

Prayer Updates

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Bobbette Moore – recovering well from leg surgery and heart attack

Chuck Bentley – had a stroke, strong and determined to get well, prognosis good, making progress everyday; pray for his wife, Susie

Douglas Burd – hospitalized

Hayden Witt – (infant, parents Phil & Kiersa, grandparents Sterling & Cheri) continue to pray as he is at Stanford

Irvin Smith – Please continue to remember his wife, Karen, and family in your prayers as they are looking for Skilled Nursing facility

Lynette Baudour – hospitalized

Trudi Jackson – recovering from pneumonia

William Henry – esophagus cancer, trouble breathing without machine

Recent hospitalizations/surgeries: Gerlof Klimp, Judy Helmle, Natalie Lewis, Sharla Bollum

HOME WITH THE LORD

Our love and prayers are extended to Leslie and Lisa as they grieve the loss of their mother, **Suzanne Heisey**, who passed away this past week.

JOY AND BLESSING

Jon and Kim Olson (grandparents Doug and Sandi Olson) welcomed **Ashley Mikala Olson**, born on July 12.

Marc and Maria Gattey were blessed with **Mason Grace Gattey**, born July 12.

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 by visiting our web site at www.tlc.org/profiles and signing up.**

An Attitude of Gratitude

1 Thessalonians 2
July 21 & 22, 2007 • Bill Butterworth



First Thessalonians' Place in the New Testament

1. It was one of the _____ written in the New Testament.
2. The theme of the book is _____ !
3. It's a book all about _____ .

What First Thessalonians Teaches Me About Gratitude

1. Thanks for the _____ and the _____ .
"But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children. Just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children." *1 Thessalonians 2:7, 11*
2. Thanks for the _____ and the _____ .
"Having thus a fond affection for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us." *1 Thessalonians 2:8*
3. Thanks for the _____ and the _____ .
"Just as you know we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children." *1 Thessalonians 2:11*
4. Thanks for _____ and
for _____ .
"Having had a fond affection for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us." *1 Thessalonians 2:8*

Lessons for Today's Families

1. I'll look for more _____ in my life.
2. I'll look for more _____ in my life.
3. I'll look for more ways to be _____ for
my _____ .

Daily Meditations

Monday

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:7–11. How can gratitude impact relationships?

Write down the names of the five closest relationships you have (family and friends) and then next to each name write down two things about that person or relationship that you're grateful for and one way you'll communicate that this week.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Thank God today for those five people. Pray that you will foster a regular habit of gratitude in your heart. Pray for opportunities to communicate your gratefulness in a clear and effective way this week.

Tuesday

Read Colossians 3:12–17, 1 Thessalonians 2:7 & 11. Being grateful for gentleness comes easily; being grateful for firmness and direction comes with more difficulty. Recall a time when you were grateful for someone being firm with you.

What are the results of a relationship marked by gentleness without firmness? How about firmness without gentleness?


Who can you thank today for the gentleness and firmness that they've given you over the years?

Thank God today that He is your example of the perfect balance of gentleness and firmness. Thank Him for the people in your life who have provided you with that. Ask God to give you wisdom to know how to be firm in a way that reflects God's love. Ask God to give you His eyes to know how best to encourage those around you.

Wednesday

Read Psalm 40:11, 1 Corinthians 13 & 1 Thessalonians 2:8. How do these verses describe the balance between love and truth?

Are you tempted to focus more on love or on truth?

continued 

How have you seen God lavish both love and truth on you? What has been the result?

Thank God today that He always deals with you truthfully and lovingly. Talk to Him about the difficulties you have when it comes to being truthful in your relationships. Ask Him for the courage to love and be truthful and follow His example.

Thursday

Read 1 Corinthians 12:24–26, Galatians 5:22–26 & 1 Thessalonians 2:11. List four things you learn about encouraging people in these verses:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

What is the difference between encouraging and exhorting (use the dictionary if you have to!)?

Does encouragement come easily to you? How can you be sure that encouragement becomes a daily part of your relationships?

Thank God today for the Bible and the opportunity to learn. Ask Him to grow you into a person of encouragement. Pray for creativity as you encourage and exhort those in your life.

Friday

Read 1 Corinthians 11:1, Philippians 3:12–21 & Titus 2:7–8. Paul boldly tells others to follow him not because he is confident in himself but he is confident in who he is following – Jesus. Think about your life right now. Could you honestly say the same thing to those around you? Why or why not?

Who are you grateful to for their consistent speech and life?

Talk to God today about your life. Ask Him to point out any areas where you are not consistent in life and speech. Pray that you will grow in your walk with God and become more like Him. Spend some time in silence before God.

Saturday

Please be sure you know this week's memory verse and finish up any devotions you may have missed. Please pray for the services this weekend – pray that all we do will honor God and point people to Him.



*"We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us."
1 Thessalonians 2:8*

