

# Wants and Needs

by Tom Gilbert © Living the Solution

This will start out sounding abstract, but it really isn't. We all have wants and needs. I would guess that most of us concentrate on the wants. For myself, I've often had little comprehension of what my needs truly are.

In life we will constantly run into situations where our wants are not met. Despite this, it is quite remarkable how often our needs are met. Think about it. What do you really need in life? Food, shelter, health, money, family, and friends — these rank pretty high on most people's lists. What is underlying these "needs"? Is it not happiness? And what is the root of happiness? Is it not love and acceptance?

The spiritual path reveals a different understanding of wants and needs. What the world tells us we should want the spiritual life shows us is mostly a sham. We don't really need a new car or the latest big screen television. We typically eat more than we need. Oh, yes, of course there are people who are truly in need of a meal, a home, a job and many of the things taken for granted by the over-commercialized society we live in. For those of you who are not part of this Western world where commerce and materialism rule please don't feel indicted.

## THE TRUTH

### **Blessed are the Poor and Meek**

I hope you examine closely what your wants and needs are. It is important to learn to differentiate between the two. Human nature "wants" it all. God wants for us to be happy, joyous and free. God knows what we really need.

Why is it that many people living without all the trappings of success (as measured by our false system of wants and needs) appear to be so happy, so joyous...so free?

Maybe it is because they don't have the opportunity to be trapped like we do. If you are simply grateful for a little food, a smile, a bit of kindness and security from the elements then the really important things matter more.

I'm afraid too many of us have it all backwards.

Years ago a song by the Rolling Stones contained

the profound statement, "You can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you just might find you get what you need". Sure, it was a catchy tune. And I'm not holding up the Stones as a model of righteous living. Not any more than I would put myself in that precarious position. We are all faulty. However, that statement contains some significant truth.

It seems that everything that I've ever really needed came about by doing things I didn't want to do at the time. I'm not normally excited about humility, tolerance for those I find irritating, or working hard for some unseen payoff far down the road. Rarely do I jump to the unpleasant task of closely and honestly examining my faults. If I do I'll rapidly see where I am lacking in generosity and kindness. Hey, I like to think about myself as a pretty good guy! What is the motive behind that? If it is recognition and approval — money, power and prestige — then once again I am on a slippery slope.

Over and over gifts of happiness, joy and satisfaction have come directly from doing for others, for putting someone else's needs ahead of mine.

### **Baffling, Isn't It?**

This can all seem counterintuitive. If it does, then you have a wonderful opportunity to change, to recognize that the reality that you (like me) has accepted for much of your life is false. It's not who dies with the most toys. It's not even getting your own way most of the time, even when your motives are good.

Does this mean we must all sit around with long faces and accept our lot in life? No, rather than sitting on our pity pots we need to get busy. There are things to do, people to help, and life to live!

Zig Ziglar is known as a pretty good salesman, speaker and motivator. He's got some funny stories and a serious message under it all. He's fond of saying "you can get anything you want in life if you just help enough other people get what they want". I'm not sure if that is completely true. Nevertheless, I do believe that Jesus was speaking truth when he said that the first will be last, that anyone who wants to be in a position of authority must be willing to serve and that love is always an action, not just a sentiment.

CaféN@CEITION

firstBaptistchurch January 26th, 2011

# Lifegroup prayer and praise

Please pray for our members in college.

We are praising God for the positive outcome that **John Long** made during his recent surgery. It was life or death and God was good. Pray that he would make a full recovery. ~ **Lorraine Durham**

**Jim Webster** asks that we pray for him, he had a stent put in several months ago and is on beta blockers, no damage was done to his heart.

Please pray for **Bruce Dady, son of my friend, Bill**, he is dying of cancer. Please pray for his family. ~ **Donna Wirt**

Please pray for **Tom and Judy Warren**, they have been living in Arlington in their RV with Judy's parents. **Her father** is dying of lung cancer ; and every time the water comes up, they are threatened with flooding, a double amount of stress. This has been a rough winter as **Judy** has also been fighting back pain.

**Praise God! Roseanne Nelson** has been getting more hours at work and her housing came thru! WHOO HOO!

**Yolanda Decker** was in an auto accident, she is OK but the car was totaled. They are looking for an inexpensive replacement that would give them reliable transportation, if you could help talk to **Mike**.

Please pray for a job for **Rose Toscano**. Also, pray for **Paris**, she is going to winter camp for the first time.

**Doug Roulier's** surgery is scheduled for 10 am, Friday, Jan. 28th at Everett Clinic's Gunderson's outpatient surgery center.

Please pray for **Lysle and Lois Pickard** as they move to assisted living, Bethany at Silver Lake, next week This transition is really unsettling, pray that they both love it there and settle in quickly.

**Lisa Wiebe, Gloria Love's sister**; For an update, see "All In The Family". This is not a very politically stable country, please pray for her safety during this time.

**Anna, Joanne Couturie's granddaughter**, had surgery to remove a tumor Thanks for all your prayers and please keep praying for continued healing.

Please continue to pray for healing for **Michael Hall and Betty and Ray Reeves**.

Please pray for my **mother-in-law** that God will give her strength during this very challenging time. ~ **Carol Kelly Sharon Young** asks that we pray for her **aunt Pat**, who has lung cancer.

**Mel's mom, Jeanne** is praising God, her tests show scar tissue and no cancer. Pray for her husband, **Mel**, who is showing signs of dementia. ~ **Kathy Chapman**

**Darcy Stanyo** asks that we pray for her **mother, Patricia**, she is getting better and is planning on going home in two weeks. She is healing and there is no sign of infection.

**Sarah Walden, Christen's sister-in-law**, has gotten a seasonal job, please pray that it will go fulltime.

Please pray for me for relief from severe back pain ~ **Janet Tracy**

Please pray for my son, **Ron Phillips** has industrial poisoning. ~ **Bill Phillips**

Pray for those who have lost jobs or are seeking employment.

Please remember to pray for our son-in-law **Al Carter** who had a stroke on 3/29/09 and is totally paralyzed. ~ **Lysle & Lois Pickard**

**Financial Update; January 16th, \$8,836.00**  
**Tithe envelopes are now available in the Pacific Room.**

## Pray for our Military

- **John Schwartz**—in Afghanistan—**Robin Schwartz** stateside in Everett.
- **Jason Peery**—Oregon National Guard—heading to Iraq for a year, brother of Jennifer.
- **Jonathan Michaels Estrella**—son of Sharon Boswell.
- **Jason Bjazevich**—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces— Stationed in N. Carolina.
- **Scott Harpell**—son of Brian & Lynne—Stationed at Fort Carson, CO.
- **Aaron Weston**—nephew of Ken and Kathy—Stationed in San Diego.
- **Eric Schmidt** — son of Gene and Pat Schmidt — Camp Fallujah, Iraq.
- **Benjamin Lagonia**—dear friend of the Naylor family—stationed in Manitoba.
- **Brett Love**—grandson of Wilma—Army National Guard—Serving at home.
- **Christian Chmielewski**—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.
- **ENS Andrew E. Timpner** (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.
- **Devin Abbitt**—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.
- **Duane Neyens**—brother to Kathy Chapman—Army National Guard —is back at his home base in So.CA.
- **Philip Ankney**—LCPL Afghanistan Cousin of MaryAnn Peterson.
- **Jeffrey Lillard**—son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed at Fort Lewis.
- **Aaron Chmielewski**—joined the Marines. Nephew of JoAnn Couturie
- **Shawn Berland**—deploying for 6 months
- **Andrew Sustaita**—serving on board the USS Abraham Lincoln



# Lifegroup Happenings

## all in the family

by Florence Miller

In the space of less than a month we have lost five dear members and friends: **Lela Kerby, Jack Minor, (Don Minor's brother), Evelyn Thompson, Melva Hillhouse and Bev Dobson.** And although we will miss them, we cannot begrudge the much better "life" they are now experiencing of everlasting peace with the Father. Bev Dobson's memorial has been scheduled for February 19th at 12:30 pm and we will have more information about Melva Hillhouse's memorial at a later date. Our prayers and sympathy go out to everyone who has lost a loved one this winter.

**Lisa Wiebe's** posting on the Liberia mission trip page on Facebook: hey all, we are having many new experiences thus far, shopping in the market was very crazy but we thankfully had a Liberian with us and bought fabric to make lapas [skirts] with, got groceries in a market today just as we would at home; such contrasts...had a fancy dinner with Baptist executives with very poor people on outside; leave for the village Wednesday; church yesterday was amazing, three hours flew by; hot and humid but nice today from thunder storms all night... email is tricky and no Facebook, sorry...hearing lots of amazing stories about how people survived the war. God is so real and powerful in their lives.

**Gloria Love's sister**

After every memorial service SAM offers the guests coffee and homemade cookies. **Karen Kaess** is the willing volunteer in charge and she is so appreciative of the many who baked the cookies or served. Beside her is her husband, **Pete**, her support and helper. She sent the following note; "**Karen and Pete Kaess** would like to thank everyone who baked cookies and served at the memorial receptions. Your commitment is much appreciated. Without all of you the receptions would not be successful. Your continued support of this SAM fund raiser is appreciated." Karen and Pete will soon be leaving for Southern California and a new home. They are unsure if they will treat this as a "snow-bird" way of life or perhaps as a permanent move. Their presence in the life of our church and lives will be very noticeably missed. And on a more practical note, we are hoping that soon someone else will be filling the memorial reception role.

Our very personable receptionist, **Sheri Wiederspohn**, asked for prayer for a missionary couple, Nick and Shanon Kraft, who are scheduled to return to Peru in March. However, Nick fell and shattered his ankle and has had a metal plate put in. Undoubtedly he is in much pain and also wondering how this may have changed plans for him, Shannon, their three children and their flight back. Stay tuned for what plans the Lord has for them!

\*\*\*Adult attendance: 9:00am 67 & 10:30am 215 \*\*\*Children: 9am 21 + 6 — 10:30am 26 + 9

\*\*\*Elementary: 9am 32 + 6 — 10:30 am 37 + 11

\*\*\*Middle School: 17 + 5 — Youth Small Group: 15 + 5

## Happy Birthday to...

Faith Wallingford on the 26th of January, Priscilla Hahne on the 27th; Focasi Yamungumengi on the 28th; Kelly Brock, Judy Warren and Lee Nelson on the 29th; John Graham and William Useman on the 31st.

Time moves swiftly and it is almost time for the following:

Board meeting on January 31st at 1:00 p.m., **Lyle Gordon** presiding, **Wilma Love** providing refreshments.

Luncheon meeting: February 4th, 11:30 a.m. program: **Gary and Jeanne Rogers**, presenting pictures and stories of her families' involvement in the interurban trail.

Coming on March 5th: A bus ride to Benaroya Hall and a musical tribute to **Cole Porter** by **Marvin Hamlich** and Seattle Symphony

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE AT THE SAM DESK !!!

Also, read the above All in the Family containing the "thank you" from Karen and Pete Kaess.

**Pam Dehnhoff**, our newest member created a lovely quilt which she has very generously offered as a raffle to raise money for our mission projects. Please see Karen Kaess about buying the \$1.00 raffle tickets. The drawing will be at the SAM March meeting.

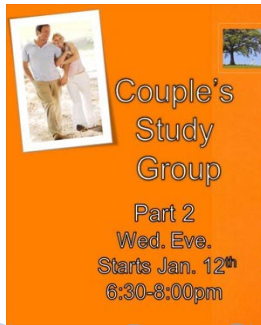
Plan ahead! In fact, if you are not a member, why not join us and be included in all that SAM has to offer in the way of fellowship and missions.

Are you running out of a good book to enjoy while the rain keeps us inside? **Dave Miller** has a wonderful library of used books from which to choose. \$1.00 per book is all it takes to help our mission funds and give you some enjoyment. Open the third Sunday of the month between services.

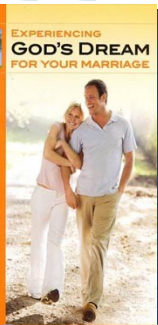
# S.A.M. Happenings

# Lifegroup Contributing Opportunities

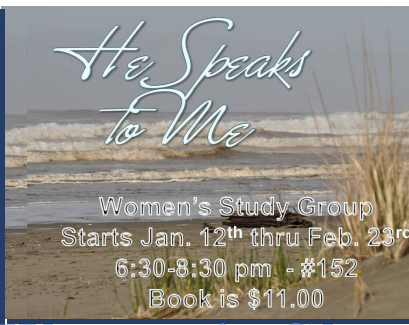
## Opportunities NOW



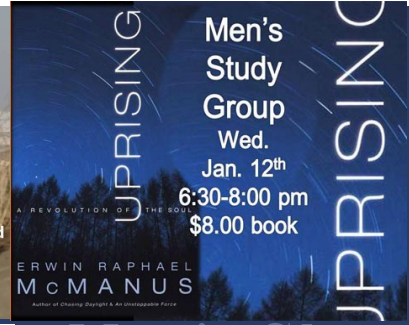
**Couple's Study Group**  
Part 2  
Wed. Eve.  
Starts Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>  
6:30-8:00pm



EXPERIENCING  
**GOD'S DREAM**  
FOR YOUR MARRIAGE



*He Speaks to Me*  
Women's Study Group  
Starts Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> thru Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
6:30-8:30 pm - #152  
Book is \$11.00



**UPRISING**  
Men's Study Group  
Wed.  
Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>  
6:30-8:00 pm  
\$8.00 book  
ERWIN RAPHAEL  
MCMANUS

## Couples Class - Women's Class - Men's Class

### **USHER CAPTAIN 2010:**

January—**Luckey Elkins**  
**Pete Sontra**

February—**Darrell Olson**  
**Craig Reisen**

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January 30th  
**Christen Lanning-Weller**  
Single Moms

February 6th  
**Lyle Gordon**  
SAM

February 13th  
**Bill Erickson**  
Clipper Class

February 20th  
**Steve Dittoe**  
North Everett Men

February 27th  
**Dan Clark**  
Harbor Point Lifegroup

There will be **NO** 9:00 am Adult Classes or Café Worship in the Community Center on February 6th. The worship service will start at 10:30 am right after the ***Congregational Meeting*** which is in the Sanctuary at 9:00 am.

### **Smokey Point/Arlington Lifegroup**

Exit #172nd

Meets Friday's 7:30-9:00 pm

John and Kit Mullen, 360-652-9617, for more info.

*Come on up and see what we are all about!*

**\*Don't forget the Women's Breakfast on Saturday, Jan 29th.**

**\*Lela Meadows Scholarships available now!**

**\*Congregational Meeting February 6th, 9:00 am.**

**\*Greeter subs needed: call Carol Kelly, 425.210.8595.**