



Christmas cards, Birthday cards, Valentine's Day cards! We all love to receive them, especially with a heartfelt personal note or letter of encouragement from family, friends, neighbors or associates. Americans bought, stamped, sealed and sent 6.5 billion greeting cards and 158 billion personal letters last year, not including emails, texts or tweets. As you start the new year, here is a powerful reminder from our God.... ***"you are a letter of Christ... written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God"*** (2Cor 3:2-3). If you are a follower of Christ, the Father has **bought** you with the price of His Son (1 Peter 1:18; 1 Cor 6:2), **stamped** you as a new man (1 Cor 5:17), **sealed** you with the Holy Spirit (Eph 1:13), and is now **sending** you into 2014

as His personal greeting card to proclaim His character through grace-fueled life. Our prayer for you is that when others 'read' your life this year they will see Christ, hear of His love, taste His mercy and hunger for the eternal life offered by Christ as our Living Word (John 1:1-3, 12)!

Ministry Prayer Requests:

MEN'S FORUMS We are launching a new Q&A outreach rhythm in each of our forums this Spring. Pray as men survey their friends to find out what questions that would ask Jesus. We will collate these and take the 2-3 most prevalent topics and have a special forum to answer these from God's Word during **Feb 10-14**. Pray that God would increase his Kingdom through this effort.

DISCIPLESHIP Pray for the 50 men involved in GRIP, that they would have prayerful insight into how to help their disciple, their families, and their unbelieving friends take a next spiritual step. Pray that each GRIP man's heart would be so gripped by God's love that he would GROW in his love-motivated obedience.

OUTREACH Pray for us as we follow-up with those who participated in the wired Shootout and Father's Forum outreach events at the end of last year and for our Forum outreach in February.

DAYBREAK CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER Join millions of other believers during the month of January to pray for a cause that is clearly on God's heart- Life! Several of our male mentors will speak briefly at various churches in Columbia during this month. Continue to pray for more male mentors. Pray that these boyfriends would choose eternal life for themselves and life for their unborn kids. Praise for the expansion of leadership (Henry Flowers and Stephen Shales) in the male mentor arena.

FLM MISSION TRIPS Focused Living will sponsor two cross cultural mission trips this summer. The trip to Guatemala will happen **July 12-19**. The tentative dates for the trip to Belize are **June 7-14**. Pray that God would put it on the hearts of men in our forums and GRIP discipleship to take advantage of these opportunities.

CALENDAR ITEMS FOR PRAYER

January 13-17 Forums relaunch for Spring season

January 31-Feb 2 FLM Core Couples Retreat

February 3 GRIP Discipleship Large Gathering

February 6 Advance Men's conference in Clinton, SC

February 7-9 David speaking at Fellowship Bible Church men's retreat

February 23 David preaching at Columbia Crossroads

Personal Prayer Requests:

BOWERS FAMILY

Perry – My focus word for the year is “delight” in that I want to understand how the Father delights in me apart from my performance, so that I can delight to do His will (Psalm 40:8).

Janet -- Trying to recuperate from a bout with the flu over the holidays so my prayer request is for wisdom in rebuilding my immune system and getting REGULAR exercise. (You've seen that request before so you know it is an ongoing weakness needing to be addressed.) Additionally, I desire to be faithful in worshipping Christ daily and to consistently be in prayer for those whom God sets on my heart.

Joy and Eddie -- Wisdom, energy and consistency in parenting four children ages 7 down to 1 1/2. Good communication in marriage. Adjustment to Eddie's new job with the McClellan Foundation as overseer for projects granted by this non-profit organization operating out of Chattanooga.

Megan and Marc -- Praise God for the healthy addition to their family, Logan Marcus Hunsaker, born 11/5/13. Logan is bringing much joy (even if it means a little less sleep) to their home in Michigan where Marc works part-time for and studies at Michigan State in the PhD program and Megan teaches art full time in a charter school. Pray for adjustments for Hannah in a new pre-school where she and brother Logan will be well cared for three days a week. Otherwise, Marc does a great job holding down the home front amidst his studies. Keep Megan in your prayers as she faces "chilly morning car duty" each day. Marc continues to have some health concerns pursued through testing. Thus far all results have come back favorably so they are grateful for God's sovereign care.

ANDES FAMILY

David and Katherine - Pray for our faithfulness in praying together as a couple. May that time be our rich delight☺ Pray that we would treasure Jesus supremely and that our times in His Word would be all about relationship. Finally, pray that our daily “routine” would include our neighbors.

Austin (15) – Praise that the medical issues related to his liver have been resolved! Pray that his physical therapy 2X a week will have a positive effect on his spine curvature (24%). Pray for Austin's transition to having a puppy in the house (Arrived Jan 12☺). Pray that he would overcome his fears and truly enjoy this new friend.

Cameron's (11) – Pray in Proverb 12:27 *“A lazy man does not roast his prey, But the precious possession of a man is diligence.”* Pray that Cameron would put himself “all in” to his various endeavors. We are trusting that God will use this new puppy, Scout, to show His love to Cameron in new ways.