



SHARING THE PEACE

A Newsletter from Peace Church Presbyterian

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Inviting ALL to flourish in the family of God, by inspiring them with the word of God, to become fully devoted to God.

Volume 20, Issue 1

January 2025

Why Pray? What good does it even do??

How many times have we seen in movies or TV shows, when a character needs something desperately, that they beg God in prayer, even promising to change a bad behavior or take a new good behavior, if God will just grant their wish? And how many times do we see that person get what they want, and immediately revert to the bad behavior? Maybe it's just part of our sinful human nature to bargain with God to get what we want, and then immediately go back on our end of the bargain. But is that kind of bargaining really what prayer is all about it?

People pray for all sorts of different reasons. Some of us pray for our loved ones and friends and even acquaintances that are in need to healing. Sometimes we pray for ourselves, to receive a change of heart or a change of our circumstances. Sometimes we pray for our country, or our leaders, or even strangers around the world who are in need of God's protections. Every Sunday in our worship service we pray for God's forgiveness of our sins. Sometimes, we might even just simply pray for God's will to be done.

But what is the actual effect of our prayers? What good does it do to pray? After all, we don't

always get what we want. We all know that sometimes God's answer to our prayer is, "no", or "not yet", or, "I know better what you need." And are we even giving God information God doesn't already know? I mean, of course God knows what we want and need. He knows who is sick



and in need of peace. He knows who is struggling in their faith and who needs to get closer to him. So we really aren't informing God of anything. So what IS the point of prayer?

I wonder if the point of prayer is less about getting what we want or need, and more about getting closer to the One we need the most. I wonder if perhaps the point of prayer is a change of our hearts rather than a change in someone else or of a situation. I think perhaps when we pray we are opening up a conduit to the one we need most of all, who can supply all our needs with his very presence. Sometimes I think the best thing that happens in prayer

is just that we receive more of that presence than we ever would if we didn't go to God in prayer. I believe truly that God's answers to our prayers often come in his still small voice of the Spirit, whispering in tones too soft to hear with our ears, but too big to ignore in our hearts.

Prayer is so much more than just asking for God to give us something or do something. And it is meant to be an open, two-way communication between God and his people. In 2025 we at Peace Church will be focused on prayer perhaps more than we ever have been. The leadership of our church has prayerfully discerned that God desires intimacy with us that will only be achieved through prayer. Our theme for 2025 will be prayer. We'll kick off that theme with a sermon series about prayer in the Bible. We'll examine many of the people in the Old Testament and New Testament to see why, how, and for what did they pray. We'll focus on not just what they said to God, but what God said to them. And perhaps we'll discover a new passion for prayer that will grow our faith and connect us to God and one another in new and powerful ways. Begin praying now for God to do just that! In Christ, Scott Cummings, Pastor James 5:16

Sun. Jan. 1	New Years Day!
Sun. Jan. 5	<u>Installation & Ordination of Elders</u>
Mon. Jan. 6	<u>7pm</u> Outreach Team Meeting
Sat. Jan. 11	<u>10am-12pm</u> Drive Through Prayer & Food Drive
Sun. Jan. 12	<u>12:30pm</u> Stewardship Team Meeting
Tues. Jan. 14	<u>7pm</u> Discipleship Team Meeting
Wed. Jan. 15	<u>7pm</u> "Wednesday Night Small Group at Big Horn BBQ or the Conrad's House
Sun. Jan. 19	<u>12:30pm</u> Session Meeting
Wed. Jan. 22	<u>7pm</u> "Wednesday Night Small Group at Big Horn BBQ or the Conrad's House
Wed. Jan. 29	<u>7pm</u> "Wednesday Night Small Group at Big Horn BBQ or the Conrad's House

JANUARY						
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



New Elders! Our new group of Elders will be ordained/installed at the 10am service on **Sunday, January 8th**. Shella Marshal & David Wilson will officially join the Session team. Many thanks to our outgoing Elders, Cay Cummings & Steve Zach!

NEW MISSION STATEMENT!

Inviting ALL to flourish in the family of God, by inspiring them with the word of God, to become fully devoted to God.

Tagline: Welcome to the family!

Values:

Inclusion: We include ALL because Christ included ALL of us when we didn't deserve it.

People: People missing from God's family matter to us because they matter to God.

Transformation: God loves us as we are but loves us too much to leave us as we are.

Inspiration: The Spirit empowers us to live out our mission in and outside the church.

Devotion: We're fully committed to Christ because he's fully committed to us.

Worship Team's January meeting is TBD.

Next Sermon Series: Prayers of the People! Prayer is the most universal language of faith. Almost all religions have some kind of prayer pattern that connects adherents to a deity. Christian prayers flow out of the Jewish tradition of prayer that is rooted in the Bible. But how exactly did people pray in scripture? Why did they pray & what did they pray for? We'll explore these questions and more in this new series based on prayers we find in the Bible. Pastor Scott and the Session (board of elders) have decided that 2025 will be a Year of Prayer at Peace Church! The Prayers of the People sermon series will trace the history of prayer in the Old and New Testaments and will help us get more connected to God and

one another in the new year! As part of the series, Pastor Scott is challenging the congregation to pray with 89 people who aren't part of our church over the course of the series, and mark those prayers with stones placed in the cross vase. This series will run **January 5th - March 2nd**. Join us and start PRAYING about who you will invite to join us in prayer for this series!



Holiday Worship Schedule: On **Sunday, January 5th**, we will resume our regular Sunday schedule with worship at 10am and Sunday School at 11:15am.

PeaceKids & PeaceYouth Sunday School: Children (PreK—4th grade) and youth (5th—12th grade) classes meet in-person at the church at **11:15am!** We'd love to have your kids join us!

Flowers for 2025: The sign-up sheet for January - April 2025 is available. Flower arrangements are \$25. You can give by check or online - just make sure your giving is designated for "Flowers" and the date you would like to sign up for.

Care Team's next meeting is **TBD**.

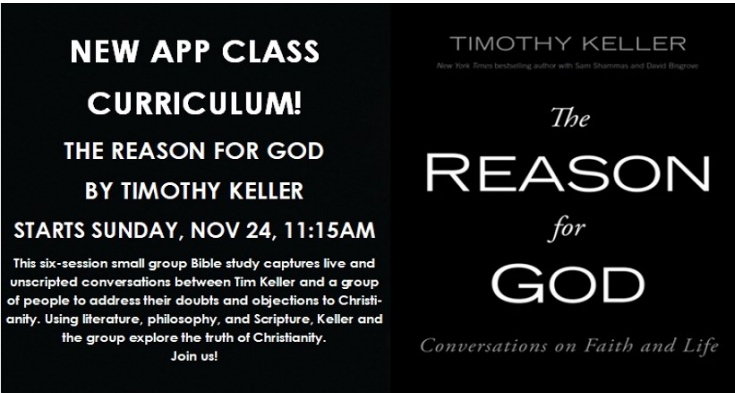
Congregational Care: Peace Church Care Team members strive to keep in touch with you. If there are needs, blessings, or prayer needs, you can let your Care Team Captain know. She will pass this information on to Pastor Scott Cummings. In Christ, Linda Spears Bell, Team Leader for Care Team

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Discipleship Team's meeting will be **Tuesday, January 14th at 7pm** on Zoom.

PeaceKids & Peace Youth Sunday School: Children (PreK—4th grade) and youth (5th—12th grade) classes meet in-person at the church! We'd love to have your kids join us!

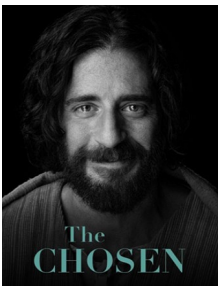
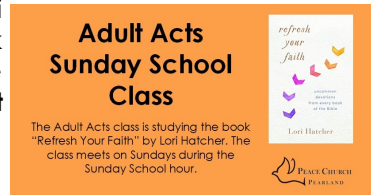


“App Sunday School Class Curriculum: The Reason For God. This class is starting a new video series by Timothy Keller called, “The Reason for God.” This six-session small group Bible study captures live and unscripted conversations between Tim Keller and a group of people to address their doubts and objections to Christianity. Using literature, philosophy, and Scripture, Keller and the

group explore the truth of Christianity. This group meets in the Grappling Zone lobby at **11:15 am on Sundays.** Join us and invite a friend!

Adult Acts Class: The Adult Acts class is studying the Uncommon Devotions to Restore Power and Praise” by Lori Hatcher. Book is available on Amazon or other book retailers. All are welcome to join the class. Vicki Evans is the leader of this class. **Adult Acts Class** meets every **Sunday at 11:15am** in the back room at the church.

book “Refresh Your Prayers:



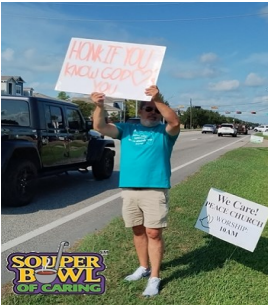
THE CHOSEN
(SEASON 3)
WEEKDAY SMALL GROUPS
WEDNESDAYS, 7 P.M.
EITHER AT BIGHORN BBQ OR RICK & SHERRY CONRAD'S!
AT THE CONRAD'S WE'LL WATCH AN EPISODE AND DO A BIBLE STUDY ON IT! AT BIGHORN WE WATCH AHEAD OF TIME. JOIN US!

Weekday Small Groups!! Joins us for one of our small groups on **Wednesdays at 7 p.m.** starting **January 15th!** There are two options. For those who watch the episode ahead of time, Pastor Scott is leading a group at **Bighorn BBQ** (Smith Ranch Rd and Hughes Ranch Rd) for discussion of The Chosen Season 3. For those who prefer to watch the episodes together, Rick and Sherry Conrad are leading a group at their house (**818 Forest Oaks Lane**). See you then!

Peace Youth Group Meetings: We'll be back together to plan our spring events on **Sunday, January 12th, 3:30-5:30 p.m.** Thanks for all the participation this past year!

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Outreach & Mission's Joint Team meeting will be **Monday, January 6th. 7:00PM on Zoom**



DRIVE THROUGH PRAYER & FOOD DRIVE!

**Saturday, January 11th
10a -12pm**

**Peace Church Pearland
2849 Miller Ranch Rd. #503,
(Corner of FM 518 & Miller Ranch Rd.)**

Join us for our neighborhood outreach event as we hold signs with POSITIVE messages about God's love and offer prayer to anyone who stops by. We'll also be collecting food for Christian Helping Hands! Sign up or let Pastor Scott know you can help!

Souperbowl of Caring Food Drive & Drive Through Prayer!

We'll start the new year off right on **Saturday, January 11th, from 10am—12pm** as we have our first Drive Through Prayer and Food Drive of the year! It will be part of our Souperbowl of Caring Food Drive in January to restock the shelves of Christian Helping Hands after the busy holiday season. Mark your calendar now and sign up on the

sheet goes up on the bulletin board! We'll also be collecting food on Sundays for the Souperbowl of Caring Food Drive that runs January 5th—February 9th!



SOUPERBOWL OF CARING FOOD DRIVE!
January 5th—February 9th
 (Food received on Sundays, from 8am-12:30pm, by appointment at other times and by pick up scheduled with Pastor Scott)

PEACE CHURCH PEARLAND
 2849 Miller Ranch Rd. #503, Pearland
 (Corner of FM 518 & Miller Ranch Rd.)

Join us as we host this event to bless our community and collect non-perishable food and items for our local Pearland food bank, Christian Helping Hands!

We will collect food and monetary donations during this event for Souper Bowl of Caring.

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 9th, we will accept food and monetary donations during our Sunday Worship services! (8 a.m.—12:30 p.m.) Visit our website [<https://peacepres.net/fooddrivedonations>] for a list of needed items and to give monetarily if you are unable to donate physical items. Join us in helping out!

Stewardship Team's meeting will be **January 12th at 12:30pm**. On Zoom.

Church financial records are always available by request.

Ways to Give! You can give IN-PERSON, ONLINE OR BY MAIL! Visit www.peacepres.net/giving or send your check to **"Peace Church, 2849 Miller Ranch Rd. #503, Pearland, TX 77584"**.

End of Year Giving Statements: 2024 End of Year Giving Statements will be available soon. If you have any questions, email Michele at office_manager@peacepres.net.

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Forgotten Angels Christmas Gifts 2024

Thank you to everyone who signed up and donated to our annual Forgotten Angels mission project!
Special thanks to Laura Caudill for leading this project!



Church Christmas Party 2024

Carols & Cocoa Christmas Celebration - 12/8/24



Peace Church Care Groups

Below is a list of Care Team Leaders with their Care Groups. Please check the list for your name. You can visit with this person at worship, text, or email this person if you have concerns and want support or have someone pray with you. This Care Group Leader will notify Pastor Scott of these concerns. The Team Leader coordinating this Team is Vicki Evans.

Linda Cook

Rick & Sherry Conrad
Arthur & Ruth Fairchild
Kay Kelly
Tommy & Cheryl Lollar
Trudi Peterson
Bonnie Williams

Linda Spears Bell

Jason & Jody Cole
Chris & Marlene Cummings
Ruben, Stacey, Katherine
& Roman Perez
Mary Wilmarth
Steve, Ratna, Darren &
Dean Zach
Aimee Kulp

Laura Caudill

Roland & Marcia Falgoust
Woody & Brenda Hale
Mark, Monica, Michael &
Jessica Ingram
Alex, Ndina & Noah Trevino
Edmund Trevino

Anita Phipps

Lynn Bell & Linda Spears Bell
Linda Cook
Scott, Carrie, Jake, Ben
& Caroline Cummings
Shantelle & Anna Jones
Art & Ruth Fairchild

Phyllis Herrington

Ruth Ahlemeyer
Caroline Brooks
Joe & Dawn Carpenter
Gary & B. Galyas
Dev, Zeandra, Raissa &
Marc Mathura
Carol Pritchett
John Weaver

Anita Flis

Matt & Laura & Orrin Caudill
Alex & Vicki Evans
Sheila Marshall
Jim, Grace, Suzy & Lily
Newsom
Ron, Anita, Andrew &
Sarah Phipps
Gracia Beaty

Vicki Evans

Frederic & Anita Flis
Jan Henry
Perry & Phyllis Herrington
Blake, Melody, Chris &
Brandon Murrhee
Scott & Rene Nance &
Rynn Jackson
Nancy Sawyer
David & Colleen Wilson

Current Undergraduate College Students:

Ben Cummings, Chris Murrhee, & Sarah Phipps

Graduates

Jake Cummings Michael Ingram, Raissa Mathura, Marc Mathura, Suzy Newsom, Lily Newsom
Andrew Phipps, Shauna Smith, Darren Zach & Dean Zach

Bible Word Finds: #13 - 1 Kings 10:23-25

Explore the world of the Bible as you search through the diagram for all the words that appear in all CAPITAL LETTERS in the word lists. For each line in the word list, all CAPITAL WORDS will be found together. All the quotations in the Bible Word Finds are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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So KING SOLOMON EXCEEDED ALL THE kings of THE EARTH for RICHES and for WISDOM. And all the earth SOUGHT to Solomon, TO HEAR his wisdom, WHICH GOD HAD PUT in his HEART. And THEY BROUGHT EVERY man his PRESENT, VESSELS

of SILVER, and vessels of GOLD, and GARMENTS, and ARMOUR, and SPICES, HORSES, and MULES, a RATE YEAR by year.

R	A	H	M	M	A	D	X	I	N	G	M	E	T	A	R
Y	H	L	J	S	V	R	Y	J	N	I	V	G	J	K	T
R	E	V	L	I	S	C	M	K	T	E	O	Q	T	B	G
U	U	A	D	T	H	G	U	O	S	N	A	P	R	O	O
O	I	C	R	Y	H	E	L	S	U	E	E	O	P	V	D
N	K	S	Z	C	V	E	E	S	S	R	U	S	X	L	H
S	P	I	C	E	S	L	S	W	S	G	W	D	E	T	A
B	U	D	R	A	S	N	S	E	H	C	I	R	M	R	D
W	I	Y	W	O	O	Z	X	T	I	P	S	H	D	U	P
Z	J	I	M	Y	F	C	O	D	N	Q	D	C	A	O	U
T	P	U	R	Q	I	O	M	L	U	E	O	I	H	A	T
V	O	D	K	I	N	G	S	O	L	O	M	O	N	H	Z
E	W	H	I	C	H	I	Y	G	J	G	R	R	E	U	S
D	E	D	E	E	C	X	E	O	J	S	O	A	A	M	Y
J	S	K	A	A	W	T	H	E	E	A	R	T	H	G	L
X	A	Z	F	Y	R	K	T	S	J	T	Z	Y	O	S	T

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Q: What falls in winter but never gets hurt?

A: Snow.

Q: What's the one thing will you get every year on your birthday, guaranteed?

A: A year older.

ANNIVERSARIES

If we've missed your birthday or anniversary, we're sorry! Please call the church office so we can update our records!

BIRTHDAYS

January 10 - Bonnie Williams
 January 15 - David Wilson
 January 16 - Colleen Wilson
 January 17 - Katherine Perez
 January 25 - Jake Cummings


Riddle: If there are four sheep, two dogs and one herds-men, how many feet are there? Answer on Page 9



Welcome to our newest covenant partners!
Aimee Kulp, Caroline Brooks
November 3, 2024

Communion Server Schedule

Date	10am Service
1-5-25	Anita Flis, David Wilson

 **CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!** Do you know what is the most powerful ***FREE*** advertising tool our Church has? It's Facebook! Search for our church organization, Peace Church Pearland or visit www.facebook.com/peacechurchpearland! Be sure to click the "Like" button for updates!

Session

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Rick Conrad	Jim Newsom	Sheila Marshall
Jim Newsom	Jim Newsom	David Wilson

Active Membership Roll

Ahlemeyer, Ruth	Flis, Frederic & Anita	Newsom, Jim & Grace, Suzy, Lily
Beaty, Gracia	Henry, Jan	Perez, Rubin, Stacey, Katherine & Roman
Bell, Lynn & Linda	Herrington, Perry & Phyllis	Phipps, Ron & Anita, Andrew, Sarah
Carpenter, Joe & Dawn	Ingram, Mark & Monica, Michael, Jessica	Pritchett, Carol
Caudill, Matt & Laura, Orrin	Jackson, Rynn	Simpson, Lynda
++Conrad, Rick & Sherry	Jones, Shantelle & Anna	Trevino, Alex & Ndina, Noah
Cook, Linda	Kulp, Aimee	Weaver, John
Cummings, Carrie, Jake, Ben, Caroline	Lollar, Tommy & Cheryl	Williams, Bonnie
Cummings, Cay	Marshall, Sheila	Wilmarth, Mary
Cummings, Chris & Marlene	Mathura, Dev & Zeandra, Raissa, Marc	Wilson, David & Colleen
Evans, Alex & Vicki	Murrhee, Blake & Melody	Zach, Steve & Ratna, Darren, Dean
Fairchild, Arthur & Ruth	Nance, Scott & Rene	
Falgoust, Marcia		

Answer to riddle on Page 8: Two. Sheep have hooves; dogs have paws; only people have feet.

Contacts and Ministries

MINISTRY TEAMS - Check out our ministry teams and see if you would like to pitch in!

Worship Team: Responsible for everything that goes on in worship, the music, the video and sound projection, the greeters and ushers, preparing the elements for communion, folding bulletins, choirs, drama, banners, flowers. They also sponsor occasional concerts throughout the year. Rick Conrad are the elder for this team.

Discipleship Team: Responsible for making disciples of Jesus Christ and equipping disciples through Bible Studies, Sunday morning classes for all ages, small groups, PeaceYouth fellowship and PeaceKids activities. David Wilson is the elder for this team.

Stewardship Team: Responsible for using the resources God has given us to grow our church and God's kingdom. This team is responsible for setting our annual budget, Long Range Planning, annual Stewardship Campaign, supervising our Information Technology, Personnel, Property issues and of course....paying bills. Jim Newsom & Chris Cummings the elders for this team.

Outreach & Mission Team: Responsible for membership interaction with the community and community interaction with membership. Includes servant opportunities, visibility of the church in the community (advertising, walks), seeks ways to bless the immediate Pearland community and encourages individual blessings by members/friends in their work places, recreation spaces, and homes. Charged with blessing people in need. Projects include but are not limited to Christian Helping Hands Projects, Blood Drives, Compassion Intl., etc. Sheila Marshall is the elder for this team.

Care Team: Responsible for overseeing care groups and pastoral care needs of the church. Linda Spears Bell is the Team Leader for this team.

Peace Presbyterian Contacts and Services

Pastor: Scott Cummings ssc70@peacepres.net

Bookkeeper; Michelle Hurt office_manager@peacepres.net

Worship: 10am Sunday Morning Service
Worship Streamed on Facebook
Sunday School Classes at 11:15am

Phone: 713-436-5673

Website: www.peacepres.net
www.facebook.com/PeaceChurchPearland

Peace Church Session Contacts

Clerk of Session

Jim Newsom 713-416-1932

Stewardship

Jim Newsom 713-416-1932

Chris Cummings 832-431-6183

Discipleship

David Wilson 713-582-3237

Worship

Rick Conrad 409-331-5143

Outreach & Mission

Sheila Marshall 713-724-9477

Care Team Leader

Linda Bell 512-656-8653

**Church & Office Address: 2849 Miller Ranch Rd. #503,
Pearland, TX 77584**

**Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9am-1pm
(by appointment)**

January Prayer Calendar

On this page below, you'll find a Prayer Calendar. Put it where you'll see it and take a few minutes each day to pray for the people listed on that day. At the end of the month, you will have prayed for the entire congregation at Peace, and they will have prayed for you, too! [How do I use this calendar?](#) Look at the date you want to start. Active Peace members are listed each day, but please pray for our inactive members and frequent guests and you can also add your own family members and friends. You can determine how much time you want to pray, or you can pray several times during the day. It's between you and the Lord. You will be blessed for your time and attention to the prayer concerns! Submit your prayer requests by phone or email to the church office or to Pastor Scott or on Sundays using the green "Prayers and Praises" cards during worship. All prayers and praises submitted are included in the bulletin insert and Weekly Update email message.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
The Body of Believers	Teachers & Students	Military, Law Enforcement & Firefighters	Our Country & World Leaders	Church Leaders & Missionaries	Extended Family	Neighbors
			1	2	3	4
Peace Church ECO			Shantelle Jones Anna Jones	Alex Evans Vicki Evans	Sheila Marshall Cathryn Cummings	Ruben Perez Stacey Perez Katherine Perez Roman Perez
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Peace Church ECO	Mary Wilmarth Lynn Bell Linda Spears Bell	Blake Murrhee Melody Murrhee Brandon Murrhee Chris Murrhee	Arthur Fairchild Ruth Fairchild Aimee Kulp	Alex Trevino Ndina Trevino Noah Trevino	Lynda Simpson David Wilson Colleen Wilson	Tommy Lollar Cheryl Lollar
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Peace Church ECO	Bonnie Williams Carol Pritchett Linda Cook	Ron Phipps Anita Phipps Andrew Phipps Sarah Phipps	Ruth Ahlemeyer Matt Caudill Laura Caudill Orrin Caudill	Chris Cummings Marlene Cummings	Steve Zach Ratna Zach Darren Zach Dean Zach	Pastor Scott Cummings Carrie Cummings Jake Cummings Ben Cummings Caroline Cummings
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Peace Church ECO	Dev Mathura Zeandra Mathura Raissa Mathura Marc Mathura	John Weaver Edmund Trevino	Fred Flis Anita Flis Jan Henry	Gracia Beaty Marcia Falgoust	Joe Carpenter Dawn Carpenter Woody Hale Brenda Hale	Jim Newsom Grace Newsom Suzy Newsom Lily Newsom
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Peace Church ECO	Sherry Conrad Rick Conrad	Mark Ingram Monica Ingram Michael Ingram Jessica Ingram	Scott Nance Rene Nance Rynn Jackson A.J. Jackson	Perry Herrington Phyllis Herrington	Caroline Brooks Lynda Simpson	