

PRAYER UPDATE

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week

Ethan Pope (age 6) After almost a year of intensive treatment for leukemia, Ethan will now be starting a 3 yr maintenance phase of his chemo treatment. Please pray for the family for diligence, persistence and strength. Praise God that he looks strong and energetic for the first time since his diagnosis!

Arlene Dietrich (mom of Beverly Wing) is in the last stages of cancer. Please pray for God's peace and limited suffering during her time at home with family.

Gary Barton diagnosed with late stage colon cancer, was able to have surgery and his pic line is in. This is a rough road but your prayers have helped them look up and see God when it seemed so difficult to do. They are starting the treatment phase because of the faithfulness, prayers and financial gifts of their church family.

4 year old boy with severe disabilities had a complicated but SUCCESSFUL Atrial Septal Defect Repair in his heart. Mom and Dad thank you for your prayers!

HOME WITH THE LORD

Please continue to pray for those who have lost loved ones in the previous months.

PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY

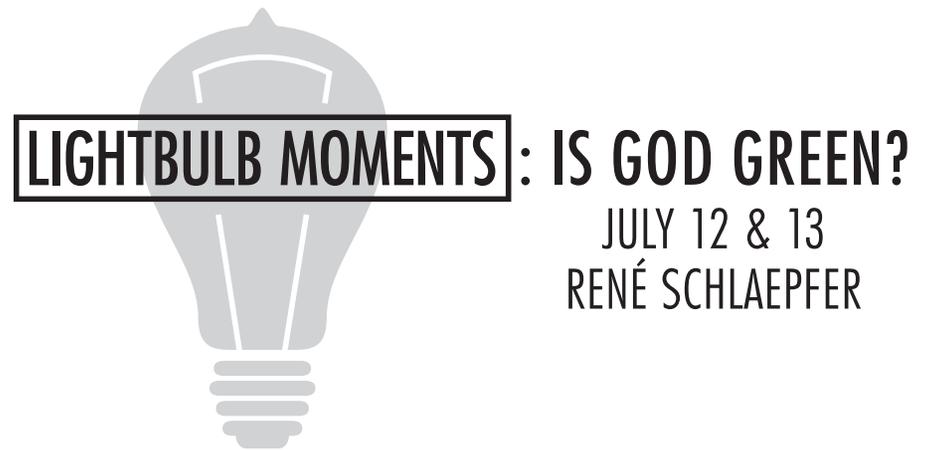
Pray for military men and women defending our freedoms around the world. Pray for strength and hope for all who have a loved one in military service, particularly for children who miss their mother and/or father, to be blessed by others who are in a position to encourage and love them during this season.

Matthew Sleeper, USMC Pray for his safety, and for his pregnant wife Brittany. Pray he arrives home in time to be there for the birth!

Josh Chartier (Dave Hick's son -in-law) was deployed as part of a small team to Iraq. Please pray for his safety and protection.

John and Raika Clark (son and daughter-in-law of Paul and Carrie Clark) graduated from USAF Academy in May, married in June and will be stationed in Oklahoma and Kansas in late July. Please pray for these newlyweds during this transition time.

A complete prayer list is available at the information desk.



FIVE BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT CREATION

1. CREATION IS _____

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." Psalm 24:1

"...every animal in the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills." Psalm 50:10 (See Haggai 2:8; Col. 1:16)

2. CREATION IS _____

"God saw all that He had made, and it was **very good**." Genesis 1:31

"How many are your works, O Lord! ... the earth is full of Your creatures. There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number... the leviathan, which You made to frolic there." Psalm 104:24-26

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech..." Psalm 19:1,2a

3. CREATION IS _____

"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life." Gen. 3:17

4. CREATION IS _____

"I will now make a covenant with you and **with every living creature** that was with you: the birds, and the livestock and all the wild animals... every living creature on earth." Genesis 9:9,10

"When you lay siege to a city for a long time, fighting against it to capture it, **do not destroy its trees** by putting an ax to them... Do not cut them down. Are the trees of the field people, that you should besiege them?" Deuteronomy 20:19

"Six days do your work, but on the seventh day do not work, **so that your ox and donkey may rest.**" Exodus 23:12a
(See also Exod. 23:11; Deut. 25:4)

"So God created man in his own image, **in the image of God** he created them; male and female he created them." Genesis 1:27

"The Lord God took man and put him in the garden **to work it and take care** of it." Genesis 2:15 NLT

"The righteous care for the needs of their animals..." Pr. 12:10a

(Jesus) "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" Matthew 6:26

5. CREATION IS _____

"The creation itself will be **liberated from its bondage to decay** and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God." Romans 8:21 (See Isaiah 55:12–13)

"And the leaves of the tree will be for the healing of the nations. **No longer will there be any curse.**" Revelation 22:2b–3a

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

Resources used for this sermon

Tim Keller, "Can Faith Be Green?" Sermon, Redeemer Presbyterian Church
John Ortberg, "Is God Green?" Sermon, Menlo Park Presbyterian Church
Mark Spurlock, "Theology and Ecology", paper for Fuller Seminary
Dick Staub, "What Made in the Image of God Really Means", Relevant Magazine

DAILY MEDITATIONS

MEMORY VERSE: "God saw all that He had made, and it was very good."
Genesis 1:31

MONDAY: Read Genesis 1:20–2:15. Each time God finishes an act of creation, what does he say? If God is creative and caring for his creation, then what will we be like if we are "in his image"? When God "rules", is it a rule of love and just action, or is it a rule characterized by injustice and cruelty? Then what does it mean for us to "rule" creation in His image? *Ask God to help you care and love for all of His creation—including people!*

TUESDAY: Read Psalm 8. How would you describe the attitude of David in this psalm? What does it mean for humans to "rule" over nature? Remember that our example is not some tyrannical human king, but the rule of God. How can you justly "rule" over the little piece of nature that you have influence over—your water, your land, your resources? How can your care for creation be a good witness to those who do not believe? *Ask God to help you live, like David in this psalm, with gratitude and good stewardship, so that you can better spread the good news!*

WEDNESDAY: Read Psalm 19. In verses 1–6, David writes about the "big book" of creation. How does creation "declare the glory of God"? When have you felt close to God in nature? Then in verses 7–14, David writes about the "little book" of God's Word, the Scriptures. How does the Bible work together with creation to bring people a fuller understanding of God's nature? *Thank God that, although we see God's great power in creation, we learn of his great love through Scripture!*

THURSDAY: Read Psalm 104. According to this psalm, what are some of the things that God does for His creation—including us? How do verses like 24–26 help you enjoy God's creation more? How does this help you rejoice in God more? *Express your wonder to God in prayer, as the writer of this psalm did!*

FRIDAY: Read Revelation 21:1–4; 22:1–4. God's plan of salvation isn't just about your soul; it's about all of a creation—about a renewed world! God values the planet so much he includes it in the resurrection and renewal bought by Christ on the cross. What does this imply to you about how you are to regard the world around you? *Thank God that the gospel includes good news for the entire planet!*

SATURDAY: Spend some time in creation today, worshipping God! Please pray for this weekend's services, and for the prayer requests in this bulletin, Thanks!