

Adult Bible Studies

Current Events Supplement September 8, 2019

Together, but Why? Genesis 2:4, 7, 15-18, 21-25

Three-year-old Quinn Waters of Weymouth, Massachusetts, cannot receive visitors and cannot go outside, since his “natural immunity was temporarily wiped out after he got a stem cell transplant to treat his brain cancer.” Quinn’s connection to the outside world has been limited to whoever passes by the front window of his home, and he has seen a lot through that window. “The neighbors started showing up to entertain. . . . Next, the police caught wind—and pretty soon top-notch performers were just showing up on Quinn’s front lawn. Today, you never know what might happen. One minute it could be a dog parade; the next, a team of Irish step dancers—everyone brought together by word of mouth and a will to help Quinn get better.” Quinn’s father, Jarlath, said, “It’s the positive energy from all these people that we believe has gotten him through his sickness.”¹

The student book author writes, “Humans do not live in isolation from other humans. . . . Children thrive and grow when they are raised in healthy and supportive communities.”² The Genesis illustration of a man and woman being helpers and partners extends to all humankind. We need one another. We work with one another for the stewardship of God’s creation, which includes one another.

Quinn and his family are experiencing love, care, and support from their community. Because Quinn is surrounded by such love and support, he has a better chance of thriving and growing. Pray for Quinn that one day soon he will be outside enjoying the community firsthand, and offer thanks for all who have come to entertain and support him. Ask God to show you how you can extend God’s love into your community, particularly to someone who may feel isolated and alone.

1. When have you witnessed or experienced the power of healing through prayer, love, and support?
2. How does your faith community provide a healthy and supportive environment for children to thrive and grow?
3. How might your group offer love, care, and support to a family in your community?

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¹From “Front Lawn Becomes a Stage for House-Ridden Boy,” by Steve Hartman, CBS Evening News (cbsnews.com/news/front-lawn-becomes-a-stage-for-a-house-ridden-boy-weymouth-massachusetts-2019-08-23/).

²From *Adult Bible Studies*, Fall 2019, by Clara Welch (Cokesbury, 2019); pages 17-18.