

# PRAYER LIST

**RILEY AGAN**, Jared Agan's brother – possible surgery if tendon cut while carving pumpkin  
**CHERYL BARRON**, Stan Raley's sister  
**JO ANN BROSELL**, friend of Kathy St. Clair – surgery, Wednesday 2/22/2017  
**TED BROWN**, Sherri Clopton's dad, home rehab  
**LINDA BULLOCK**  
**RAY CANTRELL**, brother of Linda Bowen of Waynesboro; Anderson Hospital  
**MIKE CUMBERLAND**, leg issues/home therapy  
**ANTORIOS GROVES**, Ethel Clark's son-in-law, cancer; 105 Lexington DR, Hattiesburg MS 39402  
**ODELL GURLEY**, Jeremy's (Elizabeth Fair Gurley) granddad; lung cancer treatment  
**THERMAN HODGE**, cancer: skin & bone  
**JERE JENNINGS**, Judy's husband – multiple blood clots in lungs  
**JUDY JENNINGS**, former member; cancer recurrence ~ 2027 Green Gate PL ~ Grayson, GA 30017-1857  
**BETTY JOHNSON**, home-bound  
**WALTER KING**, Lamar's dad, post-aneurism surgery recovery at home  
**JAMIE DIAL KIRKLAND**, Livingston, AL, Cindy Harper's friend – breast cancer & in spine  
**NAN LEGGETT**, Brookhaven, MS area; friend of Mike/Renée Cumberland; leg muscle syndrome; recent bone breaks  
**JENNIFER MARTIN**, auto accident spinal injury  
**GENE & CHARLENE RALEY**, Stan's parents  
**STAN RALEY**  
**AL ST. CLAIR**  
**ZELIA STEPHENS**, aunt of Jason Smith; cancer  
**THELMA TALBERT**, Shirley Raley's mom  
**RUTH TAYLOR**, Room 102 at Brookdale Meridian, 4555 35<sup>th</sup> AVE, Meridian, MS 39305  
**ROB WARREN**  
**WAYNE WARREN**, Rob's dad cardiac issues  
**EUGENE WHITE**, health issues  
**VELMA "DUCK" YATES**  
**MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICES CHURCH MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE**

# ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

None This Week

NOTE: If you are new to our family, or have changes to your info, please see Renée Cumberland.

## GUEST SPEAKER TODAY

**Steve Gober**

**with the World Bible School**

**will be speaking on an opportunity**

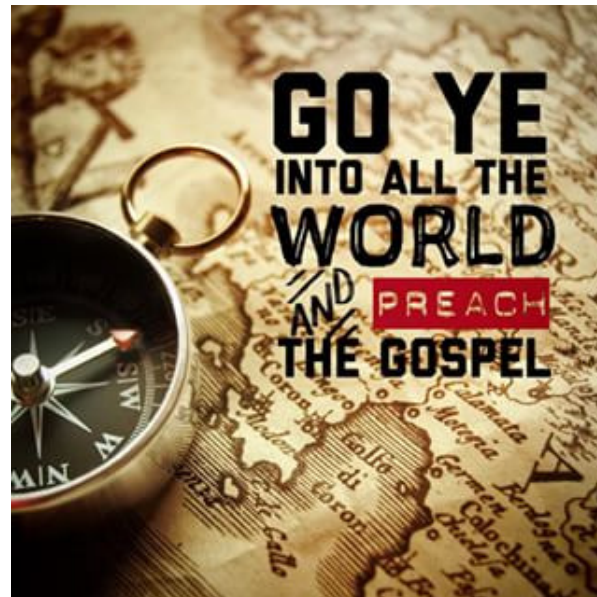
**for us to be involved with the**

**World Bible School's worldwide efforts.**



**Share Jesus. It's simple.**

WBS Study Helpers are everyday Christians like you. They use our interactive lessons to encourage people who want to learn about the Bible as WBS Students.



# God Is With Us In Our Sunset Years

*~continued from cover~*

## (1) THE NEED FOR A WHOLESOME OUTLOOK ON LIFE THAT ENCOMPASSES TIME AND ETERNITY.

The Bible answers the three major questions of life: *Where did man come from? Why is man on the earth? And where is man going?* Every man and woman is created by God in his image (Genesis 1:26) and exists for the pleasure and glory of God (Revelation 4:11; Romans 11:36). Every person's life is short against the backdrop of eternity (Psalms 90: 9,10,12; James 4:14). **Death is certain, but not final (Hebrews 9:27)**. It leads to an eternal destiny with God in glory or away from him in destruction (Matthew 25:46). The older Christian who holds these and other insights can taste the benefits of wisdom and experience that age brings, let go of things of more youthful years without too much regret, and look forward to a new realm of unending glory with the Father in eternity (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

## (2) THE NEED TO DEAL ADEQUATELY WITH LONELINESS.

At least two themes in the Scriptures bear strongly on the problem of loneliness. The first has to do with the nature of God. Our God is omnipresent and available to his people no matter where they are (Psalm 139:7-12; Acts 17:27,28). He is *"a very present help in trouble"* (Psalm 46: 1) and is in close fellowship with those who love him and his Son and keep his word (John 14:23).

The second consideration is what the Bible says about the body of Christ, the church. As long as a Christian lives in fellowship with Christ and his people, he or she is family and has family (2 Corinthians 6:17,18). He or she is a part of the body where every member counts (1 Corinthians 12:26,27) not only as a member of Christ, but a member of other Christians (Romans 12:5). Sharing in the fellowship of God's wonderful people can alleviate much of the loneliness that can creep in to those who are older and isolated.

## (3) THE NEED TO FEEL SECURE IN A TIME OF LOSSES.

Old age often brings with it an array of losses that combine to test the sense of security many have in life. The loss of health and strength, the loss of income at the level it once was available, the loss of spouses and friends—these chip away at the feeling one can dwell securely in this world.

Jesus' command for all of his disciples to not worry about daily needs (Matthew 6:25-34), but to pray in faith for God's care (Matthew 7:7-11) is certainly applicable to his older saints. And the need for strength to deal with challenges of every kind in old age comes from God who comes through in the hour of weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9,10; Philippians 4:13).

Our Father will never forsake the older brother or sister who is faithful to him (Hebrews 13:5,6). He will abundantly supply the needs of all of his saints, including the elderly (Philippians 4:19).

## (4) THE NEED TO FEEL CONTINUED USEFULNESS.

It is easy for those who are older to think about all of the things they can no longer do—spend long hours in vigorous, demanding work, excel in certain services to the church and others on a regular basis, travel, evangelize, etc. *Life is more restricted, but not over.*

Many aged Christians can continue to care for others via calls, cards, and, yes, even emails and text messages while they themselves are being cared for by others in the church family. They may be very limited in mobility, but they can pray in ways that influence heaven (Luke 2:36-38). In conversations they can train the younger in the way they should go (Titus 2:2-5). Even their presence in the assemblies when they are able to attend is a boost and encouragement to the body. In the ways just mentioned and other ways, the elderly can still bear fruit in old age (Psalm 92:12-15).

God has a plan for older people for the rest of their lives. He wants them secure in Christ and in him (John 10:28,29). He wants to bless them with abundant life (John 10:10) on the way to that eternal home with him. We, as the church, need to be aware and alive to help our God accomplish his purpose toward the elderly.

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