

Dear friends,

I need your help. For many years I've been a cartoonist. It's been a hobby, a career, and a ministry for me. Because of cartooning I've grown tremendously in my faith and understanding of the Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, if God hadn't placed this cartooning bug inside me, I often wonder where my level of commitment to Him would be.

The reason I need your help is I believe I may be approaching a turning point in this ministry and I need your prayers. As many of you know, I write and draw the comic strip "The Adventures of Jeremiah". It has been met with great success as did my previous strip "Ralph", which I drew in college. I believe that writing and drawing comic strips is the main direction of my ministry. The reason is fourfold:

- It is a ministry in itself, allowing me to communicate Christ's love to thousands of people.
- It is a platform for a ministry. The appeal of the medium opens many doors for speaking the gospel in the secular world.
- The flexibility of the time demand allows me to maintain a direct discipleship ministry in the lives of others.
- The potential income could put me in a position to actively support others in their ministries.

Obviously, the greater this ministry grows and expands the greater the effectiveness in these four areas. However, for this ministry to continue to grow there is one important thing that I believe needs to happen. I need to get syndicated.

A syndicate is a company that buys features such as puzzles, editorial columns, and comic strips from artists and in turn sells them to hundreds of newspapers and periodicals across the nation. Most newspapers, as a rule, do not buy features directly from the artist. It's more practical for them to go through a syndicate.

The problem in syndication comes in the fact that because of the lure of fame and fortune, the major syndicates are literally swamped with thousands of submissions annually from which they can only buy a few features. Because of the odds, you can see that getting syndicated would literally take an act of God. But I believe that it is not above God's power to do that . . . especially if you pray for it to happen.

Another reason for soliciting prayer is, if this strip is going to glorify God, it needs to come from God. And for it to come from God, God needs to be the one who opens the right doors.

Another reason for soliciting prayer is I know a Christian cartoonist who was syndicated a few years ago. The one thing he did in his efforts to syndicate that I really haven't done until now is he solicited a group of people to put prayer behind his efforts. His strip is called "Downstown" and can be found in many newspapers across the U.S. Clearly prayer works.

I'm inviting you to be part of a prayer team for this ministry. I would like you to include a specific time in your regular prayers at least once per week to pray for this ministry. If you accept this invitation, please contact me and let me know what days you will be praying. Then I will pray for you and your diligence in this ministry.

Please don't take this lightly. If you feel led to do this, I'll be counting on your prayers as much as if you were supporting me financially. I really believe that the united prayers of God's people can accomplish far greater things than any of us can imagine.

"Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they shall be granted you." (Mark 11:24)

Thank you for your support.

In Christ's service,



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PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE CARTOON MINISTRY
OF RON WHEELER

God's guidance in preparing the strip

- glorifies Him
- appeals to Christian and secular readers

God empowering me with creative ability

- writing that is sensitive, edifying, and humorous
- improved drawing ability
- reduced production time

God's opening of the right doors

- the right syndicate to purchase the strip
- protection in licensing arrangements
- nationwide distribution of the strip

God's guidance of my heart

- confidence in my God-given abilities
- protection from pride and vanity
- wise stewardship of revenue
- that I seek His will above all else