

# PRAYER UPDATE

## PHYSICAL ILLNESSES & SURGERIES this past week

**Steve Glaum** - is in rehab at Dominican after having a major heart attack in early June and is working towards coming home later this month. Pray for strength and healing for his body. This has been quite a journey and his wife, Janelle and the family are grateful for your prayers.

**Traci Stengl Ghaffarian** - diagnosed with Leukemia. Please pray for miraculous healing and for her husband, Omeed, Cindi her mom, and the rest of the family as they come alongside. Pray for God's wisdom as they take one day at a time.

**Bola Taylor, missionary in Japan** - who is now home from the hospital. The prognosis is that no operation or even chemo will resolve her present situation. Pray that they remain faithful in God's will and plan for Bola at this point. Pray for their children Anika, Luke and Tori. And pray that they do not grow weary but remain strong in the Lord.

# HOME WITH THE LORD

**Carole Brown** - is in the arms of Jesus and completely whole after a prolonged illness. She left her earthly home on September 8th and her husband Butch & family were by her side. A celebration of her life will be held on September 28th at 11 am here at TLC.

# BIRTHS

**Congratulations to Jason and Holly Lorenzo** - very proud parents of Griffin Patrick, born on September 1st.

**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.**



STAYING FOCUSED  
IN A DISTRACTING WORLD  
SEPTEMBER 12 & 13  
RENÉ SCHLAEPFER

## THE PROBLEM

Culture that's pathologically distracting, leading to:

- Inability to \_\_\_\_\_
- Inability to \_\_\_\_\_
- Inability to \_\_\_\_\_

## THE CURE

"You are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed **only one**." Luke 10:41,42

Consistent focus on \_\_\_\_\_

"**Abide** in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it **abides** in the vine, neither can you, unless you **abide** in me." John 15:4 ESV

"Abide": \_\_\_\_\_ times in the Bible; Definition: "To inhabit, to be consistent, to stay in a relationship, to remain"

## THE EXAMPLES

MARKS OF SOMEONE ABIDING IN CHRIST:

1. CONSISTENTLY \_\_\_\_\_

“He who says he **abides** in Him ought himself to **walk just as He walked.**” 1 John 2:6

2. CONSISTENTLY \_\_\_\_\_

“He who loves his brother **abides** in the light.” 1 John 2:10  
(See 1 John 4:7-8)

3. CONSISTENTLY \_\_\_\_\_

“...you are strong, **the word of God abides in you.**” 1 John 2:14

4. CONSISTENTLY \_\_\_\_\_

“Let that **abide** in you **which you heard from the beginning.** If **what you heard from the beginning abides** in you, you will also **abide** in the Son and in the Father.” 1 John 2:24

“And now, little children, **abide** in him.” 1 John 2:28

*Third point adapted from a chapter in Living with Confidence in a Chaotic World, David Jeremiah (Thomas Nelson, Nashville: 2009)*

**THE SEVEN**  
7 MYSTERIOUS LETTERS · 7 ANCIENT CHURCHES · 7 LIFE-CHANGING WEEKS

**COMING SOON:**

**THE SEVEN**

A study in Revelation 1-3

### COMPONENTS:

- Weekend messages incorporating new archaeological discoveries
- Weekly small groups featuring videos filmed on location in Turkey
- Daily readings in new TLC book, “The Seven”
- Service projects

**This week’s memory verse:** “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.” John 15:4 ESV

## DAILY MEDITATIONS

### MONDAY

Read John 15:5. I believe the “fruit” Jesus refers to here is the fruit of the Spirit. For a description, read Galatians 5:22,23. The growth of these character qualities in your life is the sign that you are spiritually healthy. How does this differ from the way people sometimes measure a “good” Christian? Ask God for these qualities in your own life.

### TUESDAY

Read John 15:9-11. Jesus relates obeying him to experiencing his love and joy. How are love and joy different from the way we sometimes try to motivate ourselves to obey? Ask God to help you see love and joy as the motivation for strengthening your spiritual life.

### WEDNESDAY

Read John 15:13-15. Do you tend to think of yourself as a servant of God or as a friend of God? Do Jesus’ words here surprise you? What is the ultimate way Jesus showed his love and friendship to you? Thank God today that He calls you His friend! Just think about that for a while!

### THURSDAY

Read Galatians 5:22-23 again. What aspects of the fruit of the Spirit are strong in your life now? Which are weak? If you can, show these verses to a friend or family member and ask them what they see in you! (And receive their comments with grace) Ask God to strengthen your areas of weakness as we study His word together this fall.

### FRIDAY

Read Psalm 1:1-3. How does this passage parallel John 15? What appeals to you about the metaphor in verse 3? According to verse 2, this stability is a result of meditating on God’s instructions and following them. Ask God to help you develop the habit of meditating and applying His word this fall during our study together.

### SATURDAY

Look back over the devotions and message notes. Ask God to develop our church into a community of people abiding in Christ and bearing good spiritual fruit.