

THE COAL BASKET

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of eastern Kentucky with his young grandson.

Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old worn-out Bible.

His grandson who wanted to be just like him tried to imitate him.

One day the grandson asked,

"Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book.

What good does reading the Bible do?"

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said,

"Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water."

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house.

The grandfather laughed and said, *"You will have to move a little faster next time,"* and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

The boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home.

Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was *"impossible to carry water in a basket,"* and he went to get a bucket instead.

The old man said, *"I don't want a bucket of water. I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough,"*

and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty.

Out of breath, he said, *"See Papa, it's useless!"*

The old man said, *"So you think it is useless? Look at the basket."*

The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. *Instead of a dirty old coal basket, it was clean.*

"Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible.

You might not understand or remember everything,

but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out."

That is the work of God in our lives . . .

to change us from the inside out

and to slowly transform us into the image of His Son.

Trinity Methodist Church

LINDEN, JOHANNESBURG



Prayer is the key of the morning and the bolt of the night.

3 August 2014

Oh how I love your law! *I meditate on it all day long.*

Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,
for they are ever with me.

I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.

I have more understanding than the elders,
for I obey your precepts.

For I have kept my feet from every evil path
so that I might obey your word.

I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me.

***How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth.***

I gain understanding from your precepts;
Therefore I hate every wrong path.

***Your Word is a lamp to my feet
and a light for my path.***

Psalm 119:97 - 105



For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Heb. 4:12-13

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

JOHN OCHSE (Peter's father) had a severe stroke last weekend. He is in a coma and isn't responding. Peter & his brother Terry have gone to Grahamstown to be with their father. Pray healing, comfort and peace for all.

DAVE BLACK passed away last Monday. Our prayers for comfort & peace are for Pat (his wife), Andrew (his son) and for all the family at this sad time.

BRIAN (Patsy Tromp's son) was ill with double pneumonia, has now been diagnosed with cancer in both lungs. Please pray healing for Brian & peace for Patsy who is very worried. It would be good if you could give her support so why not contact her?

TULA LUTHER suffering with viral bronchial pneumonia. Pray healing for Tula and strength for her son, Richard, her daughter Beryl & their families.

MEGAN FROST (Melanie Mazaris's niece) has passed way. Please pray for family.

DEREK OBEREM has passed away. Our sympathy & prayers go with Joan & family.

BETH LENNOX fell and broke 3 ribs. We pray healing & a release of the pain.

NOREEN MCKENZIE has had a problem with her left eye for 2 weeks with no improvement. Doc says there is a problem with the blood vessels to the optic muscles. We pray for God's perfect healing and peace for Noreen & her husband, Craig.

KIRSTEN & LARRY MOUGIOS we share with them the joy of their new born baby but also share in their sadness as Kirsten's gran passed away this week.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

NATE ADAMS is improving but still in ICU, we pray for healing for Nate as doctors reduce medication & treatment. We pray God's peace for his parents.

ELLA (Nita's sister) we pray for healing of open wounds on her leg.

LU praise God, Lu doesn't need surgery, we pray for her full return to health.

MEGAN WOODBURN we pray healing after op for torn muscles in her shoulder.

VAL OCHSE bone density tests not good, all levels have dropped dramatically & her spine is osteopaenic. Val will be going for further tests on 8th Aug. We lift her & Peter up to our Lord during this worrying time & pray guidance for docs re treatment.

MEMBERS OF TRINITY SUFFERING WITH FLU two more of our staff & a lot of Trinity members have been hit with flu this year. Pray rapid recovery for all.

DUDLEY MIDDLETON had surgery to remove tumours from his liver on Wed & will be in ICU until Sun. Pray healing for Dudley, peace for Angela & family.

REEF'S GRANDPARENTS we pray a full recovery for Reef's granddad & granny.

JOHN & ESTELLA VAN LOGGERENBERG *John* has lost a lot of weight & has undergone tests. *Estella* has bone cancer & battling with the pain. Please pray.

YOUTH PASTOR there is now a shortlist of 2 candidates for this position, we continue to pray for wisdom for the interviewing team that the right choice is made.

JOY VD KLIS *“The fight is still on. Thank you all for support, prayers & love. I praise Jesus who hears & shows me the race is not over yet. I place my faith & hope in Him for healing. God bless.”* Joy.

CANCER LIST: *Gordon Bennett, David Edwards, Anton Marais (Sydney), Lee Barnes, Nola Dodds, Tracy Hoy (UK), Hilda Louter, Val Warren, Dudley Middleton, Marguerite, Peter, Myrren (18), Diane Turner, Maureen Lupton, Martin vd Merwe (Karin Blackburn’s dad), Joy vd Klis, Jean Clarence, Rebecca Owens (bone marrow transplant), Daniela Andrade (7), Estelle, Russell Jones, Ursula Ryder, Lesley Steyn, Verna, David Edwards (UK), Doh Carneson, Louise Shaw (Texas), Brian K, John Sandison, Cindy Saunders, Marina van de Ruit, Ron Senyard.*

CHRONIC LIST: *Denese Pieterse (back problems), Dave (Guillain Barre Syndrome), Emmanuel Thavhiwa (difficult times), Elaine Vermaak (osteoporosis), Craig Hart (sleep apnea), Moira Smith (hiatus hernia), Brian & Eva Humphreys (Eva’s recovery), Maureen Dewberry (heart problems), Alison (spinal problems), Illia & Graham (UK), Diana Viljoen’s Mom (stroke), Mike & Helen Urban (ill health), Colleen Hunter (brain op), Christiaan Vermeulen (heart surgery), Deon (facial surgery), Nora Swart (colon surgery), Susanne (stroke), Fiona (broken foot), Duncan Edwards (rare disease), Moira (heart), Noelle Marshall (leukemia & eye problems), Louise Combrink (nervous breakdown), Jenny Dembovsky (needs employment), Heather Seymour (emphysema), Nic Swart (stroke), Nic Breytenbach (MDS Leukemia), Ethne Gray (heart problems), Pat Mostert (heart problems), Elwyn Dyer (hip op), Norma Miller (heart failure), Bradley Manson (Kidney disease, dialysis), Maureen Rees (bad fall).*



Father, help me to approach Your Word with quiet expectation - expectation that my weakness will become strength, my doubt become faith, my darkness become light. **Thank you Father.** Amen

READ YOUR BIBLE

- † Slowly, with mind alert
- † Carefully and with prayer
- † Expectantly and with anticipation
- † In a spirit of enjoyment
- † Eager to respond inwardly
- † Seeking a personal message