

Prayer Updates

JOY & BLESSINGS

Robert & Rashed Brandon, are blessed by their son, **Luke Trafton Brandon**, born May 16. He was six weeks early and has an open heart valve that should close within two months. Pray for peace of heart and mind for the parents and grandparents, Don and Beth Olsen.

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Basil Fishback – accident, blood clots (concerned for his wife, Clyda, home with Alzheimer’s)

Bob Shaw – at Stanford to determine the primary source of his cancer

Dorrell Smith – RCU (requests prayer for his wife, Bettye, in a Watsonville care facility with Alzheimer’s)

Irvin Smith – as of 5/23 back in ICU, breathing complications from pedestrian/auto accident

Jeremy Holmes (age 19, son of Tracy & Debbie) – UCSF, cancer complication, blood infection that has compromised his kidneys

Kiley Black – emergency appendectomy

Recent hospitalizations / surgeries: Aleta Zapata, Carole Thomas, Elva Jacobsen

Hospice Care: Roberly Bedayan (husband Bruce), Adrienne Gomes (husband Ryan, have infant & toddler), Jack Edsberg (daughter Jill Arthur, Jack was diagnosed with lung cancer one week after his wife’s death in January)

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. You can also subscribe to our online Prayer Update at www.tlc.org/profiles.

Richer Than I Realize

Part 2: Ephesians 1:7-23
May 26 & 27, 2007 • René Schlaepfer



amazed.

Three treasures I have in Christ:

1. _____

*“In him we have **redemption** through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.” Ephesians 1:7*

“Redemption”: Greek *apolutrosis*, _____

*“And you also were **included in Christ** when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.” Ephesians 1:13a*

2. _____

*“Having believed, you were marked in him with a **seal**, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a **deposit guaranteeing** our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.” Ephesians 1:13b-14*

“Deposit”: Greek *arrabon*, _____

3. _____

*“I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know **him better**.” Ephesians 1:16-17*

*“I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the **hope** to which he has called you, the **riches** of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great **power** for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead. . . .” Ephesians 1:18-20*

This is all available freely _____ !

*“He . . . seated Christ at his right hand in the heavenly realms, **far above all** rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed **all things under his feet** and appointed him to be **head over everything** for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who **fills everything in every way**.” Ephesians 1:20-23*

The big idea:

Christ is _____ and yet loves
His people _____

Ephesians 1 Review:

Last weekend:

I have every spiritual blessing (Ephesians 1:3)

I've been hand-picked by God (Ephesians 1:4)

God is my loving Father (Ephesians 1:5,6)

This weekend:

I'm forgiven (Ephesians 1:7-12)

I'm sealed with the Holy Spirit for eternity (Ephesians 1:13,14)

I can know God and His power! (Ephesians 1:15-23)

Daily Meditations

Monday

Read the verses we studied in this weekend's message: Ephesians 1:7-23. What points jumped out at you from the message this past weekend? Why?

Which of the three points is easiest for you to believe? Which is most difficult? Why?

How would your life be different if these truths were more confidently believed by you?

This week, ask the Lord to help you grow in faith in all three points.

Tuesday

Read Ephesians 1:7-12. Do you ever struggle to believe you are forgiven by God? If so, when?

How does it impact you to know you were "redeemed" at great cost, not just pardoned at no cost to God?

How should an understanding of my own redemption impact my relationship with others, particularly regarding forgiveness of their sins toward me?

Thank God He has redeemed you! Ask Him to help you forgive others.

Wednesday

Read Ephesians 1:13-14. Do you ever question whether your eternal destiny is secure? When?

How does it feel to know you have the Holy Spirit as a deposit guaranteeing your inheritance?

continued 

Wednesday (continued)

According to these verses, what are the prerequisites for receiving the Holy Spirit? How does this differ from what Christians often believe?

This weekend the phrase "included in Christ" was explained. In your own words describe what it means:

Thanks God specifically for the blessings you have learned about so far in your study of Ephesians.

Thursday

Read Ephesians 1:15-19. What four things does Paul pray that the Ephesians will "know"? How is this different from what we often pray for people in our lives?

What have been learning about God?

...about "the hope to which He has called you"?

...about "the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints"?

...about "His incomparably great power" for us who believe?

How would your family or our church change if you prayed these same things every day for them? Try it and see!

Pray the prayer of Paul for at least three specific people in your life right now! Pray it for yourself as well!

Friday

Read Ephesians 1:19-23. According to these verses, what is Christ "above"?

What does Christ "fill"?

And yet these verses are at the end of a chapter describing you as "included in Christ". This chapter also describes how much you are loved by Him! How could this change someone's self-image? How does it impact you?

Spend time in prayer just praising Christ for who He is!

Saturday

Take some time to brush up the memory verse (one of my favorites!) and get to devotions you may have missed. Please pray that the Ephesians series would continue to be a time of growth and inspiration in the services this weekend! Thanks!



"I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe."
Ephesians 1:18,19a

