

PRAYER UPDATE

PHYSICAL ILLNESSES & SURGERIES this past week

Ethan Pope (8 yrs old) - after 2 1/2 years continues to fight leukemia. Ethan is back at LPCH for a 29 day re-induction chemotherapy. Currently, both his parents, Karley and Corey have a virus so are unable to be with him. Pray for Sherry Van Zante, his grandma as she comes alongside Ethan during this time and for healing and God's peace for his parents.

Bill Gilbert, Nancy Doerksen, and Dan Hopkins - at Dominican Hospital this past week. Pray for their recovery.

1st Lieutenant Ryan Evans - continue to pray for Ryan's recovery as he gains strength after an intense battle with complications from pancreatitis.

Traci Stengl Ghaffarian - she received her results for her bone marrow biopsy and she is cancer free! The family wants to express their thanks to their TLC family for your support. Continue to lift Traci and her family up in prayer as she recuperates. Pray for strength, endurance and patience to go through the unexpected obstacles in the days ahead.

Coline Weeks - is in rehab at Kindred after knee replacement surgery. Pray for continued recovery.

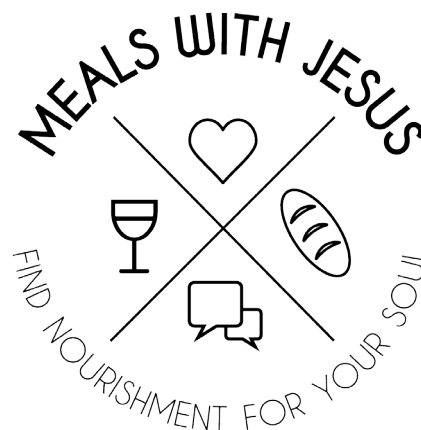
Tom Carr, Nancy Shipley and Sue Doxater - are on Hospice Care. Pray for God's peace and comfort.

HOME WITH THE LORD

Sharon Ymata - our precious sister in Christ and resident of Hearts and Hands, went home to be with the Lord on April 23rd. Please remember her family and friends as they grieve her loss.

James R. Dutra - partner of Susie Petersen McBride for 22 years, passed into the presence of his Lord on March 29th. Please pray for Susie as she goes through the shock and grieving of her loss.

AFnetAid and its supporters wish to thank the contributors who have brought in cell phones for recycling. Collecting recycled phones has, over the years, generated around \$1000 - to help support A.I.D.s orphans in Southern Africa. Thank you! After 5/15, we will no longer be collecting phones at TLC. Please look for other locations to donate your phones for recycling. To continue making cash donations to AFnetAid, be sure to go to their website: afnet.org to find the appropriate address. Thank you so much.



THE BEST SEAT AT THE TABLE

LUKE 7:36-50

MARK SPURLOCK

APRIL 30 & MAY 1

When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. As she stood behind him **at his feet** weeping, she began to **wet his feet** with her tears. Then she **wiped them** with her hair, **kissed them** and **poured perfume on them**. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner." Luke 7:36-39

Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. "Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. **Now which of them will love him more?**" Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said. Luke 7:40-43

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "**Do you see this woman?** I came into your house. You did not give me any **water for my feet**, but she **wet my feet** with her tears and **wiped them** with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped **kissing my feet**. You did not put oil on my head, but she has **poured perfume on my feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.**" Luke 7:44-47

Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” The other guests began to say among themselves, “**Who is this who even forgives sins?**” Jesus said to the woman, “**Your faith has saved you; go in peace.**” Luke 7:48-50

THREE QUESTIONS...

1. _____

“Two people owed money... One owed... five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.” Luke 7:41

2. _____

“Do you see this woman?” Luke 7:44

3. _____

“Who is this who even forgives sins?” Luke 7:49

BOTTOM LINE:

The best seat at the table wasn't _____.

It was _____.

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” 1 Peter 5:5

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.” Luke 7:50

NOTES:

DAILY MEDITATIONS Brief daily readings based on this weekend's message:

MONDAY Read Luke 7:36-38. Imagine how shocking this scene must've been! It would be shocking today if someone you didn't invite to dinner showed up and did something like that. Honestly, how do you think you would respond to this woman in the moment? Which of the woman's actions do you find most compelling? *Thank God for the opportunity to study the Bible and learn. Pray for an open heart that reflects God's love for everyone.*

TUESDAY Read Luke 7:39-43. With the advantage of hindsight it can be easy to come down on Simon for his critical spirit. How have you been critical of someone whose life appears less together than yours? What do you learn from Jesus' response to Simon? *Talk to God about your struggles with being critical. Ask him for the ability to see people as he sees them and to respond with kindness and not a critical spirit.*

WEDNESDAY Read Luke 7:44-48. When Jesus tells Simon the punchline of the story (verse 47) he makes the woman the heroine! A woman hero would've been unusual in Jesus' day, let alone a woman with a sinful reputation. When do you struggle most with offering forgiveness? How have you seen the truth of “whoever has been forgiven little, loves little”? *Ask God for a heart that lavishly forgives others. Pray by name for people you are struggling to forgive.*

THURSDAY Read Luke 7:49-50. We can be so accustomed to the idea of Jesus forgiving our sins that it's hard to grasp how shocking this was when he affirmed the woman's complete forgiveness. Think about a time when the forgiveness you have in Jesus really sank in. How did that impact you? What connection have you felt between being forgiven and living with peace? *Thank God for his amazing forgiveness of all of your sins. Pray for a heart that accepts and understands more and more the amazing grace of God.*

FRIDAY Re-read Luke 36-46, paying attention to the emphasis on Jesus' feet. What would it look like to spend some time “at the feet” of Jesus? Imagine where those feet were willing to go. Those feet carried Jesus to the Cross. Those feet were pierced... for you. 1 Corinthians 15:25 says, “For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.” How does that make you feel? What kind of perspective does this bring? *Thank God for both the humility and supremacy of Jesus. Bring him both your burdens and your devotion. And be at rest at the feet of the Lord.*

SATURDAY Which character in this story do you most identify with and why? Finish any devotions you may have missed and spend some time meditating on the Bible verse for this week. *God thank You that it is faith that has saved me and not my own efforts. Thank You for the peace that comes in knowing that I am forgiven.*