

Bearing Burdens and Caring in Times of Crisis

by Matt Graybill

9/11, loss of job, marriage struggle, habitual sin, natural disaster, and a boy that lost his stuffed lion named "roar".

What do these all have in common? Crisis. Some of these crises seem larger than others, but that is dependent on the view of the individual who is experiencing the crisis. The little boy who lost his stuffed animal during the night thought his crisis was a major thing happening in the world at that particular time.

If we're honest, crises are happening all around us: in our relationships, our jobs, our families, through war, and poverty. They exist in cities, in the countryside, and in young and old people. A crisis can be a blind evil that has no bounds and it often happens out of the blue. We might receive a negative report back from the doctor of a condition that we have, and suddenly we're in the middle of crisis. A crisis can be an uncertain, difficult, painful time, where some type of action needs to be taken or the situation could get worse.

Think about the responses to some of the major crises in our country. Many people came together to help those who were hurting. Up until now, how has your group responded to a crisis? Are they open about it or do they camp out on it and never work through it? Do they say everything is "just fine" when it's not?

A crisis is often looked at negatively and we really don't like sharing it or we don't want a weakness exposed, but there is strength in going through a crisis when you're in community. As a community you do life together and that means you are not alone. This could mean sitting and praying with the couple who just lost their child, encouraging a husband to confess his addiction to pornography, or bringing a meal to the family that has continual hospital visits.

Bearing one another's burdens also means exposing and dealing with the sin of another—even if a person may not be aware of. There may be a person in the group who continually bashes other people at work, or the person who denies his excessive drinking habit. This isn't a

new thing for communities to bear one another's burdens. In fact the apostle Paul encourages the church of Galatia to share one another's burdens. He also challenges them to gently and humbly help the person overcome by sin:

"Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are spiritual should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important. Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done, and you won't need to compare yourself to anyone else. For we are each responsible for our own conduct." (Galatians 6:1-5)

Paul uses the words gently, humbly, help, be careful, share each others burdens, and pay careful attention. These are words of love, not of a love of necessarily giving, but a love of sharing—to take on the burden as Jesus says he does with us. In order to share each others burdens we need to first realize that there is a burden, and we see them by understanding a person's heart.

In order to know a person's heart, we need to create an environment where it's safe for others to share what's happening in their lives. To share the burden we must be a community of people that gently and humbly help people back to the right path of how God says to do life. To share the burden we must be willing to love others as Christ has loved us—giving our lives for others. We often fail to even see the crisis or burden in someone's life because we're fixated on our own issues and problems.

Paul encourages us to share each other's burdens; not to just take on others. The hope in the middle of a crisis as we share in each others burdens, is that we can bring people to Jesus who says, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

(From smallgroupexchange.com)



Life group prayer and praise

- **Gary Cox** praises God!
- **John**, who was burned over 30% of his body on Saturday, needs prayer for healing and strength.
- **Richard Wolven** asks that we pray for his mom, **Bobbie** and healing of her arthritis.
- Please pray for **Sharon Young**, she was in the hospital on Saturday, she is diabetic. Her father is in a coma in need of a kidney. ~ **Linda Royer**
- **Roy McCowan** needs a job, his ends May 14th.
- Please continue to pray for **Darcy Stanyo**, she needs a job and to have repairs done on her car.
- **Barb Lillard** is home and doing better, please no visitors, but she would love cards and asks for prayer.
- **Rev. Jim Loewen** served as Pastor of the Christian-Baptist Church in Mountain Home, Idaho, has a cyst on a disc that is causing pressure on the nerve. He had microscopic surgery to remove the cyst yesterday. Please keep him in prayer...this should remove all the pain he's been experiencing in his hip and leg.
- Pray for the **Durhams, Karl and Lorraine**, they both need jobs.
- My husband, **Dan**, has leukemia. It's been in remission for three years. The blood tests were not normal last month and he gets checked this week, please pray that all is well! Thanks, **Ann Anderson**
- My nephew, **Dustin Roe**, is in the hospital with an infection in his feet, he may have to have one amputated, please pray for him and his family. ~ **Kathy Chapman**
- Please pray for the **Vietze family** and everyone in the church that needs work and the stresses that are connected with that.
- **Bret** would like prayer for his **mom** she needs healing.
- Please continue to pray for **Gerry Allen**, he is now home and getting better but still ill.
- Please continue to pray for my son, **Ray** who is in prison and my daughter, **Judi**, she is into drugs; meth and cocaine. ~ **Carole Peterson**
- **Darlene** has cancer in her brain and the tumor is growing. Chemo is not doing anything, She now has tunnel vision. ~ **Darlene Udman**
- Pray for **Lysle Pickard's son-in-law**, he had a stroke—he needs prayer for full healing.
- Pray for **Larry Stover**, he has cancer. ~ **Kathy Helm**
- Please pray for my mom **Sandy Abood**. ~ **Jenn Decker**
- Pray for my friend's father **Jim Bender** who has stage 3 prostate cancer. Prayer that his treatment will be successful and that throughout all this that he will find the Lord. ~ **Judy Warren**
- Please pray for the **Roullier family**, the Lord's provision for them in their current house situation.
- Our students will be taking a mission trip to Mexico this summer from July 10-20. We will be working with **Pastor Gama** at a Children's camp in Merida.

98208-Silver Lake: Pray for a future launch of a Life Group for men and women in the south Everett 98208 zip code that it would be God's timing and way. Pray specifically that God would identify a host home, and a leadership/facilitation team for this new group. Interested in more information contact Allan Love at allan@fbc-everett.net or Brian Harpell at bharpell@fbc-everett.net.

Pray for our military



- *Jonathan Michaels Estrella— son of Sharon Boswell.*
- *Jason Bjazevich—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces— Stationed at Fort Lewis.*
- *Joel Ellis—son of John & Midge—Serving in Iraq.*
- *Scott Harpell—son of Brian & Lynne—Stationed at Fort Bragg.*
- *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.*
- *Elijah Austin —Ashley Naylor's husband—a Marine—Stationed at 29 Palms in California.*
- *David Coyle—son of Karen Mark—residing in Seattle, member of the National Guard.*
- *Adam Flynn—a young Marine safely home and out of military*
- *Brett Love—grandson of Wilma— Army National Guard-Serving second tour in Iraq.*
- *Robin Swartz - Serving in the military - currently home in Everett.*
- *Christian Chmielewski—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.*
- *Jeffrey Lillard—son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed at Fort Lewis.*
- *ENS Andrew E. Timpner (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.*
- *Devin Abbitt—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.*
- *Doug Baer—a teacher at Kamiak HS heading to Iraq in the Army Reserves—thru Sept. 09.*
- *Duane Neyens—brother to Kathy Chapman—Nat. Grd. Afghanistan*
- *Philip Ankney-LCPL Afghanistan Cousin of MaryAnn Peterson*

Life Group Happenings

all in the family

by Florence Miller

Gerry Allen answered the phone when I called. He says he is improving but he has a long road ahead to complete recovery. Maybe prayers for patience?

Loris Ludington fell recently and broke her ankle. Prayers for a good recovery.

Some of the **S.A.M. members** had a good time attending a vaudeville type extravaganza in Snohomish this past Saturday.

Scott Harpell is having arthroscopic shoulder surgery. He said he would not mind the prayers.

Dr. Robert "Bob" Burchell will celebrate his 80th birthday on June 7th of this year. Bob served many years in the ABC of the Northwest. In the early days, as pastor at Spokane Valley Baptist Church, 1966 to 1976, then as pastor at First Baptist Church of Idaho Falls from 1976 to 1981. He retired in 1991.

FIFTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY of ORDINATION to the GOSPEL MINISTRY

This coming Sunday morning after our 10:30 am ONEworship service, we are all invited to a reception in the Pacific Room in honor of Fred Prinzing's 50 Year Anniversary of Ordination. *The flowers at the altar are in honor of Dr. Fred William Prinzing's ministry from his children and grandchildren.* He and Anita have been married for 54 years.



CPR (also AED) training available here at FBC—

Saturday, May 16th, from 9:30-12:30 pm—This is a very valuable and practical class for anyone serving in children's ministry, student ministry, usher ministry, and Friday Night Ministry, and so our pastoral staff encourages you to take advantage of this professional training. If you are interested in attending the class please connect with Christen Weller at preschool@fbc-everett.net. This class has been made possible by Richard Conner contributing his skills to our church fam-

ABMM Meeting

This next meeting of ABMM is the final one until fall. We invite anyone interested in Missions to a special program with Tracy Stover from Kenya, Africa on May 21st at noon. Please make your reservations by the 18th with the church office, 259.9166 or by calling Faith. We are collecting eye glasses for Haiti and soup labels. (remember only the gold circle, picture of kid and UPC number are needed.)

SPRING BOOK SALE

June 5th and 7th

Just drop off your donations at the S.A.M. desk. Proceeds go to fund our mission projects.



Happy Birthday

<i>May 13th</i>	<i>Nina Stanyo</i>
<i>May 14th</i>	<i>Robert Knight</i>
	<i>Helen Strube</i>
<i>May 15th</i>	<i>Stacey Ayers</i>
	<i>Karl Durham</i>
<i>May 16th</i>	<i>Ginni Hamilton</i>
<i>May 17th</i>	<i>Jane Johnson</i>

Life group contributing opportunities

Connecting Class

Want to explore what it means to be part of a Biblically-functioning community of faith? In the Connecting Class you'll discover your unique place as a member of the body of Christ. To sign up for the next class on May 17th, 2009, please contact the church office or e-mail the church at office@fbc-everett.org. Programming for Kidz from birth to high school is also offered at this time.

Seattle Women's Conference

LADIES LAST CALL: We still have 8 tickets available to the Women of Faith Conference at the Key Arena in Seattle on July 24th and 25th. Special Group Pricing of \$75.00 for the conference or \$99.00 that includes the Friday Special Event. Join us for a very special two day time of growing spiritually and enjoying a wonderful time of fellowship with your Christian sisters. Don't miss this opportunity for renewal and growth!

Contact Ruelyn Nelson in the hospitality room on Sunday .

We need canopies for Fun In the Sun

Update May 10th , 2009

Adult attendance: 269 Children: 9 am|| 26/11 10:30 am|| 43/20
Youth Small Group: Middle School || 14/5
High School || 8/3

OneGreatHourOfSharing Offering - June 28th

USHER CAPTAIN 2009:

May—Ron and Kay Olson
Craig Reisen
June—Darrell Olsen
Marc Owenby

COFFEE HOUR 2009

May 17th
Bill Erickson
Men's Life Group
May 24th
Steve Dittoe
Marriage Builders
May 31st
David Brock
Men's Life Group
June 7th
Barb Menia
Woman of Purpose

July 4th FUN in the Sun: Again this year FBC will offer a street fair following the Everett July 4th downtown parade at 12:30 until 3:00 pm. This year's July 4th falls on a Saturday and so we want you to be sure you put it on your calendar. A couple of thousand people show up each year from our community and we get the opportunity to *show them* the love of Christ. Would your Life Groups be willing adopt one of the stations or venues? These include:

- Espresso
- Face painting
- Float in the parade
- Children's inflatable #1
- Children's inflatable #2
- Children's inflatable #3
- Miniature golf
- Set-up crew
- Clean-up crew
- Welcome & Registration Desk
- Cotton Candy machine
- Popcorn Machine
- Street Hockey
- Clown Ministry

Our student ministry has already adopted hotdog sales and root beer floats, and our worship ministry has adopted the stage and band. For more information and to volunteer contact bharpell@fbc-everett.net

