

- SICK:**
 - Allison Spurgin- Was in a very serious car accident. She’s in ICU at Norman Regional Health Plex with brain bleed, with more surgery to come. (daughter of Marsha Ayers).
 - Gary Hart- Underwent quadruple heart surgery, Sunday, August 11 at the Oklahoma Heart Hospital in OKC. Surgery went well. Going home to recuperate.
 - Levi Taylor- Fell and injured his knee. He is going to have a few intensive surgeries to repair the injured knee. (Son of Troy & LaRae Taylor)
 - Dr. Todd Fisher- Okla Baptist- Dr. Fisher has very serious injuries due to an auto accident. He is now in rehab.
 - Norma Wells- Grandson has been diagnosed with a rare disease.
 - John Skinner- Leg & blood clot issues.
 - Jean Skinner- Ulcer issues (parents of Renee Hardage)
 - Noel Ritter- Has a serious brain injury(great niece of Barbara Moeller)
 - Donna Campbell- Expecting in September, pray the baby will be fine.Update: doctors will be checking baby’s heart next week.
 - Patti Rhea- Her esophagus has narrowed, not allowing her to eat or swallow. Patti is now home recuperating.
 - Denise Campbell - Having Kidney issues.
 - Ellen Gatliff- Diagnosed with Cancer, now taking chemo

ONGOING:
 - Cole LaBarre- Had brain surgery causing a stroke, trauma to his left side leaving him blind. Still doing therapy & speech with movement starting to come back.Update: He is walking alone now, short distances and his sight has returned a tiny bit in both eyes. (Cole is the great, great nephew of Brenda Bell)
 - Randy Newman- Heart issues
 - Awanda Glover- Health issues
 - Cindy Johnson- Health issues
 - Beth Mercer- Health issues
 - Marcia & Charles Elkins- Health issues
 - Tommy Morgan-Lost his left eye to infection and has a prosthesis and has glaucoma in his right eye and cancer. Update: Chemo treaments started back up on August 8th. Please pray for safe travels and God’s hand in the treatments.
 - Mr. & Mrs. Bill Looney
 - Mike Finley- Has MS and has back & pain issues.
 - Daymond McGaughey- Health issues
 - Bud Hoskin- Health Issues (Brother of Michael Hoskin)
 - Connie McCoy- Update: Connie is adjusting to the changes needed for her heart condition. (Friend of April Bowden).

- Evelyn Ard- Has Kidney failure and Dementia, lives in Georgia (Mother of Tiffany Burris)
 - David Ellsworth- Pray for heart healing and less anxiety.
 - Harold Gaches- Health Issues (Lead Pastor of FBC West).
 - Sheila Newman- Doing well after hip replacement surgery.
 - Jerry Phelps- Recovering at home.
 - Dave Hardison- Recovering at home.

OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS PRAYER REQUESTS:
Shane Kammerer, Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) Director of University of Oklahoma (OU)

- Pray God will provide for the BCM’s budget and ministry needs.
- Pray student leaders would be faithful to verbally declare the Gospel and that true repentance would sweep across OU.
- Pray BCM leaders develop the crucial habits of connecting daily with God, Obeying His Word completely, and equipping God’s people for the rest of their lives.

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION:
Brenda and Doug Lee, Chaplain at Great Plains Health, North Platte, NE

- Pray for our Chaplain Staff as we encounter patients in some of the most difficult times in their lives while in the hospital and as we support and encourage our staff.

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THE WEEKLY WORDS
BRANDON THOMPSON
STUDENT MINISTER

Wrestling with Will

When I was a kid, wrestling with my dad was one of my favorite things. We played this game where if I got too close to him, he would grab me with his legs or tie my arms up so I could not get loose. The only way I could get out was to say, “calf rope.” Looking back, I still don’t know why he made me say that, but that tradition of wrestling has continued with my nephew Will and me, along with saying, “calf rope” to be freed. Will is a quick little fella (he didn’t get those genes from my side of the family). In our game, he will get close, run away, and dodge my grip, but occasionally, he gets too brave, and I’ll snatch him up. Our wrestling match always goes the same way; he tries to squirm free, starts laughing, and then demands me to let him go. I tell him he

must say the magic words, but he refuses (he gets those genes from my side). Eventually, Will caves and says, “calf rope,” and I let him loose. In all the countless times I wrestled my Dad and Will has wrestled me, I cannot recall anyone getting hurt. You would think a 40-lb kid wrestling with a 270-lb grown man would not end well for the kid, but it always does. Why? The answer is super apparent. I care about Will, and even though I am bigger and stronger, I always handle him with gentleness and respect. Our interactions with the world should be similar to the wrestling match with my nephew. The most quoted verse in apologetics is 1 Peter 3:15: “But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, but with gentleness and respect.”It is easy to forget the last couple of words in that verse. We are armed with the truth when we share the gospel or confront culture. It’s like a 270-lb guy

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wrestling with a 40-lb kid. The way we share matters. Instead of delivering mean, brutal blows, I encourage you to surround them with the gospel’s truth, wrap them up tightly, and let the Holy Spirit do the work. Let them be frustrated at the situation, but not you. They may be stubborn, it may take time, it may never happen, but we cannot continue to fight the same way as the world does. My prayer is that you are given opportunities to share the gospel in the following weeks and that when those opportunities arise, you do so with care, gentleness, and respect. Before you type that mean comment online, share that ugly post about the world, attack a friend, or spar with a co-worker at the water cooler, remember you are wrestling with Will.

