



Chris and Dawn Phillips
PO Box 4659
West Columbia, SC 29171

803.456.2988
info@selahinternational.org
selahinternational.org

October 2025

Dear Pastors, Friends, and Partners of Selah International,

I recently attended a webinar on the benefits and dangers of AI (Artificial Intelligence) on society in general and on the church in particular. The host shared current data and statistics on the topic and then gave helpful ways to combat those effects. One of the more poignant statements that was made was this:

"As the world becomes more *artificial*, the church must become more *human*." – Carey Nieuwhof

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. As our pastors and church leaders navigate this cultural moment, would you commit to pray with me the following:

- Pray that our spiritual leaders would not seek to manufacture the perfect AI-generated sermon but that they would feed us with a fresh word from God, crafted for our unique human experience.
- Pray that our churches would not put their faith in an amazing social media campaign, but that they would emphasize human contact and genuine engagement in our communities and homes.
- Pray that they would not just give us more data, but that they would lead us into a genuine encounter with a Holy God through the illumination of the Holy Spirit through the unchanging Word of God.

"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." (2 Corinthians 3:18)

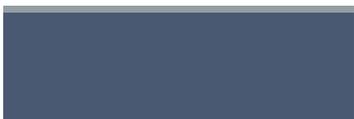
We enjoyed ministering to four pastoral and missionary families that we hosted at Selah International during the last few weeks. Part of that time was spent in debriefings for missionaries ([explained in the August ministry update](#)), and the other spent in providing counsel to hurting families and helping them begin the process of healing. Due to the confidential nature of our ministry, it is important not to share details. Suffice it to say, we have seen several missionary families arrive at the property with great anxiety, doubts about the future, and a lack of clarity in their priorities. But we have witnessed them work through these issues and return to their ministries with more clarity and energy. Don't misunderstand, all of the issues have not been resolved, and questions are still needing to be answered, but the next steps have been identified, and confidence in God's sovereignty and sufficiency has been renewed.

Also, during the last month and a half, Dawn and I have had the privilege of being part of a school and staff retreat in Ohio as well as a missions conference in Arizona. We enjoyed getting to know other pastors, missionaries, and church and school staff during these wonderful opportunities of service.

The Lord answered a huge prayer request that we have had for three years: a truck for the Selah Property! One of our faithful monthly financial partners and his wife were about to sell their truck, then remembered that he had read our update that mentioned the need for one. After praying about it, they decided to donate their truck! Please join us in thanking God for putting the need on the hearts of his people.



This is the last update before our Selah Refresh Retreat in November. Please begin to pray that the Lord would minister to the hearts of each of those who will be attending. Our desire is to truly edify, encourage, and equip those in attendance to meet the challenges of ministry with renewed knowledge and strength. We covet your prayers for them during this special gathering.



Ministry leaders, there is still time to sign up for the Selah Refresh at the Wilds in North Carolina, Monday-Wednesday, November 10-12, 2025. The deadline is October 30th, so
Scan the QR code and sign up today!



In closing, here are a few prayer requests as we enter the final few months of 2025:

1. Protection and physical endurance for the Selah Team as they travel, speak, and minister through Soul Care Conferences and other opportunities the Lord has provided.
2. That the Lord would bless and bring in the needed funds through our End of Year Fundraising campaign so that SICM can continue to meet the needs of ministry leaders around the world.
3. That those who have received counsel this year through Selah International would follow through and implement the biblical principles to produce long-term change.
4. And finally, my prayer for all of us is that we would *"be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding... (and) walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing..."* (Colossians 1:9-10)

Only by his Grace,

Chris Phillips