Prayer Updates

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Adrianne Gomes – brain cancer treatment

Michelle Fahrner – gall bladder surgery

Ron Ince - knee replacement

Steve Harper – at UC Davis, liver transplant 8/12, very serious breathing problem

Tristan Beverly (Stanford PICU) – born August 15, 1 pounds, 6 ounces, to Nathan and Catherine Beverly, grandparents Tim & Janie Beverly; many premature birth complications, but holding strong

Recent hospitalizations/surgeries: Gerlof Klimp, Lois Overton, Steve Slinkey, Harold Lindsey, Howard Mettler, Karla Bogard, Matt Powell, Morgan Stevens, Vera Hetherington

HOME WITH THE LORD

Heartfelt prayer is extended to the family of Clay and Gayla Reed, who are in Colorado for the memorial of their nephew, **Dustin Scriver**, who tragically died after being hit by a speeding truck in a construction zone — he was just 22 years old. Also, remember Dustin's parents, Kevin and Renee, and children (cousins all close in age to Nathan, Cameron and Tyler).

Paul Lloyd, a faithful member of Through Cancer with Care, is now in the presence of the Lord. In recent months, Paul had put his trust in the Lord as his personal Savior. We pray God's comfort for his wife, Debbie, who lovingly cared for Paul through his illness.

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.**









August 25 & 26, 2007 • Charlie Broxton

Identity Crisis

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" 1 John 3:1

We are God's passionately loved sons and daughters

"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God." *John 1:12-13*

Quote:

"May all your expectations be frustrated, may all your plans be thwarted, may all your desires be withered into nothingness, that you may experience the powerlessness and poverty of a child and sing and dance in the love of God who is Father, Son and Spirit." *Larry Hein*

Daily Meditations

Monday

Read 1 John 3:1 and John 1:12-13. Think honestly about your identity. What are some of the ways you've defined yourself in the past? How do you identify yourself today?

Look over the notes from this past weekend. What truth did you learn about finding your identity in Christ?

How could finding your identity in Christ impact your relationships?

Thank God today that you can find your identity in Him – the One who loves you unconditionally. Talk to Him about your struggles to see yourself as He sees you. Ask Him to help you grow in this area of your life.

Tuesday

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-18, 21. Where in your actions or thinking are you struggling to live like a "new creation"? What do these verses say about your identity in Christ?

How can knowing your identity in Christ impact your actions and thoughts?

Write down three ways the Lord has lavished love on you:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Thank God today for His love for you. Thank Him for the transformation He has brought to your life. Ask Him to help you live more and more like a "new creation" as the days go by.

Wednesday

Read John 10:27-30, 1 John 3:2 & 5:13. What causes you to doubt your place in Christ? How does doubt change how you see yourself? According to these verses, what is the security you have in Christ?

How could your security in Christ impact how you live your life this week?

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Wednesday (continued)

How could it impact your relationships?

Thank God today that you are secure in Him and that your place in Christ is not up to your effort or good works. Pray that you will grow in confidence in Christ and that your relationships will be impacted by your faith.

Thursday

Read Romans 3:23-24 and 1 John 3:3-5. Write down two things these verses teach you about sin and purity:

- 1.
- 2.

How does God see you?

When is it most difficult for you to accept the gift of purity that God has given you?

How would fully embracing the idea that God sees you as pure impact your sense of identity?

Thank God today that regardless of your past He declares you to be pure. Pray that you'll trust in His forgiveness and live life like someone who believes they've been forgiven!

Friday

Read John 1:12-13. This is a mind-blowing passage! How does it encourage you today to know that you are God's choice? He picked you!

Who in your life could you encourage with this truth about God's love for them? How will you do that?

Thank God today for His amazing love. Thank God that He picked you! Pray that you will develop a gracious, confident identity based on God — not on anything else. Pray that God will you give opportunities to encourage those you encounter _____ __ __ __ __ __ with His truth today.

Saturday

Please be sure you know this week's verse and have finished the devotions. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that as we wrap up our Ephesians series your heart will be ready to learn and grow.



"How great is the love the Father has lavished on use that we should be called the children of God. And that is what we are!" 1 John 3:1