

# Prayer Updates

## HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Barbara Smiley – bronchial pneumonia

Charlie Ottawa – surgery

Gwen Johnson – hand surgery

Irene Kester – took a fall, thankfully nothing broken

Irvin Smith – moved to San Leandro Hospital (recovering from being hit by a car)

Jan Zucchi – surgery 2/20

Jeremy Holmes – 2/23 Stanford, removing lung cancer tumors

Lisa Rojas – surgery, her baby Joseph, born 1/13 is still hospitalized

Marilyn Cantlay – broken leg

Nehemiah Vann (age 2) – a rare childhood disease attacking the aorta

Patti Holland – RCU, spinal fusion of her lower neck

**Recent hospitalizations /surgeries:** Artie Meek, Marion Fuhry, Tammy Culver

**Hospice care:** Dorothy Thrash

## HOME WITH THE LORD

Our heartfelt prayers have been devoted to the family of Roni Walker, her husband Kelly, daughter Cassie Genthner and son Jesse resulting in God's grace intervening again and again through Roni's suffering with cancer. Prayer from our church family and support from Share HIS Care added five years to Roni's life before she peacefully passed into her Lord's presence. We give thanks for the blessing she has been to our church family, especially her influence to begin the TLC ministry, "Through Cancer With Care".

## NEW Share HIS Care Team

Pray as a "Share HIS Care" team is being formed to mobilize volunteers to support Karla and Brad Bogard, helping them to accomplish the necessities of life and allowing them to focus on Karla's healing, their relationship with the Lord and one another, after her major cancer surgery scheduled for March 8. If you have an interest in participating, please contact Susie at 465-3395 or Susie@tlc.org.

## 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.

# Bringing Out THE BEST in Others

HOW TO LEAD LIKE JESUS 

# "The Temptations of Leadership"

Part 4 • Message by René Schlaepfer

February 24 & 25, 2007

"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." Matthew 4:1

## 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Test

"After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.' Jesus answered, 'It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"" Matthew 4:2-4

**QUESTION:** When I'm empty and hurting, will I \_\_\_\_\_  
to meet my needs in His way or will I rush to satisfy them \_\_\_\_\_?

**ANTIDOTE:** \_\_\_\_\_

"So do not worry... your heavenly Father knows what you need. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Matthew 6:31-33

## 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Test

"Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."'" Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Matthew 4:5-7

**QUESTION:** Will I use my abilities to serve God and others or to gain  
\_\_\_\_\_ for myself?

"Just when Rehoboam was at the height of his popularity and power, he abandoned the Lord, and the people followed him in this sin." 2 Chronicles 12:1 (LB)

"Praise is the test of character." Proverbs 27:21 (NEB)

**ANTIDOTE:** \_\_\_\_\_

"... Let us **follow the Holy Spirit's leading** in every part of our lives. Then we won't need to look for honors and popularity..." Galatians 5:25-26 (LB)

**ANTIDOTE:** \_\_\_\_\_

"If you will **humble yourselves** under the mighty hand of God, in his good time He will lift you up." 1 Peter 5:6 (LB)

## 3. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Test

"Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 'All this I will give you,' he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"" Matthew 4:8-11

**QUESTION:** Do I value \_\_\_\_\_ on earth more than \_\_\_\_\_  
in heaven?

“What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?” Matthew 16:26

**ANTIDOTE:** \_\_\_\_\_

“Use your money to do good... give generously to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given you. By doing this you will be storing up real treasure for yourselves in heaven.” 1 Timothy 6:18 (LB)

“When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.” Luke 4:13

“Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Holy Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside...” Luke 4:14

**When you pass tests, you’re given** \_\_\_\_\_

**Resources**

Michael Scott Horton; ed., “Power Religion”

Rick Warren, “How to Lead Like Jesus” (Tape series)

# Daily Meditations

Brief daily devotions based on this week’s topic

## Monday

Read Matthew 4:1-11 & James 1:12-16. How would you explain to a ten year old why a person does something wrong? Which of the temptations of leadership do you struggle with the most? How has that manifested itself?

Write down two things from the sermon that encouraged you in your struggle.

- 1.
- 2.

As you read the account of Christ’s temptation what is most astonishing to you? What is most encouraging to you?

*Thank God today that you have a Savior who understands temptation. Talk to Him about the struggles you are facing. Pray for spiritual and emotional strength to resist temptation and choose what is right.*

## Tuesday

Read Luke 4:1-13. How does Satan’s use of Scripture differ from the way Jesus uses it?

If Satan had three shots at you, what three temptations would he use?

What do you learn about Satan’s tactics in this account?

What do you learn about Jesus’ tactics?

*Thank God today that you are not alone. Thank Him for the opportunity to study the Bible. Bring your biggest temptations to Jesus right now. Ask Him to empower you to change your life by His grace!*

## Wednesday

Read Matthew 4:1-4 & 6:31-33. How are you tempted to replace pain with pleasure – maybe something sinful, fattening or expensive?

What human need is at the heart of this temptation?

What do you learn from Christ’s response that can help you in your struggles?

*Thank God today for the many pleasures He blesses your life with. Talk to Him about the pains you may be experiencing. Pray for the grace to handle your pain with patience and integrity. Ask God to give you great joy as you follow Him and live in His timing.*

## Thursday

Read Proverbs 27:21, Matthew 4:5-7 & 1 Peter 5:5-11. How did Satan tempt Jesus with praise?

How are you tempted to let people’s praise go to your head and puff you up?

In what way are you tempted to blow off people’s praise and then be proud about your humility?

How does Jesus respond to this temptation? In what area of your life do you need to have a similar response?

*Thank God today that He loves you unconditionally. Thank Him for Jesus’ example. Talk to Him about the influence that people’s words have on you. Pray that you’ll be gracious in your response to people’s praise but not dependent on it.*

## Friday

Read Matthew 4:8-11, 16:26 & 1 Timothy 6:17-20. In a society that pushes possessions from every side this can be a difficult test to even detect! What is the danger in placing possessions before people? How have you been caught in that trap before?

What is Jesus’ response to the temptation of possessions? What would that response mean to your life?

How does knowing that Jesus understands temptation hearten you in your struggles?

*Thank God today that He understands temptation. Thank Him for the opportunity for growth that resisting temptation brings. Pray that you will be aware of the pitfalls that Satan may put in front of you. Ask God to show you the way out when you’re tempted.*

## Saturday

*Please be sure you know this week’s memory verse and finish any devotions you may have missed. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that your heart will be ready to receive what God has for you. Pray that our church will be a beacon of hope in Santa Cruz County.*



“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin.” Hebrews 4:15

