
Louisiana Outpouring
Pineville, LA

Jan 13 Sun
Pastor Tommy Faulk
Lafayette, LA

Jan 17 Thurs
Virtual Meeting
Talcahuano, Chile
Cordoba, Argentina

Jan 23 Wed
Virtual Meeting
Fort Wayne, IN
Port St. Lucie, FL
Fort Wayne, IN

Jan 24 Thurs
Virtual Meeting
Houston, TX

Jan 25 Fri
Bethel College
Mishawaka, IN

Jan 26 Sat
Virtual Meeting
Asuncion, Paraguay

For more information, please see our itinerary at:
www.scataglini.com

JOSHUA: THE TRANSGRESSION OF PRESUMPTION

(Part 16) By Sergio Scataglini

As we study Joshua, we learn that presumption of God's will can lead to a wounded spirit, which can leave even the strongest Christian ineffective in the Kingdom. As we look closer at Joshua's life, we can discover



how to avoid this pitfall of presumption.

First, we must resolve our previous defeats. We need to ask the Lord what went wrong. Maybe we cannot change our past, but we certainly can change our mindset and the way we will work in the future.

Next, we must guard God's honor. In Joshua 7:8, we see that he was not only concerned about the future of Israel, but

about God's reputation.

We, too, must be loyal. Many times in church settings, we have seen the church staff more concerned with

their own honor and reputation, rather than that of their pastor and the entire congregation.

When these situations arise, the pastoral staff has two immediate options. The first is to begin to feel defensive and think about how it might make them look. The other option they have is to understand that their role is to cover their pastor's back. The pastor could actually be wrong, but the way to solve the

situation is not through gossip. Our first reaction as church staff should be a concern for the honor of the pastor and the honor of God, rather than our own.

We are to persuade God to guard His honor. Moses prayed many times, "What will the Egyptians say? If You wipe out Israel, if You make us fail and if these people die in the wilderness."

We must understand that genuine victory is preceded by holiness. There is no chance to win, when there is sin in the camp, even if the battle is from God. That was the reason for Israel's defeat at Ai which we read in Joshua 7:10-11.

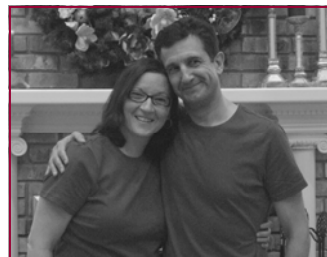
Israel was weak on getting rid of sin, because they did not destroy the things destined to destruction.

(cont.' on pg 2)

Improve Your Marriage and Relationships

By Kathleen Scataglini

A few days ago, the Lord dropped two words into my heart. As I pondered these words, I realized that it was a word for the coming year. They are words I want to apply to my life. I believe that many people will be able to use these words to improve their relationships with others and with God!



Pastors Sergio and Kathy on Christmas day

The words are

**ADMIRATION
APPRECIATION**

Over the past six months, we have heard about, talked with and counseled several couples who had made the decision to call it quits on their marriages. The hurts were too deep, the misunderstandings too frequent and they had lost

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year from the Scataglinis



We are a blessed family! Sergio and I are so happy to spend the holidays with our three boys! We have had an unusual year. Pablo (24), who has been with us for the past ten years, left us in March, after his visa expired; he is living in Italy.

Then in July, Jeremy (17) left for Argentina to spend time with his grandparents and to get reacquainted with the culture. In May, Nathan (18) graduated from High School and in September, moved to Louisiana. He is working as an assistant (in the clinic and in the office) to "Doc" Remedios, a surgeon, pastor and friend and is taking some online courses with Berklee University. Sergio made a trip to Louisiana in October with Miq (15), then went on to Argentina from there. He left Miq in Louisiana with our friends. (Miq and Jeremy both homeschool and thus have the flexibility to live and study in other places). Circumstances made it difficult for us to get back to Louisiana, so Miq has been there since the end of October! We have had an empty house! We all reunited for Christmas. We wish you all a blessed year in 2008. □

*It takes a strong man to admit that he likes Christmas; and I am him.
—Nathan*

Joshua: Presumption (cont.)

We must consecrate ourselves.

The solution that God offered for their moment of defeat in Joshua 7:13 was for them to consecrate themselves. There was no way they could win the battle in their lives until they removed their own personal idols.

We must be united against the enemy. It has been said, "For evil to abound, all it needs is for the righteous to do nothing." We have seen the spiritual effect of this in cities throughout the world.

We must seek revelation, not live in regret. When things get really bad in our families or tough in our marriages, we need to ask for God's explanation of why things are failing. Living in regret will not make things better. We must seek revelation and

God's understanding of our situation.

Finally, we must repent and fulfill our mission. Notice what happened later on in the story of Joshua and their defeat at Ai. They repented, dealt with the sin, then they went back and completely took the city of Ai.

The Lord is waiting for us to invade our cities with the gospel. He is waiting for us to declare victory in our homes.

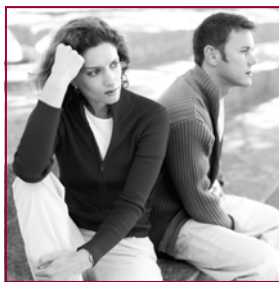
If you are frustrated, this is a good time of the year to resolve previous conflicts, guard God's honor, consecrate yourself, unite against the enemy and the Lord will impart revelation to your heart. □

Improve Your Relationships (cont.)

their hope to keep trying.

I believe these words are two "keys" the Lord has given us to improve our marriage and help others with theirs.

As I thought about these words, I realized that practicing appreciation and admiration would be a good strategy for anyone who is struggling with any relationship. Teenagers and parents, pastors and parishioners could all benefit by be-



ginning to express appreciation and acknowledge those things that you do admire in each other.

Last of all, I believe that our relationship with God will improve, if we practice being more appreciative of all He has given us and taking time to express our admiration for

who He is. Sometimes we focus on what He has not yet given us and that frustrates us. *Let's begin to thank Him for what we already have and admire Him for his many mercies towards us.* □

Host an "Open Heavens" Meeting in Your Church

For more information on holding an Open Heavens Internet Meeting at your church, please go to www.scataglini.com and click on "Virtual Meetings" There you will find more information and see a video clip of an actual meeting. Simply fill out the online "invitation" form and we will be in touch!

You may also request a meeting by writing to us at info@scataglini.com

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