PRAYER LIST

CHERYL BARRON, Stan Raley's sister BECKY BROWN, Sherri Clopton's mom LINDA BULLOCK, medical issues/tests WILLIAM CAREY'S MOM

ALAN DES ORMEAUX, Vinson friend; cancer CHARLES DOOLEY, upcoming surgery TAMMIE DUNN, Linda Bullock's daughter CHRIS EMOND, Madison family friend; cancer ALANA FAIR

JAMES GORDON, Bridget Smith's dad ANTORIAS GROVES, Ethel Clark's son-in-law, EVELYN GUY, health issues BUD HARPER, Cindy's bro-in-law, health issues TERRY HARPER, Cindy's husband health issues

THERMAN HODGE

JACK HUNTLEY, Callens friend

BILLY JOHN health issues

JORDAN KEMBLE, Warren friend; brain tumor LAMAR KING

WALTER KING, Lamar's dad

JACK MEARS

JAKE NESTER, Fair friend – cancer, chemo CHARLENE RALEY, Stan's mom – health issues STAN RALEY

GRADY RICHARDSON, Angela Duncan's dad AL ST. CLAIR

MATTHEW STOKLEY, Duncan friend - cancer THELMA TALBERT, Shirley Raley's mom RUTH TAYLOR, Brookdale/Meridian ANNIE THOMAS, Edna Toole's mother, health TERRY TRIBBLE, Renée Cumberland's friend PERRY TUBBY, Brandie Madison's dad ANNIE WEBB, Cindy Harper's g-grand-daughter MAX WEBB, Cindy's grandson, deployed MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICES OUR GOVERNMENT – NATIONAL & STATE CHURCH MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE

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May 2 : Sara "Kitty" Dooley

God's Cake

This is about the best thing I've ever read as an explanation.

Sometimes we wonder, 'What did I do to deserve this?' or 'Why

did God have to do this to me?' Here is a wonderful explanation!

A daughter is telling her Mother how everything is going wrong, she's failing algebra, her boyfriend broke up with her and her best friend is moving away.

Meanwhile, her Mother is baking a cake and asks her daughter if she would like a snack, and the daughter says, '*Absolutely Mom, I love your cake.*'

'Here. Have some cooking oil,' her Mother offers. 'Yuck' says her daughter. 'How about a couple raw eggs?' 'Gross, Mom!' 'Would you like some flour then? Or maybe baking soda?'

'Mom, those are all yucky!' To which the mother replies, 'Yes, all those things seem bad all by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake!'

God works the same way. Many times we wonder why He would let us go through such bad and difficult times. But God knows that when He puts these things all in His order, they always work for good! We just have to *trust* Him and, eventually, they will all make something wonderful!

God is crazy about you. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He can live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart.

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WAYS to REDUCE *STRESS* for the CHRISTIAN

- 1. Pray
- 2. Go to bed on time.
- 3. Get up on time so you can start the day unrushed.
- 4. Say No to projects that won't fit into your time schedule or that will compromise your mental health.
- 5. Delegate tasks to capable others.
- 6. Simplify and remove the clutter from your life.
- 7. Less is more. (Although one is often not enough, two are often too many.)
- 8. Allow extra time to do things and to get to places.
- 9. Pace yourself. Spread out big changes and difficult projects over time; don't lump the hard things all together.
- 10. Take one day at a time.
- 11. Separate <u>worries</u> from <u>concerns</u>. If a situation is a concern, find out what God would have you do and <u>let go of the anxiety</u>. If you can't do anything about a situation, forget it.
- 12. Live within your budget; don't use credit cards for ordinary purchases.
- 13. Have backups; an extra car key in your wallet, an extra house key buried in the garden, extra stamps, etc.
- 14. K.M.S. (i.e. Keep Mouth Shut) This single piece of advice can prevent an enormous amount of trouble.
- 15. Do something for the Kid in You every day.
- 16. Carry a Bible with you to read while waiting in line.
- 17. Get enough rest.
- 18. Eat right.
- 19. Get organized so everything has its place.
- 20. Listen to a tape while driving that can help improve your quality of life.
- 21. Write down thoughts and inspirations.
- 22. Every day, find time to be alone.
- 23. Having problems? Talk to God on the spot. Try to nip small problems in the bud. Don't wait until it's time to go to bed to try and pray.
- 24. Make friends with Godly people.
- 25. Keep a folder of favorite scriptures on hand.
- 26. Remember that the shortest bridge between despair and hope is often a good "Thank you, Jesus."
- 27. Laugh.
- 28. Laugh some more!
- 29. Take your work seriously but not yourself at all.
- 30. Develop a forgiving attitude (most people are doing the best they can).
- 31. Be kind to unkind people (they probably need it the most).
- 32. Sit on your ego.
- 33. Talk less; listen more.
- 34. Slow down.
- 35. Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe.
- 36. Every night before bed, think of one thing you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before.

GOD HAS A WAYOF TURNING THINGS AROUND FOR YOU.

"If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31)

