

Please pray for the services this weekend as Rene and special guest Bishop Sherwood Carthen preview our 40 Days of Faith series. Pray that as we begin to focus on faith your heart will be soft and ready to learn and grow. Pray that God will use this time to bind our church together and grow us to be more like Him.

Prayer Updates

The TLC church family is invited to join Share HIS Care as they **gather for prayer for Brad and Karla Bogard on Monday, Sep. 17 at 7pm in the Gym Fireside Room.** A recent PET scan confirmed that cancer is around her liver and in her abdominal cavity. Pray for God’s goodness and mercy to flow through Brad and Karla, and for the Body of Christ to be caring and prayerful through all that they are experiencing. “God is the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort.” 2 Corinthians 1:3

JOY & BLESSINGS

John and Becca Stocker welcome their son, **John William Stocker**, born September 9. Pray for “Johnny” who weighed less than five pounds and is expected to remain in NICU up to two months.

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Adrienne Gomes – weekly morning at hospital for brain cancer treatment
Carol Perrigo – cancer surgery
Chris Ramsey – Stanford, fork lift accident, recent concern about saving his leg, at least two more weeks before further surgery possible
Kathleen Lineberry – thyroid surgery
Lucas Martinelli (parents Nicholas & Christina, niece of Teresa Bray) – infant at Stanford, Nicholas had to return to work in Nevada, pray Lucas can begin to eat without a feeding tube so that Christina can take baby Lucas home as well
Michelle Ellis – therapy at Valley Rehab, paralysis
Nancy Rader – back surgery
Steve Harper – back at UC Davis, recovery care after liver transplant, pray he gains strength and will be able to breathe easier
Tristan Beverly (parents Nathan & Catherine) – at Stanford PICU, born 8/15 , 1 pounds, 6 ounces, pray for healing of a “brain bleed”
Recent hospitalizations/surgeries: Bob Bowman, Linda Cantrall, Howard Mettler, Foster Mahood, Gerry Zapata, Mary Pearl Puhl, Shirley Ellis, Teresa Dance

HOME WITH THE LORD

Our heartfelt prayer is extended to Jon and Chris Haro in the recent loss of Jon’s father, **Dick Haro.** A memorial is scheduled for 11am Monday, Oct 1 in Monschke Hall with a reception following.

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 Updates available at the Info Desk or Welcome Center. **Subscribe online at www.tlc.org/profiles.**



TREASURE

AN OVERVIEW OF EPHESIANS

September 15 & 16, 2007
René Schlaepfer

The four themes of Ephesians show me how to enjoy the treasures I have in Christ!

1. Open my eyes to the _____ of grace



amazed.

“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so you may know the hope to which he has called you, the **riches** of his glorious inheritance in the saints.” *Ephesians 1:18*

“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...” *Ephesians 1:7*

“But because of his great love for us, God, who is **rich** in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by **grace** you have been saved.” *Ephesians 2:4,5*

“This grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable **riches** of Christ...”
Ephesians 3:8

“I pray that out of his glorious **riches** he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being.” *Ephesians 3:16*

In Ephesians...

“riches” used _____ times

“grace” used _____ times

“in Christ” used _____ times

2. Change my life with _____ of grace

IT CAME FROM WITHIN!

“So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their **thinking**. They are darkened in their **understanding**...” *Ephesians 4:17,18*

“Be made new in the attitude of your **minds** . . . put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”
Ephesians 4:23,24

“For you were **once** darkness, but **now** you are light in the Lord. **Live as children of light.**”
Ephesians 5:8

3. Revitalize relationships with _____ of grace



“...live a life of love, just as **Christ** loved us and gave himself up for us.” *Ephesians 5:2*

“Submit to one another out of reverence for **Christ**.” *Ephesians 5:21*

“Husbands, love your wives, just as **Christ** loved the church and gave himself up for her.” *Ephesians 5:25*

4. Stay strong with the _____ of grace



“Stand firm then, with the belt of **truth** buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of **righteousness** in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the **gospel** of peace... take up the shield of **faith**... the helmet of **salvation** and the sword of the

Spirit, which is the word of **God**. And pray in the Spirit...” *Ephesians 6:14-18*

Question:

Do I spend time meditating on _____ ?

Daily Meditations

Monday

Read Ephesians 1:3-14, 2:1-10 & 3:14-21. The magnitude of God’s grace is overwhelming! List the riches of grace that you read about in these verses:

How would you describe the riches of grace to a friend?

Recall a time when you glimpsed the magnitude of God’s grace. How did it impact your thoughts and actions?

In what area of your life do you long to sense His amazing grace?

Thank God today, really thank Him, for the grace that has been lavished on you. Thank Him for the impact it has had on your life. Talk to Him about your struggles to accept His grace. Ask Him for the faith to rest in His grace. Pray that your life of grace will be an encouragement to those around you.

Tuesday

Read Ephesians 4:17-24 & 5:8-20. What you focus your mind on will impact every area of your life.

In these verses, what two things about the importance of a grace-filled mindset stand out to you?

When your mind wanders off God’s grace how does it impact you?

What habits can you develop to help you keep your mind focused on grace?

continued

What time of day do you find it most difficult to focus your mind on grace? During the night, in the midst of the day, when you first wake up? How can you implement those habits you wrote down at that time?

How could focusing your mind on grace impact your life right now?

Thank God today that He has given you the most amazing thing to focus your mind on – His grace. Thank Him for the victories you’ve had in this area. Pray that you’ll consistently discipline your mind to turn to His love and grace first. Ask God to change you as you focus on grace. Pray that your life will be a reflection of God’s amazing grace.

Wednesday

Read Ephesians 5:21-6:9. Write down the main relationships you find yourself in (spouse, friend, parent, child, sister/brother, employee/employer, etc.).

Recall a time when you were on the receiving end of “relationship grace”. What effect did that have on you? How did it change your relationship?

Which of your relationships is most in need of the oil of grace right now?

How can you reflect the grace that God has lavished on you to that relationship this week?

Thank God today for the relationship you can have with Him because of His grace. Thank Him for the people who have reflected His grace to you. Pray about the relationship(s) you have that are lacking grace. Ask God to give you the courage to reach out in grace this week. Pray that other person’s heart would be receptive.

Thursday

Read Ephesians 6:10-20. In what way is understanding the extent of God’s grace a suit of armor for you?

In what area of your life do you feel most vulnerable right now? As you think back over your study of grace this week, how can you apply that to shore-up your area of vulnerability?

The armor of God is a gift to you. How does it encourage you to know that this gift is available to you each moment of your life?

Thank God today for the gift of His armor. Talk to Him about the areas of vulnerability you’re struggling with. Pray for protection. Ask God to remind you daily to put on your armor. Pray that you will stand strong in your struggles. Pray that your victories will serve as an opportunity for you and others to glorify God.

Friday

Re-read Ephesians 1:3-14 and make all change all the “us and we’s” to personal pronouns – put your name in there. As you read through this passage, meditate on what it means to be blessed with all the riches of Christ. Fix your mind on God’s grace. Thank Him specifically for the way His grace has changed your life. Ask Him to continually turn your face to Him. Pray that focusing on His grace will become your natural bent. Pray that God will use you to encourage others.



“But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved.” Ephesians 2:4-5

over