

# PRAYER UPDATE

## HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week

**Ethan Pope (age 6)** leukemia treatment, LPCH Stanford Day Hospital every 10 days until the end of May. Aside from the monthly hospital treatments starting in June, he will have daily oral chemo, steroid bursts, and home blood draws for the next 3 years. Please pray for stamina for the whole family and for Ethan's little body.

**Liz Bishop** Please pray for conclusive results and complete healing as Liz goes through several more procedures.

**Cynthia Larson** recovering from an emergency appendectomy. Please pray for continued healing and no complications during recovery.

**Suzanne Borreson** emergency appendectomy while in San Diego and is now recovering at home.

**Rhonda Harmon** Karen Speelman's daughter, had a severe heart attack in March and is now home. She is facing a heart procedure in the near future but her family is encouraged by her progress.

## HOME WITH THE LORD

**Kurtis Lemke** After battling MS for many years, Kurtis is dancing with his Jesus. He went home to be with His Lord on May 20th. Kurtis had a beautiful spirit and encouraged so many people over the years. He will be greatly missed! Please pray for his friend Jan who faithfully stayed by his side, and all his friends and family.

**A complete prayer list is available at the information desk.**



## MATURITY IN AN IMMATURE WORLD

MAY 24 & 25 // ADAM NIGH

### KEY VERSE:

"Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels." (2 Timothy 2:23)

### 1. DON'T \_\_\_\_\_.

MORALISTIC THERAPEUTIC DEISM

"GOD WANTS ME TO \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_"

"Keep reminding them [the church in Ephesus] of **these things**." (2:14)

"Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. **This is my gospel**." (2:8)

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who **correctly handles the word of truth**." (2:15)

### 2. DON'T \_\_\_\_\_.

"Warn them before God against **quarrelling** about words; it is of no value and only ruins those who listen." (2:14b)

"Avoid **godless chatter**, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly." (2:16)

“Don’t have anything to do with **foolish and stupid arguments**, because you know they produce **quarrels**. And the Lord’s servant **must not be quarrelsome...**” (2:23-24a)

a. \_\_\_\_\_.

“They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some.” (2:18b)

“Nevertheless, God’s **solid foundation stands firm**, sealed with this inscription: “The **Lord knows those who are his**,” and, “Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must **turn away from wickedness.**” (2:19)

b. \_\_\_\_\_.

“**Flee the evil desires of youth**” (2:22).

c. \_\_\_\_\_.

“In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for **special purposes** and some for common use. Those who cleanse themselves for the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and **prepared to do any good work.**” (v. 20-21).

3. DO \_\_\_\_\_.

“...and pursue righteousness, faith, **love and peace**, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” (v. 22)

“...but must be **kind to everyone**, able to teach, not resentful.” (v. 24)

“Opponents must be **gently instructed**, in the **hope** that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.” (v. 25-26)

“In essentials \_\_\_\_\_, in non-essentials \_\_\_\_\_,  
in all things \_\_\_\_\_.”

**BOTTOM LINE:** SPIRITUAL MATURITY MEANS LEAVING BEHIND...

- THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF INFANCY
- THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF ADOLESCENCE
- AND GROWING IN THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER.

## DAILY MEDITATIONS

**MEMORY VERSE:** “And the Lord’s servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.” 2 Timothy 2:24

**MONDAY:** What is one topic sure to provoke an argument at your family gatherings? Do you tend to “bait” other people or are you the “peacemaker”? Read 2 Timothy 2:14. What do you think the people in Timothy’s church might have been arguing about (see 1 Tim. 1:3-6)? Read through the message notes from this past weekend. What points stood out for you? *Ask God to help you defend the faith without being argumentative or unkind.*

**TUESDAY:** Read 2 Timothy 2:15-19. It’s easy to be so defensive about the truth that we become quarrelsome; on the other hand, it’s easy to avoid confrontation to the point we water down our convictions. Paul warns Timothy against both errors. Did you ever know someone who was great at lovingly and gently expressing firm convictions? What impressed you about that person? *Ask God to help you stay strong in the essentials, yet express them with gentleness and kindness to all.*

**WEDNESDAY:** Read 2 Timothy 2:20,21. In the middle of a chapter on avoiding quarrels comes this analogy about plates and cups. Considering Paul has been contrasting Christians who quarrel and “chatter” with steady, gentle Christians who focus on God’s Word, what point do you think Paul is making with the clay cups vs. gold cups analogy? Have you ever known a Christian who is like a “gold cup”? How so? *Ask God to help you stay above the fray and stay focused on Him—to not let people incite you into arguments and controversies, but instead be a person of calm love.*

**THURSDAY:** Read 2 Timothy 2:22-24. What is the main thing Paul seems to be steering Timothy away from here? How is quarreling an “evil desire of youth”? Of the four things Paul tells Timothy to pursue in verse 22, which is easiest for you? Which is most difficult? *Ask God to help you stay focused on the grace of God given to you through Christ Jesus. Just as He is gentle to you, be gentle to those who disagree with you.*

**FRIDAY:** Read 2 Tim. 2:25-26. According to these verses, how are we to respond to our opponents? Whose responsibility is it to change peoples’ minds (who grants people repentance and knowledge of the truth, according to verse 25)? How does this reminder change the way you converse with people who disagree with your faith? *Ask God to always help you remember the power of the Holy Spirit: He is the One who convicts of sin and leads people to repentance, not you!*

**SATURDAY:** Read 2 Timothy 2:14-26 in preparation for this weekend’s message. Please pray for the services, that God will work in them in amazing ways! Thanks!