



As a new vegetable gardener I (David) use work gloves to prepare the soil, spread compost and pull up old plants. I don't expect my gloves to do that work...that is my job. I do, however, expect my gloves to **respond** to every movement and desire of my hands. Think about it. The #1 responsibility of a glove is **NOT** to do the work but to **respond, surrender and obey** the hand's every move, desire and command.

As a follower of Christ, I'm like a glove. The Hand inside my life is Christ, in that the Holy Spirit indwells me. He does the labor as I respond to His love and grace. He supplies the elbow grease as I experience His grace. He provides the power as I give Him the praise. He does the work while I give Him the worship. As a fellow gardener committed to helping men grow strong in Christ, the apostle Paul

described the principle of the glove this way: **"It is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.... For the love of Christ controls us"** (Phil 2:13; 2Cor 5:14).

As you navigate this fall, join the men of Focused Living by asking, "As a glove, how responsive have I been to the Lord? Have I been stiff, crusty or resistant? Am I available and eager to be used by His Hand to do any kind of work, whether clean or dirty? Have I proudly been trying to do the work of marriage, parenting, business or church on my own efforts or trusting Him? Have I been unmotivated by a list of things to do or enthusiastic in response to His love? **"You are My servant...Do not fear, for I am with (in) you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."** (Isaiah 41:9-10)



### *Ministry Prayer Requests*

#### **MEN'S FORUMS**

Our 8 Men's Forums are off and running! Already we have seen men come to Christ, recommit their lives to God and rekindle their desire to grow strong in the Lord. Our theme this fall will be **"G:love"** where we will be looking at the life of Moses to discover how God's hand worked for 120 years to make him a 'responsive glove.' Pray that many men will catch the vision of inviting their seeking friends and that the marriages, families and city of our state will soon experience the servant leadership of 100s of godly men becoming so focused on Christ that they are living for Christ!

#### **DISCIPLESHIP**

Having trained/oriented the leaders, we will be kicking off a 10 month season of GRIP discipleship starting October 7 and meeting the first Mondays each month. Pray that these 50 FAT-R (Faithful, Available, Teachable, Reproducing) will multiply to reach many others.

**OUTREACH** Pray that unchurched men will respond to Christ as they are challenged to rethink their "aim" at our Wired **Shootout on October 19<sup>th</sup>**. Pray also for the several **Father Forums** and **Magnificent Marriage Forums** being planned in the pipeline for this next month before Thanksgiving.

#### **DAYBREAK CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER**

Praise God for the 17 faithful Male Mentors who cover each month so we can help many young fathers to get connected to God the Father through Jesus Christ. Please be much in prayer as we are still in desperate need for 23 more Male mentors. Praise God also that not only was the Henry Flowers Abortion survivor video paid for, but we were able to give a sizable gift of \$5100 to Daybreak from extra monies that came in for this project. It is so good to partner with this ministry.

#### **FISHING HOLES**

Pray as David goes fishing in his tennis times and Perry as he trolls for spiritually searching cyclists that they might have compassionate boldness to proclaim the Gospel and encourage men to consider the claims of Christ.

#### **CALENDAR ITEMS FOR PRAYER**

**October 6-12** Revive Columbia prayer meetings throughout the week.

**October 13<sup>th</sup>** Core meeting

**October 19<sup>th</sup>** Shootout Wired Event

**November 9<sup>th</sup>** David speaking at Columbia Crossroads men's retreat

**November 17<sup>th</sup>** David preaching at Columbia Crossroads

## ***Personal Prayer Requests:***

### **BOWERS FAMILY**

**Perry** – Pacing himself and learning to trust God even more in the day to day things that "don't go as planned". More discipline to get better rest each night: stop and just go to bed!

**Janet** - Continued discipline in a new exercise nutrition plan. Peaceful trust as I "plan" to go to Michigan in time for Megan's delivery due 11/8 ... but Hannah came two weeks early. Trusting God on several situations that are "out of my control or ownership."

**Joy and Eddie Centurion** – burdened for the devastation incurred by Acapulco and other areas close by due to the recent hurricane and earthquake in that area. **If God wills and funds come in**, they will travel there together on a short term disaster relief trip October 20-26. Can Perry and Janet watch the kids along with additional helpers?? They ask also for continued wisdom in parenting for their four wonderful, active, growing children.

**Megan and Marc Hunsaker:** Praise God that Hannah is adjusting well to the challenge of pottyng on her own at her preschool. Prayer for preparation on ALL fronts as the birth of their son approaches. He is due 11/8 ---- BUT his big sister came two weeks early...

### **ANDES FAMILY**

**David** – Pray that David would glean what God wants him to get as he “mines” Proverbs for parenting principles. Pray also for favor with neighbors as he hosts a Father’s Forum.

**Katherine** – Praise that the schedule this fall has fallen into place (school car pool, therapists, continuing ed class, kid’s activities.) Pray that she would make herself available for Kingdom Building opportunities this fall.

**Austin (15)** – Praise that Austin’s transition into High School is going pretty smoothly. The school is working on pairing him with a buddy in the cafeteria so he can socialize even more! Pray for patience for us as we work with Austin’s doctor to figure out some wacky blood numbers. (He is off all meds and supplements until we get it figured out. Being off these has made it hard for him to pay attention.)

**Cameron’s (10)** – We are thankful for his extracurricular involvement at school (lego robotics club, math Olympians club, year book). He is also involved in a musical (January performance), learning the violin, and AWANA’s. Continue to pray that Cameron would learn how to be a kind and considerate friend to his peers in all these settings.