



## Prayer Concerns – Week of 18 October 2020:

### Sending Healing Prayers

- **Family of Jim Elmquist – Peace during their grief**
- **Danielle W. – Covid + -- Pray – Continued recovery – 10/08/20**
- **Brian H. – HOME! – Pray – Continued improvement – 10/09/20(upd)**
- Vicki B. – Cancer diagnosis – Pray – Speedy resolution and remission – 09/27/20
- Lynn D. – Fell, slight concussion, bruising – Pray– Healing – 09/27/20
- Kym M. – Serious abdominal issues – Pray – Answers & Cure – 09/25/20
- Becky F. – Health concerns – Pray – Answers and cures soon – 09/18/20
- Cheryl S. – Covid test positive – Pray – Recovery, no side effects – 09/18/20
- Quentin – Transplant complications – Pray – Resolution, courage, recovery – 09/11/20 (upd)
- Taola – Movement on right side – Pray – Continued healing – 08/30/20 (upd)
- Connie K. – Chemo for cancer, post surgery – Pray – Success & Remission – 08/22/20
- Mary – Leukemia, bone-marrow transplant – Pray– Success and remission – 08/13/20
- People of Beirut Lebanon – Pray -- Courage & Peace in your recovery!
- M – Cancer – Pray – Remission – 08/07/20
- David – Liver Cancer – Pray – Successful Chemotherapy – 07/26/20
- Mark N. – recovery after having a colectomy – Pray – Successful healing – 07/31/20 (upd)
- Randee C. – Tumor found on brain – Pray – Speedy resolution & cure – 07/20/2020
- Jay N. – Stage 4 cancer – Pray – Complete remission – 07/20/2020
- Anyone frightened by this CoVid-19 thing – Pray – Comfort in knowing Christ has their backs!
- All schools, military, churches, and others – Pray – Safe from the virus!

## Max – Cont'd

How much sadness would evaporate if every person simply chose to believe this: *I was made for God's glory and am being made into his image.* Would you let this truth find its way into your heart? You were conceived by God before you were conceived by your parents. You were loved in heaven before you were known on earth. You are not an accident. You aren't a random fluke of genetics or evolution. You aren't defined by the number of pounds you weigh, followers you have, car you drive, or clothes you wear. You are made in God's image. Print that on your resume. You are a diamond, a rose, and a jewel, purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ. In the eyes of God you are worth dying for. Would you let this truth define the way you see yourself?

*Would you let this truth define the way you see other people?* Every person you see was created by God to bear his image and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. This means that *all* people deserve to be seen for who they are: image-bearers of God. Imagine the impact this promise would have upon the society that embraced it. What civility it would engender! What kindness it would foster! *Racism will not flourish when people believe their neighbor bears God's image.* The fire of feuds will have no fuel when people believe their adversaries are God's idea. Will a man abuse a woman? Not if he believes she bears the stamp of God. Will a boss neglect an employee? Not if she believes the employee bears a divine spark. Will society write off the indigent, the mentally ill, the inmate on death row, or the refugee? Not if we believe, truly believe, that every human being is God's idea. And he has no bad ideas.

Parents and grandparents understand the implications of this truth. I recall when my daughter Jenna was pregnant with our first grandchild. She was round as a ladybug. Long before Jenna gave birth to Rosie, I loved our granddaughter. I'd never seen her, but I loved her. She'd done nothing to earn my love. But I loved her. She'd never brought me coffee or called me Papa. She'd never sung me a song or danced me a dance. She'd done nothing! Yet I loved her already. I would do anything for her. That is not hyperbole. Why? Why did I love her so? Because she carries some of me. A small part for sure, but a part of me, nonetheless.

Why does God love you with an everlasting love? It has nothing to do with you. It has everything to do with whose you are. You are his.

How can we respect our neighbors? What is God's solution to angry racism that gives birth to violence and bloodshed? Government programs might help. Lectures might enlighten. But, in the end, God's plan is the only plan: see every person on the planet as God's idea. And He has no bad ideas.

\_\_\_\_\_**Max Lucado**

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