

Faith Greater than Fact?

Renewal CarreNectiO n

By Allan Love

Have you ever been discouraged by coming face-to-face with an undeniable fact of life? Maybe it was a job downsizing in your workplace that you hoped would not affect you, but you ended up getting a pink slip! Or perhaps it was hearing the doctor say, “yes you do have cancer, we tested what was biopsied three times just to be sure.” I can remember as a child waiting outside my mom’s apartment where she was meeting with my dad to ask him if they could get back together after a brief separation. I wanted so desperately for us (including my two younger brothers) to be a family again, not living lives marked by disconnection – and I had shared this with my dad. But I had to face the heartbreaking fact immediately after the meeting - my dad had chosen not to keep us together as a family. It has been said that, hope delayed is painful, but hope destroyed is unbearable! Hope had been demolished for me that day, and I am surprised that I made it through that season of life to the degree that I did.

But what about those times when we feel God has spoken to us and said that ‘such-and-such’ would not be so, or that it would be so – and the facts of life clearly seem to suggest otherwise? God never told me that he would bring my parents back together – even though that was my prayer. Yet, there have been (and continue to be) times where I believe God has spoken to me, given me a promise about something/someone – and time goes on, and goes on,



and continues to go on, and I wonder if God will really pull through (Sidebar: Yes there exists the very real possibility that I have misheard God, and all ‘words from God’ do need to be tested and discerned in community and with Scripture – but in this article I am working on the assumption that



God has indeed spoken). Recently, I came across Paul’s words afresh in Romans 4:18-21 which have provided (and continue to afford) comfort and strength in times when I doubt whether God will be faithful to his promise:

¹⁸ Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹ Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. ²⁰ Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

If you feel this is your lot in life right now – wavering and feeling weak in your faith, particularly as it relates to a promise from God – I pray that you will be encouraged and empowered by the apostle’s God-given words, and that you will come to a place where your faith is strengthened and that you will be able to give God the glory!

firstBaptistchurch June 15th, 2011

Lifegroup prayer and praise

Delores Chapel asks that we pray for her health, she has been really sick. She was here last Sunday, but felt really ill.

I am moving this weekend and would like prayer for safety, witness to movers and praise at how God works. ~ **Michele Craig**

Wendy Roullier has an update: thanks for all the prayers for a quick and painless passing of my **grandpa**—he died Memorial Day; **Lori and her kids** were finally accepted into a shelter in Kent, so they have moved out of our house and are able to now be considered for other housing assistance; **Steven** is now in inpatient treatment in Yakima, praise that he went and continued prayer that he learns and turns his life around.

Please pray for **Barb Estep's mom**, she has not been doing well and needs to be uplifted in prayer.

Praise report—there was an overall class debt reduction of \$144,000 in the recent FPU class! Thanks to Jim and Sara Naylor for their leadership!

Please pray for my friend, she has been raised in Jehovah Witness and when she challenged their doctrine, she was kicked out, she has lost her faith and is mad at God and now is agnostic. I felt the Lord lay this on my heart and I am not sure what to do next. ~ **David McCormick**

Christy McCormick asks that we continue to pray for her job search.

Please pray that **my mom** in her final days, will see the love of Christ and believe the truth of the cross.

~**Claire Bird**

Please pray for **Kris Green** a teacher in the Everett SD, and her family. **Her son, Andy**, has been diagnosed with cancer. He is currently in treatment and the family is believing for a full healing

Ashley Todd's sister Amanda has a brain tumor, please pray for her.

Pray that my family would be healthy and safe when out of the country. ~ **Drew Franz**

My family, **wife and 2 daughters**, will be traveling to Kenya, Africa for 6 weeks, please pray for safety.

~**Peter Gatata**

Please pray for direction in life for **Sherra Ellis**.

Ruth Ann Clark has had a hip replacement, please pray for healing and no more pain for her.

Don Grundl's mother was diagnosed with a cyst in her uterus that they believe is cancer, she has had cancer in the past and was able to beat it.

Lora Wilson, Dan Cook's principal has been diagnosed with uterine cancer and will not be finishing the year. Please pray for her.

Please pray for **Karen Barnes-Visser**, she faces neck surgery on June 17th for an accident she was in.

Please pray for wisdom and strength for me and pray for my back and neck as they have been really hurting.

~**Carol Kelly**

We still have several unspoken health prayer needs, please continue to pray for these.

John Lindsey is facing surgery to remove a tumor on his brain, please pray for God's peace and healing.

Pray for relief from anxiety attacks. ~ **Sharon Young**

We need canopies (labeled, please) for Fun In The Sun

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*

Margaret Logan passed away peacefully in her sleep on Tuesday, May 31st. Her memorial is Saturday, July 9th at 11:00 here in the Worship Center.

Ross Point Camp First Aid/Nurse needed for the weeks of June 26-July 1st and July 3-8. Minimum qualifications are current CPR and First Aid with Blood borne Pathogen training. If you are interested please contact John@rosspoint.org.

My four sons hosted a wonderful 91st birthday (belated) party for me on the 11th. I felt so happy to be so honored and also to be still healthy and standing! Many relatives, former neighbors, church friends and friends from Washington Oakes crowded Washington Oakes piano lounge. The party room's occupant limit required that I couldn't invite everyone I know, unfortunately. At that, there were about 80 present! Now we are planning for my 100th. Want to take bets? *florence miller*

Ray Reeves wrote in an email yesterday (June 13th) "**Barb** is in the Intensive Care Unit at Providence (Rm #432) with a Blood Disorder of some sort, that is putting Barbara into an untreatable amount of pain from the waist down. They had trouble finding a place to enter her blood supply for treatment and have now entered through her neck. Barb and **Dennis** both are in much needed Prayer support. Dennis has finally gotten approval for a heart procedure for himself, but is having trouble to find time for the procedure. PLEASE PUT THEM BOTH ON YOUR PRAYER LIST AND KEEP THEM THERE send them a card and let them know you are praying for them. Dennis & Barbara Bjornson, 12029 42nd Drive N.E., Everett, WA 98208. I however, am doing very well and **Betty** is doing even better, thanks for all the prayers.

Ron Newman (Rm. #414) is facing life changing surgery at Providence Colby, in having his foot amputated today (June 13th). He is a type A Diabetic, and we do NOT heal quickly, I know from experience being type 2 Diabetic. Please pray also for Ron for strength and healing, and also to let him know he and his good friend Barb are not alone in this terrible ordeal." Update: **Ron** is recovering from his surgery, was up and walking on Tuesday. **Barb** said he is doing very well.

And this happier note from **Chris Frizzell**; "7 hours on the road today but it was the most beautiful scenery I have ever seen. We got to see the Grand Tetons from the south today and they were just as beautiful. We came through Yellowstone out the East Entrance and I was close to tears as we saw just how majestic God's creation is. We were at 8,000 feet in the middle of a two mile avalanche warning zone with rain, snow and hail pelting the car and tall cliffs on either side of us and way below a river cutting through the canyon and the music on the CD was proclaiming *What heights of love, what depths of peace!.. Here in the love of Christ I stand!* I don't think I will ever hear that song again without remembering this day.

Some miles later we saw what looked like a dust storm over a river and shallow bay by a dam and when we went inside the Visitors Center discovered it was blowing 45 mph with gusts to 70 - no wonder there was a dust storm! Nice riding car!"

***Adult attendance: 9:00am 72 & 10:30am 180 ||

***Children: 9am 17 + 5 — 10:30am 25 + 9

***Elementary: 9am 25 + 5 — 10:30 am 25 + 8 ||

***Middle School: 14 + 3 — Youth Small Group: 24 + 5

Happy June Birthday to...

Fedrick Nifasha on the 17th
Janet Graham on the 18th
Shirley Schappler on the 20th
...and Howard Eckstrom and
Melanie Lane on the 21st

Congregational meeting - June 26th, 9:00 am

You won't want to miss our **picnic** planned for **Friday, July 15th at Kayak Point**. It is billed as Blue Grass entertainment with **Dick Connor** as its chairman and it promises to be added fun to our already good times there. Further information can be found soon at both the SAM desk and in the CareNecton.

Don't forget that the \$10.00 dues are now DUE! We would like to have everyone sign up as early as possible so that everyone will be in the new SAM directory.

S.A.M. Update

Lifegroup Contributing Opportunities

USHER CAPTAIN 2011:

June—Darrell Olson
 Marc Owenby
 July—Peter Sontra
 Luckey Elkins

COFFEE HOUR Schedule

June 19th
 Gene Dobson
 Klahaya

June 26th
 Tom Warren
 The Followers

July 3rd
 Lyle Gordon
 SAM

July 10th
 Ken Ackerman
 Men's Lifegroup

Offering 6-12-11 | \$12,781.63

VBS 2011

June 27th thru July 1st - 9:00 to 12:00 noon
 Ages: Kindergarten thru 5th grade
 Sign up online: www.fbc-everett.org
 First Baptist Church, 1616 Pacific Ave.
 425-259-9166 for more information



Street Hockey Introduction Camp with Coach Jay Varady | June 25th | 9-10:15 AM. For kids ages 6-8 years old (12 kids), kids 9-10 years old (12 kids), kids 11-13 years old (12 kids). Camp capacity is 36. A filled out medical release form is required to hold your place. You must return the completed medical release form, available on our website under Ministries-Youth, to the office by June 19th.



First come, first make the team.

we still have spaces

VBS 2011 NEED LIST: T-shirts - L or XL white/new/clean. M & M's, white frosting, pretzels, mini marshmallows, raisins, shredded coconut, white cho. chips, plastic spoons & 8 oz. cups.

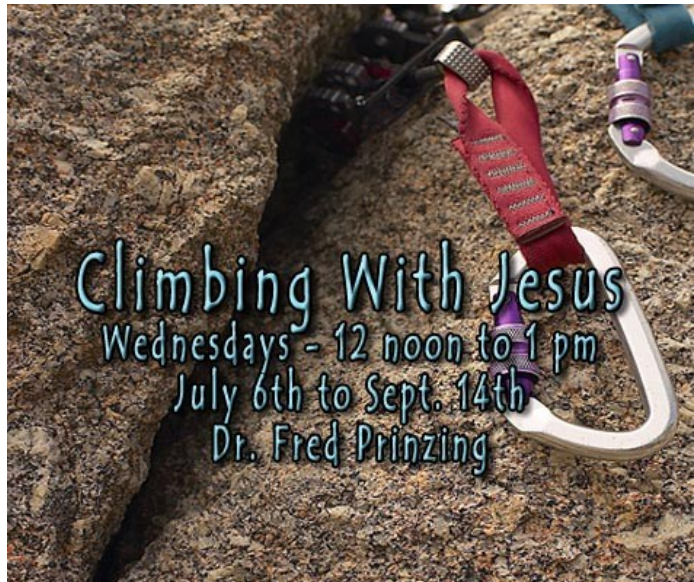
FUN in the SUN

Where? - Pacific and Wetmore
 When? - 1:00 to 3:00 pm
 FREE: Pony rides
 Snocones
 Cotton Candy




July 4th

Family Oriented Games and Entertainment



Climbing With Jesus

Wednesdays - 12 noon to 1 pm
 July 6th to Sept. 14th
 Dr. Fred Prinzing

Greeters needed, please contact Carol Kelly