## THE VALUE OF DISASTER

And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance. Romans 5:3

For ten years Thomas Edison attempted to invent a storage battery. His efforts greatly strained his finances, then in December 1914 nearly brought him to ruin when a spontaneous combustion broke out in his film room. Within minutes all the packing compounds, celluloid for records and film, and other flammable goods were ablaze.

Though fire departments came from eight surrounding towns, the intense heat and low water pressure made attempts to douse the flames futile. *Everything was destroyed*.

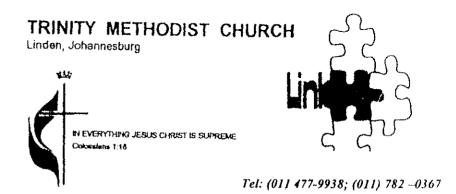
While the damage exceeded \$2,000,000, the concrete buildings, thought to be fireproof, were insured for barely a tenth of that amount. The inventor's 24 year-old son Charles searched frantically for his father, afraid that his spirit would be broken. Charles finally found him, calmly watching the fire, his face glowing in the reflection, white hair blowing in the wind.

"My heart ached for him", said Charles. "He was 67 - no longer a young man - and everything was going up in flames".

When he saw me, he shouted, "Charles, where's your mother?" When I told him I didn't know, he said, "Find her. Bring her here. She will never see anything like this as long as she lives".

The next morning, Edison looked at the ruins and said, "There is great value in disaster. All our mistakes are burned up. Thank God we can start anew". Three weeks after the fire, Edison managed to deliver the first phonograph. With each new day, we have the opportunity to start again, to start fresh – no matter what our circumstances. Let the Lord show you how to salvage hope from debris. You never know what joys are ahead





## PRAYER IS THE KEY OF THE MORNING AND THE BOLT OF THE NIGHT

15 September 2013

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

For your sake we face death all day long; We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8: 28-39

## Please Pray For:

**OOSTHUIZEN FAMILY** we continue to remember Neil, Simon, Rebekah, Tara-Lynne & Rina in our prayers. Pray strength for each one of them that they may all be aware of God's presence at this difficult time.

LADIES RETREAT pray that all the ladies who attend the retreat will be abundantly blessed & spiritually uplifted. Pray strength & wisdom for Sue Edwards as she leads the retreat.

**DIANE TURNER** has been diagnosed with stage 3 cancer in lungs & lymph nodes, she has started on chemo. Pray healing for Dianne & wisdom for docs. **SHEILA MARLEY** experienced heart problems while shopping at Cresta, possibly due to her blood pressure being low. Sheila will consult with her cardiologist this week. Pray wisdom for him & peace for Sheila & Keith.

MIKE TYLER had a bad fall and VAL is suffering with a chest infection.

IAN held up in his driveway by six men with guns, they got away with money intended to pay workers. Ian, wife, Amy & family shocked and traumatized.

**ENRIETTA** was shot in the face while helping her mother with car problems. Her jaw will need to be rebuilt, including a prosthesis and nerves, blood vessels, and three vertebrae need repair.

**PERCY MULLER** (Nic's brother) is experiencing problems with his pacemaker and his wife, JENNY, whose cancer of her intestine has returned, will be starting chemo at the end of September.

## We Continue To Pray For:

**SUE GERRITS** continue to pray for healing after her rhizotomy op, that the nerves will begin to settle and that the headaches will decrease.

**BRYAN** (Shirley Allstone's husband) is able to walk but with a limp, still using a walker as a precautionary measure. Drove his car for the first time for 6 weeks on Wednesday. Recovery is slow, daily exercises three times a day.

**ZELDA** is suffering with deep depression and feeling very down. Please pray for her to feel better soon.

CARLENE (Zelda's sister) is feeling down and suffering from stress.

SHARLA JACOBSON (21) is experiencing back problems. She had blood tests this week prior to her seeing a specialist this coming week. Pray wisdom for the specialist as he decides on the possibility of an op. Pray peace for Sharla & family.

JENNY (USA) (Candice Ekermans' step sister) had her baby last week, born at 32 weeks, 1.2kgs, baby still in an incubator but both mother & baby are doing well. Hoping to go home soon. Thanks for all your prayers.

**BONGANI HLUPE** please continue to pray for his recovery and peace for his family.

**KIRSTEN PUGH** is feeling much better, went back to docs on Wednesday for a check-up, had more blood tests done.

**PHYLLIS TRENT** is back at home. In her own words "doing alright, getting on slowly" We continue to pray God's special touch on her.

ROB BARRIE (in ACU, acute care unit) has kidney infection; he is not well and is gradually responding to antibiotic treatment. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jean & family at this tough time praying that an distinct improvement will be seen in Rob over these next few days.

**MALINDI EDWARDS** is experiencing problems with her right knee after her recent car accident. She has had MRI scan and is due to have a CAT scan soon. Pray wisdom for medical team in sorting out her knee.

JESSE (18) Oncologist pronounced Jesse in official remission after his testicular cancer op. Family would like to thank you all for your faithful prayers and support during their painful journey. Jesse is doing fantastically well.

CANCER LIST: Michelle Hennessey, Gordon, David Edwards, Hazel UK, Lee Barnes, Nola Dodds, Tracy Hoy (UK), Hilda Louter, Val Warren, Dudley Middleton, Marguerite, Peter, Anne Barraball, Myrren (18), Joy Anderson.

CHRONIC LIST: Paula (heart & lung problems), Sherrie Greef (stroke), Illia Cook UK (brain tumour), Denese Pieterse (back problems), Marie le Grange (arthritis in spine), Carol Wilsher (Parkinson's), Barbara Thompson (diabetes & heart problems), Joan du Plessis (diverticulitis), Grant (clots in leg), Colleen Hunter (severe back pain), Rina Sneddon (brain surgery), Rob Barrie (Parkinson's and dementia), Nicky Smith (heart attack), Sonja Smit (severe depression), June Dodds (massive stroke), Rene (dementia), Becks Owen (leukaemia), Douglas (foot amputation), Joyce Parker (dementia), Brian Cross (renal failure), Ellen Coetzee (severe pain in hips, Pelvis & legs), Marina van der Ruit (back problems), Julia Jacobs (emphysema), Graham (progressive aphasia), Dave (Guillain Barre Syndrome), Yvonne Eliasov (diverticulitis), Henrietta Small (severe back pain), Don Woodburn (emphysema), Ilse Anthonisen (spinal problems), Lyness Matizirofa (rehab for stroke), Emilie (heart problems), Don Grose (fractured hip), Venetia Bartlett (crumbling spine), Devon (broken arm) Charl (pelvic Op), Candice de Beer (tumour in pregnancy).

True happiness and contentment can never belong to those who are always complaining, for such treasures are not given to those who cannot appreciate them. God gives the true riches of life to those who possess a thankful heart.

It is the person who is thankful under all conditions who can unlock the treasure house of God. It is the praising heart and thankful mind that enter the Presence of the Divine and feel the nearness of the Eternal.