

# Prayer Updates

## HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES THIS PAST WEEK

Michelle Stewart – cancer surgery rescheduled for 9/14

Jan Pavlovich – cancer surgery 9/11

## RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS /SURGERIES

Don Edwards, Kay Drews, Jack Christerson, Lois Tice

## HOSPICE CARE

Jane Evers

## OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU

Love and prayer for God’s comfort are extended to Edna Egbert in the recent loss of her nephew.

## 40 DAYS OF COMMUNITY (Preview Weekend 9/23–24)

### Prayer Focus: GOD’S PROVISION

Pray that God will provide the energy, time, and endurance for all tasks to be done in preparation for the 40 Days of Community

... God will provide the needed volunteers to make each event successful.

... God will provide our church with all of the material resources needed to facilitate this focus.

... God will provide unity among leaders & ministries in our church, as they give their time and adjust their schedules to meet deadlines.

*“Whenever God determines to do a great work, He first sets His people to pray” — C.H. Spurgeon*

## THROUGH CANCER WITH CARE

Connect with others who understand, personal interaction & resources, encouragement & prayer. New times & place — first & third Thursday, begins with refreshments at 6:45, at TLC Gym, Rm. 104. Call Jan, 462-2271 or Gerry, 476-8735, or go to [www.tlc.org/care](http://www.tlc.org/care)

## 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.

## Reframing Your Worldview

# “Why Is The World So Messed Up?”

Message by René Schlaepfer, September 9 & 10, 2006

*“I say to God... **Why** have you forgotten me? **Why** must I go about mourning?”* Psalm 42:9

*“**Why**, O LORD, do you stand far off? **Why** do you hide yourself in times of trouble?”* Psalm 10:1

*“My God, my God, **why** have you forsaken me?”* Psalm 22:1

## W

• The world was created \_\_\_\_\_ — no \_\_\_\_\_

*“God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.”* Genesis 1:31

• Humanity chose \_\_\_\_\_ against God. (Genesis 3:6)

• As a result, \_\_\_\_\_ was altered — we live in fallout from a “sin bomb”! (Genesis 3:17,18)

• Plus, we contribute to suffering through unwise \_\_\_\_\_

• Remember, we have a broken \_\_\_\_\_, not a broken \_\_\_\_\_.

## H

*“For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice...”* Acts 17:31

*“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away... No longer will there be any curse.”*

Revelation 21:4, 22:3

The Bible is the story of God’s solution to our world’s brokenness:

• \_\_\_\_\_ from sin (See Romans 3:22-24)

• \_\_\_\_\_ in suffering (See Romans 8:38-39)

• \_\_\_\_\_ in the new world (See Romans 8:20-22,30)

## Y

*“Live clean, innocent lives as children of God in a dark world full of people who are crooked and depraved. Shine like stars in the universe, holding out to them the Word of life!”* Philippians 2:15

**“O LORD, May your unfailing love be my comfort,  
according to your promise...”** Psalm 119:76

## For Further Reading

M. Craig Barnes, *When God Interrupts*

Steve Brown, *When Your Rope Breaks*

James Dobson, *When God Doesn't Make Sense*

Dave and Jan Dravecky, *When You Can't Come Back and Do Not Lose Heart*

Elisabeth Eliot, *A Path Through Suffering*

Philip Yancey, *Where is God When It Hurts and Disappointment With God*

## Daily Meditations

Brief daily devotions based on this week's topic

### Monday

Look back over the message notes and Bible verses from this past weekend. What point jumped out at you?

How would you summarize the Bible's answer to the question, "If God is all-loving and all-powerful, why is there still suffering?"

What is the Bible's immediate answer — and long-term answer — to suffering?

Read Psalm 10:1, 14-18. How does it help to know that all the questions we have today about suffering were asked already by the Bible writers?

*Thank God today that He is a God of love and comfort. Thank Him for giving us hope. Ask Him to help you sense His care for you today!*

### Tuesday

Read John 16:33, Romans 5:12 & Revelation 21:1-5. These verses assure us that we will have trouble in this life — but they also comfort us that eternity will not be like this. Describe a point in your past (or maybe right now) when you've blamed God's will for what was actually the result of man's free will.

How does the principle that "we have a broken world, not a broken God" help you face the "whys" in life?

*Thank the Lord today that He has given you a free will — that he didn't just make a world full of robots. Thank Him that He is not a broken God and that in the end He will make all things new.*

### Wednesday

Read Psalm 96:13, Isaiah 30:18 & Acts 17:31. We mentioned during the weekend services that

believing in God's ultimate justice is a foundation for living sanely in an unjust world. How is this true for you?

What is the most reassuring thing to you about God's justice?

What situation are you facing where you find it difficult to wait for or trust God's justice?

*Thank God today that He has taken ultimate justice in His hands and not left it up to you. Ask Him for the patience and trust to wait for His justice to come.*

### Thursday

Read Romans 8:28. What is the promise in this verse? How have you seen this in your life?

How is the cross itself an example of the power of God to turn tragedy to triumph?

Read Romans 9:36-39. These verses clearly point out that absolutely nothing in the whole world can separate us from God's love. How does God's constant love encourage you in the midst of suffering?

What can you do to remind yourself that you are never out of God's loving care?

*Thank God today for His neverending love for you. Thank Him that you are always in His care. Ask Him to help you remember through the day and when the tough times comes that He loves you! Pray that you'll be an encouragement to others today.*

### Friday

Read Philippians 2:15. What practical things can you do today to "shine like a star" where God has placed you?

What principle from this week's study do you want to put into action? How will you do that?

*Ask God today to be the Light that shines through you. Thank Him that we have no reason to fear in this world because He is in total control.*

### Saturday

*Please polish up the memory verse and finish any devotions you may have missed. Pray that you'll apply the lessons from this week — and pray for the "Reframing Your Worldview" services and various activities this weekend: that God would be honored in everything.*



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