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# Family Matters

NEWS AND REMINDERS FOR THE TEHACHAPI CHURCH OF CHRIST FAMILY

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February 22, 2026

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**"Your bad attitude was starting to affect the others. That's much better."**

When Jesus arrived on the scene in John's gospel, one of his first followers was Nathanael. We know nothing about Nathanael beyond this first encounter, but Jesus said something about him that calls to mind the blessing in Matthew 5:8.

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God".*

When he met Nathanael, Jesus said, *"Here is truly an Israelite. There is nothing false in him."* (John 1:47 NCV). Some older versions say, "A man in whom there is no guile". Guile is defined as "cunning or sly intelligence". In other words, it's the ability to fake sincerity (or any other good quality).

Guilelessness is not all there is to being pure in heart, but a person who uses guile is not pure in heart. Honesty about what is in your heart is a first step to becoming pure in heart.

This does not mean that we should always let our feelings show, or that we should allow pain, doubts, and disappointments to affect our behavior. That may be honest, but it is often reflecting a surrender to weaknesses. We need to trust God to change us through His Spirit. Our part is a commitment to removing everything from our hearts that is incompatible with following Jesus. That's what we're all about!

**-Mark**

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Today's Lesson

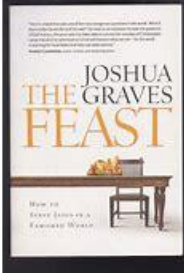
*If You Wanna Be Happy...*

FOCUS

Matthew 5:8

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# 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!)

**Graveside service** for Delores Matlock's mother is at Greenlawn, River Blvd. Saturday, March 7 at 11 AM.

**Ladies group at Vicki's house on at 10:00!**



**Tuesdays**

## **Cleaning 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 in the foyer!

## **Remember in Prayer:**

**Ruthie** may be having another treatment that will prevent this from happening over and over. Pray that it works!

**Brandy** did have her procedure, and she has been back at work, but she has still been suffering from pain at her job. She will receive additional treatments that should help, but she also is hoping to change to a position within her current company that will be less physically challenging.

**Derek's mother** has had fluid around the heart, but is now glad to be home.

**Betty's dad** is battling Parkinson's disease, and her mom is not able to be his only caregiver. That is why Betty travels to Kansas as much as she can.

**Carol's husband John** has at least one doctor's appointments this week.

**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.

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**. His son, **Joseph**, is back in Israel, so keep him in your prayers.

Ruthie's friend, **Gillian**, Cindy's family members, **Jason**, **Dustin**, **Randy**, and **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.
- ◆Pray for the Iranians who are suffering in many ways--especially **Mina's brother!**

### Tehachapi Church of Christ

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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.

**Minister:** Mark Bixler

**Elders:** Derek Demus & Bill Willingham

Elder of the Month:

*Bill Willingham*