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# Family Matters

NEWS AND REMINDERS FOR THE TEHACHAPI CHURCH OF CHRIST FAMILY

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February 23, 2025

## Better an oops than a what if

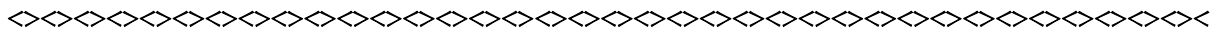
In John 5, Jesus encounters a man who has been an invalid for 38 years. He is hanging out by a pool that is believed to provide healing for the first person in whenever an angel stirs its water. There are no numbers assigned to those who come to seek healing. It's a competition between desperate and apparently self-centered sufferers. That sounds a lot like our world, when you think about it.

Jesus does not tell him who he is or why he should do what he says. He simply tells him to pick up his mat and walk. The man does it. What did he have to lose? Well, it happened to be the Sabbath, and religious leaders said that carrying mats on that day was labor which was not allowed. He knew that.

He could have said, "No, this is the Sabbath. Could you please come back tomorrow?" The question was, who seemed more likely to know God's will in this instance—the religious leaders who had done nothing for him, or this man who offered healing? When Jesus told him to get up, he got up. And when he found that he was in fact able to get up, he did not hesitate to do this other thing that he was told to do—he picked up his mat.

Our world tells us that we must compete for the best positions and the most stuff. Jesus says to love our neighbors as ourselves. Who do we trust?

**-Mark**

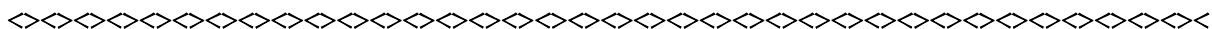


Today's Lesson

**...BELIEVE IT OR NOT...**

**Get Up!**

John 5





## **FIRE VICTIM RELIEF**

We will be sending money to the La Puente Church of Christ to help with their distribution to victims of the fires. If you want to add to that fund, put it in an envelope in the Ukraine tray.

## **Cleaning Service**

Thanks to those who have volunteered to clean our facilities! It is a true service! There are several months available for others who can volunteer. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

## **Remember in Prayer:**

Cindy's brother-in-law, **Randy**, had surgery due to another cancerous growth, and he has had some infection at the site.

Minnie's brother **Nathan** finally had the triple bypass surgery that was postponed due to a painful blood clot in his left leg. The surgery went well, then he had cardiac arrest on Friday. He was revived, and after several days of semi-consciousness, he has even been joking a little. He may be moved from ICU to a room soon.

Minnie's sister-in-law, **Maria** had back surgery. Pray for her relief from pain!

**Kayla** has seen a new doctor who believes he can relieve her problem surgically, but she will have to live without pain medications for a couple of months. Pray for her in the meantime!

The husband of Vicki's friend, **Melody**, passed away on Tuesday in Texas.

**Ruthie's nephew, Will Burgett**, is now in the hospice hospital.

Melissa's friend, **Mark Martinez** is doing well after his hip surgery, but appreciates prayers for recovery..

Continue prayers for **Maxine King**, mother of **Melissa**.

**Galina Gurova, a friend of Melissa**, needs healing from lymphoma

In addition to his paralysis, **Kirk Stewart** has cancerous sores on his head, and now on his left ear. Removing it would risk paralysis of his face, so no treatment is planned.

Pray for health and healing for **Bob Rivera**.

Bob asks for prayers for his son, **Joseph** who is in Israel working security as a contractor.

**Vicki and Ken's daughter-in-law's mother, Priscilla**, is being treated for pancreatic cancer.

Pray for successful surgery, treatment, and comfort for the family.

**Karen's** friends, **Jon** and **Wayne**, and colleagues, **Trish**, and **Tommy**, all have cancer.

Although Cheryl's daughters-in-law, **Jessica and Carla**, are both doing well, they ask for continued prayers

## **Always Remember:**

Those in the military, especially **Joseph Budai**, and **Sheri Huckabay's** nephew, **Jason Adams**, **Patty Johnson's** grandson, **Andrew Thompson**, and **Gaylen Gibson**

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.

Those suffering in Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Gaza, and in other "hot spots" around the world.

**Pray for those who have suffered so much loss of property and some who have lost loved ones in the fires!**

## **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

### **Mark Bixler's office** **hours by appointment**

Call or text: 818-470-5793

Email: [marklbixler@yahoo.com](mailto:marklbixler@yahoo.com)

Elder of the Month:

***Bill Willingham***