

Prayer Updates



ENCOUNTERS WITH
CHRIST
Jesus' Life in the Gospel of John

"Christ's Encounter with Hurting People"

Message by René Schlaepfer February 11-12, 2006

JOY & BLESSING

Welcome to Robert "Robbie" Lee Nash, born healthy to Bob and Heidi Nash. Congratulations to Bob, Heidi, big sister Hannah, and grandparents Rich and Marsha Iland!

HOSPITALIZED THIS PAST WEEK

Robert McCormick – recovering at Dominican Hospital
David Foster – hospitalized in Los Gatos, in ICU unconscious
Mike Banks – quadruple bypass

HOME WITH THE LORD

Elsie Hagen, a precious former member of our church family since the 1960s who had moved to Fort Collins, Colorado some years ago, is now present with the Lord.

Cards may be sent to her children:

Mark & Tina Hagen, 1924 19th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631 and

Bruce & Kathy Hagen, 5200 Castleridge Pl., Fort Collins, CO 80525.

Heartfelt prayer is extended to Judy Seibel in the loss of her mother, Thelma Martin.

Thelma has been an active member of our Women's Bible Study and she greatly missed by the ladies there.

Please remember Pat Emmons in the loss of her husband, Jim. We are grateful for his service in our TLC Video Ministry and we are thankful that he is now rejoicing with the Lord after battling cancer.

Heartfelt prayer is extended to David Landon and family in the loss of his mother, Janis Wolfstich, who had been ill for quite some time.

We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups — call 689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Information Desk or Welcome Center.

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews. Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie — the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. John 5:1-3

How can I be changed?

1. Admit _____

One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. John 5:5

12 Step definition of insanity:

Doing the _____ thing and expecting _____ results

2. Answer _____

When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" John 5:6

Why would I not want to be healed of my affliction?

• I'm _____ with it

• I'm _____ with it: "It's just like me to be..."

• I'm _____ by it

• I'm _____ by it

• I'm _____ by it

"Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me." John 5:7

The major barrier to change in this man's life: _____

All of us make _____ attempts to meet _____ needs

3. Act _____

Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. John 5:8,9

Postscript: Don't expect everyone to be happy you're healed

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, and so the Jewish religious leaders said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat." John 5:10

The big question:

Are you focused on your _____ or your _____ ?

Daily Meditations

Brief daily Bible readings related to this weekend's topic

This week's verse:

"Look to the Lord and his strength and seek his face always." Psalm 105:4

Monday

Look back over the notes from this weekend. What one point stood out to you and why?

Read John 5:1-10. In this encounter with Christ what is most striking to you?

Thank God today for His desire to interact with you each day. Thank Him for His love for you. Ask God to use this passage of Scripture to teach you this week.

Tuesday

Read John 5:1-4. In what ways can you relate to the man by the pool?

Write down some things (physical or emotional) that you've been struggling with for an extended period of time.

What are some of the ways you've tried to heal yourself? How have those impacted your life?

In what way do you struggle with waiting for God's healing?

Thank God today that He knows all about you. Thank Him for His care. Ask to Him to help you release your grip on the ways you've tried to heal yourself. Pray that your focus will increasingly shift away from your struggles and more to His face.

Wednesday

Read John 5:6-7. What question did Jesus ask the man? Why do you think He posed that question?

In what way do you believe that Jesus is asking you that same question?

What insights does the man's answer to Jesus' question give you?

Think honestly about your answers to that question. Which of these reasons for not accepting healing are you most prone to?

<input type="checkbox"/> I'm familiar with it	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm identified with it
<input type="checkbox"/> I'm discouraged by it	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm rewarded by it
<input type="checkbox"/> I'm fascinated by it	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

What do those answers reveal about you?

Thank God today for His encounter with you. Thank Him that He doesn't push His way into your life. Talk to Him about your struggles with surrendering to His healing. Pray that you'll grow in your trust in Him.

Thursday

Read John 5:8-9. How do faith and healing go together? Put yourself in the man's place. What thoughts do you think went through his mind after Jesus told him to "pick up his mat and walk"?

Read Hebrews 11. Write down five things you learn about faith in this passage.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

In what area of your life is Jesus asking you to "pick up your mat and walk"? In what ways are you responding to that? In what ways are you still afraid?

Thank God today for His healing power. Thank Him for the gift of faith. Talk to Him about the areas of your life where you need healing. Ask Him to increase your faith in Him and give you the courage to trust in His love and care for you.

Friday

Read Psalm 86 & Psalm 105:4. How does focusing on the Savior differ from focusing on the solution?

What do these passages teach you about focusing on your Savior? How can that impact you as you trust God's way and timing for healing in your life?

Thank God today that He is always with you. Thank Him for being your Savior. Ask God to remind you to daily turn your focus to Him. Pray that your desire to focus on Him will impact your attitude.

Saturday

Please finish any devotions you may have missed. Pray for the services this weekend. Pray that your heart will be ready to bear what God has for you. Ask God to use all the services to glorify Him.