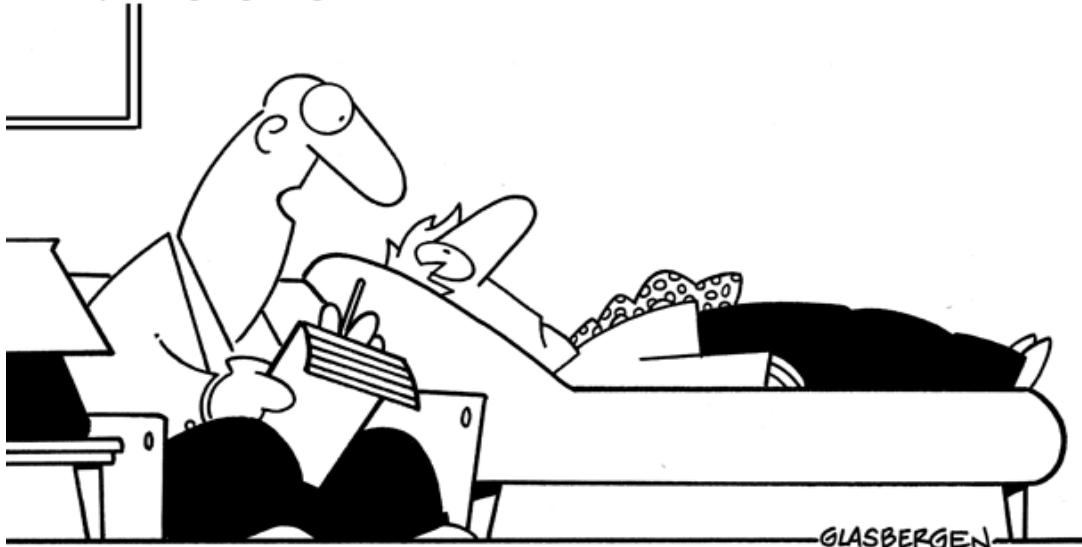

Family Matters

NEWS AND REMINDERS FOR THE TEHACHAPI CHURCH OF CHRIST FAMILY

January 18, 2026

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"I'm not supposed to tell this, but the true secret to happiness is having more stuff than everyone else!"

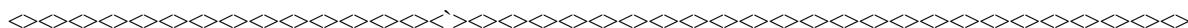
The first of the blessings in Matthew 5 says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven". Being poor in spirit is very difficult for those who have a lot of stuff, but having little or no material wealth does not mean someone is poor in spirit.

For me, the best way to understand what Jesus means by "poor in spirit" is to ask what is the opposite to that. It is the kind of pride that will not admit that one needs help.

This kind of pride can result in unnecessary suffering in this world, but Jesus is most concerned about how it affects our relationship with God. If we think we do not need God's grace, we think we don't need Jesus. If we think we don't need Jesus, we will certainly not follow him and lay down our lives for others. If we do not follow Jesus, his kingdom will certainly not be ours.

Let's embrace our need for help, lay down our lives for others, and claim our inheritance!

-Mark

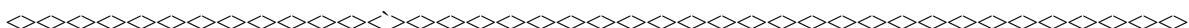


Today's Lesson

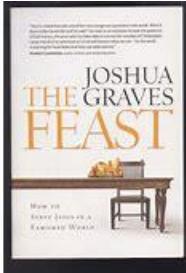
If You Wanna Be Happy...

Go Broke

Matthew 5:3



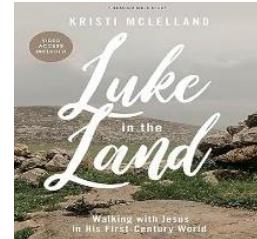
New Wednesday Evening Bible Study



The Feast: How to Serve Jesus in a Famished World

Joshua Graves invites us to pull up around the table and feast on the Scripture stories of God at work in the world. Come and join us at 7:00pm (Get a free book!)

Ladies group has resumed at Vicki's house on Tuesdays at 10:00.



Cleaning and Communion Preparation Volunteers

If you are able and willing to clean the building or prepare the communion for a month, please sign up on the bulletin board!

Book Exchange

There is a bookshelf in the “Quiet Room” with books to borrow, and if you want to bring books to donate or loan, please do! This was Karen’s initiative, and Ken painted and installed the shelf.

Remember in Prayer:

Brandy’s procedure was postponed, due to coverage issues. She asks for prayers “that her pain will remain at bay!”

Ruthie’s son, **Gene** went to the hospital last week due to diverticulitis. Since she is still not strong, **Ruthie** went to stay for the week at Jerry’s in Bakersfield. Keep praying for her stamina to return, and pray for Gene too.

Carol’s husband John may need a new hip replacement, and his new doctor does not believe there is an infection after all. Carol is staying close by him.

Dee Pope’s cancer surgery went very well. She is at home, and her kids are helping out.

Mark’s brother-in-law, Paul, fell and broke a hip, and had a partial replacement. Pray for his tolerance of the rehab, which is difficult.

Ruthie asks for prayers for her friend, **Gillian**, who has thyroid cancer

Ken Braley, a neighbor of Mark and Brenda, is asking for prayers for healing as the cancer that God healed previously has returned and settled in his lungs.

Cindy’s nephew, **Jason**, remains in a very painful battle with cancer, and his brother, **Dustin** has colon cancer. Her brother-in-law, **Randy** is also in a battle with cancer.

In addition to his paralysis, **Kirk Stewart** has cancerous sores on his head, and now on both ears. It has become very painful.

Pray for the health of **Bob Rivera**. Also, for the safety of his son, **Joseph**, who is in Arizona! Karen’s friends, **Wolf, Jon, Wayne, Trish**, and **Tommy**, all have cancer.

Always Remember:

- ◆ Those in the military, especially **Joseph Budai, Gaylen Gibson**, who is in Dubai, **Marcos Belizario, Sheri Huckabay's nephew, Jason Adams**, and **Patty Johnson's grandson, Andrew Thompson**.
- ◆ **The children and staff** at Manuelito Navajo Children's Home
- ◆ Those serving in other mission fields, including Blair's friend **Sandeep** in India
- ◆ Pray for the **homeless**, and pray for **Blair** as he works to minister to them.
- ◆ Pray for **peace** in Ukraine and Russia, and that the agreements in Israel and Gaza will be more faithfully honored. **Pray for a peaceful transition in Venezuela.**
- ◆ Pray for Christians under persecution in Nigeria, and other parts of the world.

Tehachapi Church of Christ

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Street Address: 401 S. Mill St.

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Schedule of Weekly Services and other meetings

Sunday

AM Bible Class – 9:30am AM Assembly – 10:30am

Monday

Al-Anon is meeting at 7:00pm*

Tuesday

Alcoholics Anonymous is meeting at 6:00pm*

Wednesday

Al-Anon is meeting at noon*

PM Bible Study – 7:00pm

Thursday

Al-Anon is meeting at 7:00pm*

Friday

Alcoholics Anonymous is meeting at 7:00pm*

Saturday

Men's AA meeting at 8:00am, and Women's AA meeting at 9:30am*

*Al-Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous are not direct ministries of the church, but their purposes are supported by the church, and they meet in our Fellowship Room.

Elder of the Month:

Bill Willingham

Minister: Mark Bixler

Elders: Derek Demus & Bill Willingham