

**My son/daughter, do not forget my teaching, But let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Do not let kindness and truth leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight”** Proverbs 3:1-6 (NASB, italics mine)

Have you ever prayed for God to cut your life short, or for more turmoil, worry, and anxiety? I didn't think so. I sure haven't, but I have prayed for good health, growing old together with Susie, deliverance from troubles, and peace, more times than I can remember.

There are many ways to live our lives, which, by the way, doesn't mean there are many ways to heaven (Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven, John 14:6). You can live a rotten life, a constant drama life, a self-centered life, a serving life, a hoarding life, a pleasure-seeking life, a good life, a godless life, an unfulfilling life, a wasteful life, a trouble-making life, ... But the best life is to live a God-pleasing, God-glorifying, and blessing-others life, the kind of life God likes to add to.

If we are honest, we spend way too much time, energy, and money trying to add all kinds of things to our lives and not enough time and energy on developing the kind of heart, mindset, habits, and lifestyle that God blesses and loves to add to. That's what the instruction Proverbs you read above is about. That's what we need to teach and model to our children and grandchildren.

Now it is important to remember that Proverbs is a book of wisdom and not a book of promises. Following its wisdom puts and keeps you on the right path, makes you wiser and increases your discernment, helps you to live a righteous and God-pleasing life, dramatically increases the probability of good outcomes, and ultimately prepares you to give a good accounting of the life God has given you.

We will never find more life and lasting/eternal peace apart from God's/Christ's teaching and commandments. **“Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?”** Luke 12:25 (NIV). There are things only God can do, length of life, giving eternal life, and peace are among them.

He got 15 more years, Hezekiah that is. After becoming “mortally ill,” he cried out to God for healing. God heard him, healed him, and added another 15 years to his life (2 Kings 20:1-7). Great story, and then, Hezekiah packs it in, succumbs to 15/0 vision, settles for showing off, living the “good” life, and doesn't give a hoot for what comes after him. When the prophet Isaiah predicted coming judgment Hezekiah didn't lead the nation in repentance, instead we read, **“The word of the LORD you have spoken is good,” Hezekiah replied. For he thought, ‘Will there not be peace and security in my lifetime?’”** 2 Kings 20:19 (NIV).

I hope you'll take Proverbs 3:1-6 (and all the rest of God's written words, the Bible) to heart and shoot for straight paths, a long life, and peace. But I also pray you and I won't make that the end goal, pull a Hezekiah, and waste those added years, that peace, God's blessings, on ourselves. **“You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love”** Galatians 5:13 (NIV, italics mine). The goal is to have a “good repute” with both God and man. For that to happen, whatever God adds needs to also flow out, or else we will become like the Dead Sea, which swallows up the life-giving water of the Jordan and turns it into a lifeless salty brine.

This might be a great time to skip back to the top and read Proverbs 3:1-6 again, to commit or recommit yourself to its instruction, go all out in living it, watch for God to bless it, and hope for others (even your enemies) to be blessed through it.

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



# Lord Hear Our Prayers

## PRAYER REQUEST

The Cox Family, Bob Sykes, Steve Prinz,  
Amy Watts & baby Wyatt, Antonio (surgery),  
Derrill Coffman (surgery), those dealing with addiction,  
those who have lost family members, those who have  
lost their homes due to fire,

## SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray,  
Farney, Peter, Jimmy, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

## Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing, Noah Martin,  
John Michael Chavez, Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker,  
Brian Sula, Thomas Hoffman, Joel Thelen,  
Clayton Brown, Jonathan Grinols, Joshua Grabowski,  
Christopher Sula, Dylan Briggs

## CARD & FLOWER MINISTRY

If you know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized, please let us  
know by calling: **Lynnette Barrera** – (559)400-1862 &  
Prayer Request e-mail to: **Judy Mahar**  
**ldpbcpayer@gmail.com**

## **Church Board Members:**

Hans Frei - Pastor . Richard Mayes - Head Deacon ,  
Sue Kluding, Gabi Cox, Chuck Arndt, Barb Deibler

# August Announcements

## Upcoming Events

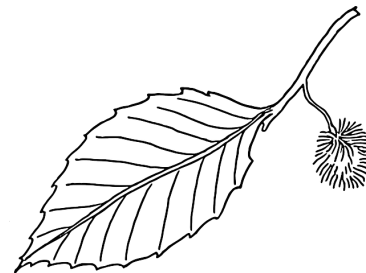
- Men's Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:00 P.M.
- Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages - 7:00 P.M.
- Food Ministry - 1st Wed. & 3rd Tues. @ 9:00 AM - 11:00 A.M.
  - **GriefShare** - Wednesday @ 6:30 PM
  - **Women on Higher Ground Retreat 9/27 - 9/29**

For more information contact De-Leta or see poster in the Foyer  
Registration must be turned in by August 19th

Fellowship Time Snacks were provided  
By - "*Dennis' Class*"

**Thank you**

*Next week "Beverly's Class & Youth" are up!!*



**FALL**  
FALL

Is Coming

## Giving

August 18, 2024

**Offering:**  
\$1,443.00

**Facilities:**  
\$.00

**Books & Material:**  
\$.00

**Food:**  
\$10.00

**Attendance:**  
86

## Weekly Events

### Sunday School/Small Groups:

9:00 AM

### Sunday Morning Worship Service:

10:30 AM

### Sunday Evening Worship Service:

6:00 PM

**Tuesday:** Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

### 1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday

#### Food Ministry:

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

#### Wednesday:

Women's Bible Study - On Hiatus

GriefShare - 6:30 PM

Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM

**Thursday:** Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

**Saturday:** Youth HangOut - 6-9 PM

## Lake Don Pedro Baptist Church

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La Grange California 95329

209-852-2029

ldpbaptistchurch@gmail.com

www.ldpbaptistchurch.com

LAKE DON PEDRO  
BAPTIST CHURCH

# Be Saved

Acts 4:12

**Sunday Services** 10:30am & 6:00pm

LDPbaptistchurch.com



## August 26 - September 1st

DAY 1 - 1 Kings 3-4  
(Job 32-33)

DAY 2 - 1 Kings 5-6  
(Job 34-35)

DAY 3 - 1 Kings 7-8  
(Job 36-37)

DAY 4 - 1 Kings 9-10  
(Job 38-39)

DAY 5 - 1 Kings 11-12  
(Job 40-41)

DAY 6 - (Job 42)

DAY 7 - (Psalms 90)

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.