

### HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Adrienne Gomes – transitional hospice care

Doug Mitchell – knee surgery

Kimberly Bonds – surgery

Leslie Douglass – medical procedure

Tristan Beverly (parents Nathan & Catherine) – at Stanford PICU, born 8/15

**RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS/SURGERIES:** Bob Glissman, Dr. Magdy Ismail, Nancy Bittinger, Ray Johnson, Roger Pryor

### What is “Stephen Ministry”?

“God’s love in action” – a confidential one-to-one ministry of encouragement to individuals in our church family experiencing loss or a life crisis. **Who can become a Stephen Minister?** For more information, write “Stephen Ministry” on your Welcome card today – training begins October 23.

### 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. **Subscribe to the Prayer Update online at [www.tlc.org/profiles](http://www.tlc.org/profiles).**

### To keep my faith in tough times, I must...

#### 1. Realize

“Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— **the world was not worthy of them.** They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.” *Hebrews 11:35-38 (NIV)*

“Jesus said) In this world **you will have trouble.**” *John 16:33a (NIV)*

“Jesus said) A time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God.” *John 16:2 (NIV)*

Nov. 11 is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church.

More info at [www.persecutedchurch.org](http://www.persecutedchurch.org)

#### 2. Recognize

“They were all **well known for their faith...**” *Hebrews 11:39a (NCV)*

My greatest \_\_\_\_\_ may be in my greatest \_\_\_\_\_

“I know how it’s going to turn out. Through your faithful prayers and the generous response of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, **everything he wants to do in and through me will be done** ... everything happening to me in this jail only serves to make Christ more accurately known, regardless of whether I live or die. They didn’t shut me up; they gave me a pulpit! Alive, I’m Christ’s messenger; dead, I’m his bounty. Life versus even more life! **I can’t lose.**” *Philippians 1:19-21 (The Message)*

#### 3. Remember

“Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain **a better resurrection.**” *Hebrews 11:35 (NIV)*

“Jesus said) Blessed are you when men hate you...because **great is your reward in heaven.**” *Luke 6:22,23 (NIV)*

“Our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the **glory** that will be revealed in us.” *Romans 8:18 (NIV)*

“For our light and momentary troubles **are achieving for us** an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.” *2 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV)*

## 4. Rely

“Each one of these people of faith died **not yet having in hand what was promised, but still believing**. How did they do it? They saw it way off in the distance, waved their greeting, and accepted the fact that they were transients in this world.” *Hebrews 11:13,14 (The Message)*

The key to relying on God’s timing: Knowing God’s \_\_\_\_\_

“When hope was dead within him, Abraham went on hoping in faith...**He relied on the word of God...**” *Rom. 4:18 (Phillips)*

“Though it **seemed** Abraham’s hope could not be fulfilled... he **did** become the father of many nations, **exactly as God had promised.**” *Rom. 4:18 (JB)*

“...yet **none** of them received what had been promised. God had planned something **better** for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.” *Hebrews 11:39b-40 (NIV)*

## E-MAIL YOUR FAITH STORY

Do you have a story about “40 Days of Faith” you’d like to share? Please e-mail it to me: [rene@tlc.org](mailto:rene@tlc.org)

This week’s daily meditations are in the book “40 Days of Faith” or online at [www.tlc.org/40days](http://www.tlc.org/40days)

## 40 Days of Faith Overview

*What Hebrews 11 reveals about faith:*

### WEEK 6:

#### How to Keep the Faith in Tough Times (Hebrews 11:35-40)

“Others trusted God and were tortured, preferring to die rather than turn from God...” *Heb. 11:35b (JB)*

### WEEK 7:

#### How to Finish the Race of Faith (Hebrews 12:1-3)

“Since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us... run with endurance the race God has set before us!” *Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)*

“It is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.” *Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)*



“These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had planned something better...” *Hebrews 11:39,40A (NIV)*