

# PRAYER LIST

**DANNY ANTHONY**, Edna Toole's cousin - cancer  
**CHERYL BARRON**, Stan Raley's sister  
**BECKY BROWN**, Sherri Clopton's mom  
**LINDA BULLOCK**, medical issues/tests; Covid  
**LINDA COLLIE**, knee surgery recovery; Anderson South, moved to room 312; would like visitors  
**ALAN DES ORMEAUX**, Vinson friend; cancer  
**ROBERT DUNCAN**, Andy's brother, health issues  
**TAMMIE DUNN**, Linda Bullock's daughter  
**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**  
**CHARLENE RALEY**, Stan's mom – health issues  
**STAN RALEY**  
**GRADY RICHARDSON**, Angela Duncan's dad  
**AL ST. CLAIR**  
**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  
**DICK VINSON**, Bladder Cancer; surgery 6/17  
**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**

# ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

August 29 : Glenda Rives  
August 30 : Will Parker  
September 4 : Betty Lewis

## A Growing Church

Author Unknown

An elder called on a member of the church for a social visit. The conversation turned to the work of the church. They talked of the progress that had been made and how the Lord had blessed their efforts through the past years. Yet both agreed that other things were needed.

"It seems to me," said the member, "That the church is always needing something. Every time we meet, there is a plea for more giving and more workers."

"You are right, my brother," replied the elder. "The church is always needing something. I had a little boy who needed something. One week it was shoes, another clothes, then lunch money, bus fare, spending money. I thought he asked too much. He hasn't asked for anything for years now. He quit needing anything from me. You see, he died one night. And there are times when I would give anything to hear him ask for something just once more. I realized after it was too late, how much happiness I found, even in his begging. Perhaps you have never missed the church. It has always been there when you needed it, and you have taken it for granted. Frankly I confess I did not know how little I did for my son until it was too late.

So it is with the church. As long as the church stands, it will have needs. When it quits needing something, it will be dead. A dead church cannot offer a living hope to a dying world. The church that has no needs fills none."

# Are All "Believers" Children Of God?

Garland M. Robinson

No, all believers are not children of God. In fact, there are scores of people who "believe" in Jesus but are not saved. To properly understand this question, as with any Bible question, we must "*rightly divide the word of truth*" (2 Timothy 2:15). In the Bible, the word "believe" is used in two different ways. It is used of those who believe in the sense that they have a mental acceptance of God and Jesus his Son. And, it is also used in the sense of those who not only believe, but act or work upon the basis of their belief. It is clear there are many today, just as there were in the Lord's time, who "believe on him" but do not obey his commandments. We read in John 12:42-43, "*Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.*" James even describes de-mons who believe but obviously do not obey. "*Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble*" (James 2:19). No one would think the demons in hell will be saved! The Bible often uses the word "believe" as a figure of speech called a synecdoche, where "a part is put for the whole." That is, one thing is stated but obviously includes much more. For example, 1 Corinthians 1:21 says, "*...it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*" This is not just an acknowledgement of Jesus, but a full obedience to his commands. It is belief or faith that saves because it is an active or living faith. James records, "*But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? ... For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead al-so*" (2:20,26). Children of God are only those believers who OBEY his commands. Jesus said, "*And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say*" (Luke 6:46; cf. Matthew 7:21-23). Jesus commanded faith in Him (John 8:24), repentance of sins (Luke 13:3,5), confession of faith in Him (Matthew 10:32-33) and water baptism (Mark 16:16) in order to be children of God. Those who have left out even one of these commandments are not true believers and, therefore, not children of God!

Crossville Church of Christ ♦ PO Box 211 ♦ Crossville, TN 38557

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