

# PRAYER UPDATE

## PHYSICAL ILLNESSES & SURGERIES this past week

**Jared Hinds** - after completing his bone marrow transplant, is still at Stanford until his body returns to a point where he can be discharged to outpatient status. Pray for no complications so he can continue to move forward in this 3 month process.

**Hayden Jilka (8 yrs old)** - had his monthly chemo treatment on 5/19 at El Camino Hospital. Please continue to keep the family in your prayers.

**Bola Taylor, missionary in Japan** - is in the hospital receiving her final round of chemo treatment and then surgery is scheduled for July 7th. Please pray that the tumors continue to shrink so the surgery is not necessary and that her appetite will increase after chemo is over so she can gain strength and stamina.

**Elyce Forbes (1 year old)** - is going through cancer treatments and returned to Stanford due to a fever. Please keep the family in your prayers.

**Deanna Morden** - had surgery at Stanford hospital on 5/20. Please pray that she can stay clear of infection and for a miraculous recovery.

## TLC MINISTRIES, MISSIONS, & OUTREACHES

**Big Hearts, a support group at TLC for caregivers** - asks for prayer that their membership will grow, that their team will recognize and respond to God's leading when meeting the needs of caregivers, and also to be sympathetic to widows in their time of need.

**Adam Trowbridge** - is in Nepal on a "Disaster Relief Team" with Samaritan's Purse, currently at the epicenter of the second massive earthquake. Please pray for safety, health and effectiveness for Adam and his team and pray for the people of Nepal.

**San Francisco Mission Team** - as they serve in the inner city this weekend. They will be running a carnival for the neighborhood kids, doing light construction job, passing out food and other necessities. Pray they shine the light of Jesus wherever they go.

**Marty Shaw, missionary with WorldVenture** - just returned from Nepal. Pray for the Christians in that country who have a burden for their own people and as they reach out to help so many Hindus and Buddhists who were devastated by the earthquake.

**We would love to visit your loved ones in the hospital. Contact Carrie Clark 465.3368 | care@tlc.org**

**A complete prayer list is available at the Info Desk.**



# DEBATING JESUS

## ABOUT THE AFTERLIFE

MAY 23 & 24

RENÉ SCHLAEPFER

Then Jesus was approached by some **Sadducees**—religious leaders who say there is no resurrection from the dead. They posed this question: "Teacher, Moses gave us a law that if a man dies, leaving a wife without children, his brother should marry the widow and have a child who will carry on the brother's name. Well, suppose there were seven brothers. The oldest one married and then died without children. So the second brother married the widow, but he also died without children. Then the third brother married her. This continued with all seven of them, and still there were no children. Last of all, the woman also died. So tell us, whose wife will she be in the resurrection?" *Mark 12:19-23 NLT (Refers to Deuteronomy 25:5,6)*

## JESUS RESPONDS IN THREE WAYS:

### 1. REBUKE

Jesus replied, "Your mistake is that you don't know the **Scriptures**, and you don't know the **power of God.**" *Mark 12:24*

ASK: Am I open to the \_\_\_\_\_ and to the \_\_\_\_\_?

## 2. REDIRECTION

“But now, as to whether the dead will be raised—haven’t you ever read about this in the writings of Moses, in the story of the burning bush? Long after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had died, God said to Moses, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ So he is the God of the living, not the dead. You have made a serious error.” *Mark 12:26-27*

Not “There is \_\_\_\_\_ so get \_\_\_\_\_”  
But “Get \_\_\_\_\_ and you’ll know there is \_\_\_\_\_”

## 3. REIMAGINING

“...You don’t know the power of God. For when the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage. In this respect they will be like the angels in heaven. *Mark 12:24b-25*

The love \_\_\_\_\_ surpasses any love \_\_\_\_\_

*Resources:*

*Thanks to Timothy Keller, whose sermon “Arguing about the Afterlife” and book King’s Cross were primary resources for this message. Also John MacArthur’s sermon “Religious Ignorance in High Places” was helpful regarding first-century belief in afterlife.*

## VERSES FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES ABOUT THE AFTERLIFE

For you will not leave my soul among the dead or allow your holy one to rot in the grave. You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever.  
*Psalms 16:10,11 NLT*

But as for me, God will redeem my life. He will snatch me from the power of the grave.  
*Psalms 49:15 NLT*

And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God.  
*Job 19:26 NIV*

You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.  
*Psalms 73:24*

But your dead will live, Lord; their bodies will rise—  
let those who dwell in the dust wake up and shout for joy—  
your dew is like the dew of the morning;  
the earth will give birth to her dead.  
*Isaiah 26:19 NIV*

Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.  
*Daniel 12:2 NIV*

**This week’s memory verse:** “He is the God of the living, not the dead.” *Mark 12:27a*

# DAILY MEDITATIONS

## MONDAY

Read Mark 12:18-27. What point or insight made an impression on you from this weekend’s message or from this text? How is it possible for religious leaders to “not know the Scriptures or the power of God”? How can you better know both? *Ask God to help you this week to know his word and his power better! Thank him that he makes both available to you freely.*

## TUESDAY

Read Psalm 16:10,11 and Psalm 49:15. How is it a comfort to know this life is not all there is? How does a genuine belief that there are glories waiting for the believer after death put both good and bad things in this life in perspective? *Thank God that he will not “abandon you to the grave”. Ask him to help you live your life with this in view.*

## WEDNESDAY

Read Isaiah 26:19. The Bible does not merely teach that our spirits endure after death; it teaches an actual resurrection of the body and recreation of the physical earth. That’s because God does not abandon his physical creation to sin and only redeem the soul. He redeems all of his universe, both physical and spiritual. How is this better than a merely spiritual afterlife? *Thank God for the promise of resurrection!*

## THURSDAY

Read Job 19:26. The Book of Job is one of the earliest books of the Bible. Yet even here there is a hint of the resurrection. Considering the many physical sufferings he endured, how do you think Job was comforted by his belief in a physical – not just spiritual – afterlife? *Jesus was raised from the dead; you will be too! Thank God for this promise.*

## FRIDAY

Read a great New Testament passage about the resurrection: 1 Cor. 15:51-58. At the end of this passage, what is Paul’s application? How is his description of what happens after death inspiring to you? *Thank God that death is not the end!*

## SATURDAY

To prepare for this weekend’s message, please read Mark 12:18-34. Please pray for the weekend services. Pray that our church grows in the fruit of the Spirit. Thank you!