

Please complete this slip and place it in the oak box to the right of the door as you leave.

We value relationships. This helps us get better acquainted and helps us better serve you. Thanks!

**I/We are:**

- 1<sup>st</sup>  2<sup>nd</sup>  3<sup>rd</sup> time Guests  Regular attenders

**I/We heard about Word of Life**

from: \_\_\_\_\_

**I/We would like:**

- the pastor to call me
- to request a Stephen Minister
- to be baptized into Jesus
- to attend the next membership course

Adult Name(s) *Please Print* \_\_\_\_\_

Youth/Children (grade) \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete unless our information is current:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Her Email \_\_\_\_\_

Her Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Provider \_\_\_\_\_

His Email \_\_\_\_\_

His Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Provider \_\_\_\_\_

Needs, Questions or Comments \_\_\_\_\_

## Word of Life Family Prayer List

**We Thank the Lord...**

- for bringing peace even through division, conflict, and the swords of repentance, temptation, testing, for giving joy, strength and life even through suffering and death
- for our guests and all who invited and brought them
- for \$516,333 given to our *Therefore Go* building fund
- for a wonderful and full Christmas Eve Candlelight service
- for all He has done for us this year
- for a new job and for travel mercies (**Mobley**)
- for Ken & Patti Mitschke and the people of Word of Life (**Myers**)
- for **Peggy Myers'** presence and service at Word of Life Fellowship
- for the blessings and resources He has entrusted to our care and His promise to multiply them to build a bigger heaven and better lives.

**We Ask the Lord...**

- to inspire and empower us to expose evil deeds and withstand worldly anger, to turn to our Savior, follow God's will and fully rely on God through trouble, and experience greater joy, strength and life
- to bless missionary pastor Gregory Lorenz and the people of St. Paul as they reach out to people in McAllen, TX and beyond
- to bless our attenders, community, state, nation and world
- to bless all leaders with godly wisdom and guide them to lead according to His will
- to bless victims of violence, oppression and disaster
- for peace and justice in Israel
- for sobriety for those with addictions
- to restore broken marriages, engage unengaged parents, heal broken families, reconcile estranged family members
- to bless **Peggy Myers'** move to Ft. Worth, near her daughter
- for employment opportunities for **Jayme Edwards, Dennis Hatfield**
- to bless and protect our deployed troops and their families, especially **Matthew Brooks**
- for a safe pregnancy and delivery for Joy and Michael Silva (**Fennigkoh**), Trinity and Logan Nearing (**Leal**), Samantha and Jadon Kempers (**Stemmermann**)
- to grant comfort and peace in their last days to Audrey Abel (**Mitschke**), Phyllis Thompson Molina (**Molina**), Bernard Sowinski (**Valentine**) and grant strength and rest to their families and caregivers
- for the family and friends of James Baumgartner (**Edwards**) as they mourn his death
- to bless Cecilia Friesenhahn & her family (**Flowers**)
- to heal **Audry-Anna Edwards, Mary Flowers, Suzi Malone, Peggy Myers, Denise Bruce, Neil & Jean Craigmile, Joyce Givens, Clarice Craigmile (Craigmile), Edna Robbins, Amber Lozano (Dominguez), Omi, Bethany (Dunaway), Daniel Muller (Grossart), Tracy Parks (Hatfield), David Young, Leonard Mitschke, Iris Trahan, Alex Murray, Benny & Lillian Mitschke, Pastors Walter Dube, David Goeke (Mitschke), Baby Zayn (Molina), Diana Murray (Murray), Carson (Nightingale), Clayton (Pawelek), Phil (Peterson), David Rubel (Rubel), Heather Zakarian (Smith), Bud, Riley (Stemmermann), Beth Roberts, Evan Hance (Stevens), Jeanie Rosenburg, Tonja Brewer (Vallejo), Rita (Wallrich), Jeff Rayburn, Walter, Colleen Weissmann (Weissmann), Eric Hairston (Williams)**
- to heal those battling cancer: Linda Sue Southard (**Apao**), Janice Tolin (**Bruce**), Monica Mann (**Christiansen**), Guy Morgan (**Craigmile**), Betty Ruff (**Dominguez**), Rhonda Reyes, Kris Frett, Margaret Swartz (**Edwards**), Shelby Renton (**Hatfield**), Neva Atkinson (**Johnson**), Pastors Ken Lieber & Wayne Graumann, Laurine Watson, Kathy Jennings (**Mitschke**), Maria Molina (**Molina**), Meredith Powell (**Nightingale**), Sebastian Hernandez (**Paxton**), Dave Peterson (**Peterson**), Robyn Tate, James Corbin (**Stevens**), Adrian Russell (**Vallejo**), Terry Walker (**Wagner**), John Gray (**Weissmann**)
- to help those we now name in our hearts and minds
- to connect people to Jesus and His kingdom.

Please take this home so you may review and apply this week's LifeLesson and keep your Word of Life family in your prayers throughout the week. Please keep this list current by sharing updates on your Info slip.

## Word of Life Fellowship

December 31, 2023

Traditional 8:30 am

Contemporary 9:45 am

Contemporary 11:00 am

213 Coy Lane

Cibolo, Texas 78108

210-566-2237

[www.WordofLife4u.com](http://www.WordofLife4u.com)

BetterLife@WordofLife4u.com

*Building a bigger heaven & better lives!*

*LifeLesson Notes for:*

## Sword and Peace

*Christmas 1*

### 1. A sword will divide people.

Luke 2:34-35 (NIV) Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

How does a surgeon bring peace (all is wellness) to your body if it has a tumor?

Matthew 10:34 (NIV) – [Jesus said,] "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword."

Jesus does NOT incite violence (Matthew 26:52). But following Jesus brings \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus makes people \_\_\_\_\_, yet through struggle and strife, peace comes.

John 3:19-20 (NIV) - Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.

Living an honest, moral life, will \_\_\_\_\_ cheating at school, lying at work, corruption in government, racism in the neighborhood and gossip at church.

Timothy Keller - "The manger at Christmas means that, if you live like Jesus, there won't be room for you in a lot of inns."

**Over for Requests/Thanksgivings & RSVP**

Roman culture was virtually flooded with \_\_\_\_\_ and mystery religions.

Christianity had no priests, sacrifices or temples and they saw sacrificing to any other god as \_\_\_\_\_.

Intolerant Christians were seen as a \_\_\_\_\_ to that religiously pluralistic society.

Early \_\_\_\_\_ were often disowned and disinherited by their families, excluded from positions in government, cut out of the best business deals, and on occasion, physically abused, imprisoned and killed.

Our culture increasingly sees Christians as dangerously \_\_\_\_\_ and a threat to society and freedom.

1 Corinthians 6:19b-20a (NIV) - Jesus says, "You are not your own; you were bought at a price."

If some people got mad at Jesus, some people will get mad at \_\_\_\_\_ too.

## 2. A sword will pierce your own soul too.

Mary treasured and pondered God's Word told by angels, Joseph, shepherds, wise men and others, but she did \_\_\_\_\_ expect Jesus' early, terrible suffering and death.

For Mary and the disciples, the cross was the bloody, incomprehensible end to all their hopes and dreams – a \_\_\_\_\_ that pierced their own souls.

If you have been united with Jesus in His baptism, His Word and His Communion, a sword will pass through \_\_\_\_\_ too.

Many struggles end when you're given faith: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, better \_\_\_\_\_. But there are new struggles that come along with faith in Christ.

God's peace comes after the sword of \_\_\_\_\_, of turning away from sin and toward the Savior.

God's peace comes after the sword of \_\_\_\_\_, of following God's will rather than our own.

God's peace comes after the sword of \_\_\_\_\_, of learning from suffering, of fully relying on God through trouble rather than shrinking into self-pity and cowardice.

God's Word through Simeon reminds us Christians should \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to struggle and suffer on the way to peace.

Jesus brought peace and reconciliation \_\_\_\_\_ the conflict and agony of the \_\_\_\_\_.

In Genesis 3:24 God cuts humanity off from the near presence of God and the tree of life with "a \_\_\_\_\_."

Since "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23), in the days before Jesus, substitute animals go under the \_\_\_\_\_ every time sin is forgiven.

Once and for all, Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ from the near presence of God, utterly alone and forsaken even by His Father (Matthew 27:46), and He receives the descending \_\_\_\_\_ of punishment for our sins (Isaiah 53:8).

The battle Jesus fought for us was \_\_\_\_\_ than anything he allows us to endure.

While Jesus was at one point alone, Jesus Christ is with you \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 28:20).

Through every sword there is greater \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for you and others.

## Prayer Requests/Thanksgivings:

Confidential - for pastor only

Please **PRINT CLEARLY**

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These requests/thanksgivings may be removed:

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I want to invite the following people to Word of Life. Please pray for them and me.

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# RSVP

## Community Invited

Yes! I'm interested in:

- Financial Peace University (improve finances)
- Prepare/Enrich (marriage preparation/enrichment)
- GriefShare (grief group)
- Parenting Course (behavior management)
- Celebrate Recovery (overcome hurts and habits)
- Stephen Ministry (Christian care)
- Fresh Start with God (discovery/membership course)

Name(s)

Preferred Contact(s)