

Prayer Updates



ENCOUNTERS WITH
CHRIST
Jesus' Life in the Gospel of John

**"Christ's Encounter with
Troubled People" John 14:1-21**

Message by René Schlaepfer, April 1 & 2, 2006

HOSPITALIZATIONS & SURGERIES THIS PAST WEEK

Alex Tabag – at Stanford, Scleroderma, very serious condition
Franklin Marshall – hernia repair
Jane Evers – still in RCU, stroke rehab
Leslie Douglass – UCSF, procedure, these are recurrent and very unpleasant
Kary Bisagno – hysterectomy
Nancy Kronander – blood clots, cancer prevents her from taking medications to treat them, she is on 100% oxygen
Virginia Fair – still in ICU, improving

Recent hospitalizations & surgeries:

Dudley Josselyn, Ruth Seidel, Buck Harris, Carl Cutshaw, Linda Davenport, Roger McGary

HOME WITH THE LORD

A dear and precious member of our TLC family, Lillian Cureton, passed peacefully from the comforting arms of her daughter, Anne Pitman, into the presence of her Lord Jesus. Lillian was on the bookkeeping staff at Twin Lakes Church for decades. Pray for and support the extended family at services here at Twin Lakes on Saturday, April 8 at 10:30am.

Please lift up in prayer June Parker and family in the recent loss of her mother, Elaine Albert, who recently was diagnosed with lung cancer. This was especially difficult for June, as she is currently receiving cancer treatment herself.

Our heartfelt prayer is extended to Kathy Smith in the sudden and tragic loss of her beloved husband, Barry. Also remember all family members who are grieving, especially their sons, Nathan and Nick and Barry's mother, Wanda Smith-Shelley.

Remember Nancy Pederson, saddened by the loss of her brother, Bob, who died of AIDS. She asks for prayer for his companion of 32 years who is partially paralyzed and was dependent on Bob, also in need of God's comfort.

Pray for t Rigor and family saddened by the sudden loss of his brother, Scott (age 39) from a stroke.

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.

In the Upper Room, Jesus reveals he will be betrayed, and will soon die. His disciples are understandably troubled....

*"Do not let your hearts be **troubled**. Trust in God; trust also in me."* John 14:1

*"Don't let your hearts be **troubled** and don't be afraid."* John 14:27

*"In this world you will have **trouble**. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* John 16:33

What does Jesus tell me to do when I'm troubled?

1. Take _____

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me." John 14:1

"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." John 14:8

"...Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matt. 28:20

2. Trust _____

"In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:2,3 (See 2 Cor 4:17,18)

"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." John 14:12

3. Take _____

"And I will ask the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever... I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." John 14:16,18 (KJV)

"...I will not leave you as orphans." John 14:18 (NIV)

4. Turn _____

"Jesus said, 'You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'" John 14:5

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" John 14:6

Daily Meditations

Brief daily devotions based on this weekend's message

Memory Verse: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Monday

The night before he was betrayed, Jesus gave instructions to his disciples at the Last Supper; this is known as the Upper Room Discourse. In this week's daily meditations, we'll be reading through the entire Upper Room Discourse, one chapter at a time. This is really great stuff-- so great that John spends a quarter of his book on this one evening of Christ's life! Read John 13. Describe Christ's encounter with His disciples in this passage. How do you see the disciples' uncertainty?

How does Jesus comfort the disciples?

Write down the name of someone in your life who needs comfort. What do you learn from Jesus' example of comfort that you can use in comforting your friend?

Thank God today for His care and comfort for you. Pray for the people in your life who need comfort. Ask God to use you in their life this week. Pray that as you seek to encourage them you'll point them to the ultimate comfort found in Christ.

Tuesday

Read John 14. Write down the key truths that Jesus gives the disciples in this chapter.

What did you hear in last weekend's sermon that really struck you? How does it apply to your life this week?

Write down the ways you feel troubled right now. In what way do you struggle with accepting the peace of Jesus in these troubles? How do you think accepting Jesus' peace would impact your view of those troubles?

Accepting the peace of Jesus involves the release of your fears and desire for control. In what ways can you practically release your fears and control mechanisms to God today?

Thank God today for the peace He offers you. Talk to Him about your fears and struggles to keep control of your life. Ask Him to help you loosen your grip on your troubles and offer them to Him. Pray that His peace will flood your heart give you the courage to trust Him with your troubles.

Wednesday

Read John 15. What words are repeated frequently in this chapter? What is the importance of that?

How do you think Jesus meant these words to provide comfort to His troubled disciples?

What does it mean to "abide in Christ"? How does abiding in Christ change you? How does it impact your view of troubles?

How have you experienced the reality of verses 18-26? What comfort do these verse provide?

Thank God today that He is honest about the ups and downs that you will experience in life. Thank Him for His desire to walk with you each step of the way. Talk to Him about your struggles to abide in Him. Pray that as each day passes you will grow in your connection to the Vine.

Thursday

Read John 16. How does He offer hope to His disciples in these verses?

How does that translate to your life today?

What are some ways you've tried to provide yourself with comfort in the past? How does that comfort that Jesus provides differ from the world's comfort?

After three chapters of Jesus' teaching, how do the disciples turn the corner in this chapter?

Thank God today for His patience with you. Thank Him for the perfect nature of His comfort. Pray that you'll seek His comfort first and be willing to make the journey with Him and not try the "short cuts" of the world. Pray that as you grow in confidence in God's comfort you will be an encouragement to those around you.

Friday

Read John 17. This beautiful prayer is the longest recorded prayer of Jesus that we have. Write down three things that you find most striking about this prayer:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

How does this prayer provide you with comfort in the troubles you're facing?

Think honestly about your life. How do you see answers to this prayer of Jesus in your life? In what ways do you see "answers in progress"? In what way can you become a more willing participant in God's plan for you this week?

Thank God today for the joy of knowing that Jesus prayed for you! Thank Him for the comfort of the Bible. Ask God to continue to work in your life to fully answer the prayer of His Son in your life. Pray that your heart will be soft to His ways and His voice.

Saturday

Please finish up any devotions you may have missed. Spend time in prayer today for the Palm Sunday services this week, and next week's Easter services. Please ask God to give you courage to invite your friends and family to church. Pray that God will use all the services to point people to Him and give them hope.