

# Free's REFLECTIONS

May 9, 2021

## And the Oscar Goes to...

Just for a moment, imagine that there were Oscars Awards for Moms. I think you might agree our evaluations would probably be based on worldly perspectives. The world has sold us a bill of goods when it comes to raising children. Give them all we never had, push them to be all we want them to be. Sports achievements, coveted draft pick, scholarship awards, etc. Regardless of our expectations, often our pride or pain can be based on our children's success or failure.

So, what is the criteria for a **Godly Mom Oscar**: Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old, they will not depart." The same writer later warns us in Proverbs 22:15 "Folly is bound up in the heart of a child..." Deuteronomy 6:6-7 "These commandments that I give you today are to be on their hearts. Impress on their hearts, talk about them when you sit and when you walk along the road when you lie down and when you get up." In other words, be purposeful, intentional, seizing every opportunity to impress the timeless Word of God. Unlike the age limit for a driver's license, there is no age limit for parenting. So, Moms keep up the good work by Godly character by impressing God's Word practically at every opportunity.

*Nuggets from Senior Moms at LWFC*

*Dorothy Price* - "Always be still and listen to what the children have to say. All they need is a listening ear."

*Mary Wheatley* - Isaiah 26:3... "God will keep you in perfect peace if you let your mind be stayed on Him."

*Dannie Emerson* - "You cannot be a perfect Mom but do the best you can and enjoy your children. Teach them to love the Lord and be always respectful to their elders and teachers. Remember their last name is a representation of their family."

Audrey Jones - Song of Solomon 6:3... "Remember ladies that starting your days with deep and intimate connection in God's presence will carry you through the day... allowing the love of the Father to radiate to all you encounter."

*Dorothy Miller* - "Since you have trained your child/children to be truthful and to consult you with any problem, experience, or concern, remember to hear them out, check out and evaluate whatever they share with you whenever possible. Remember to always tell your children you love them."

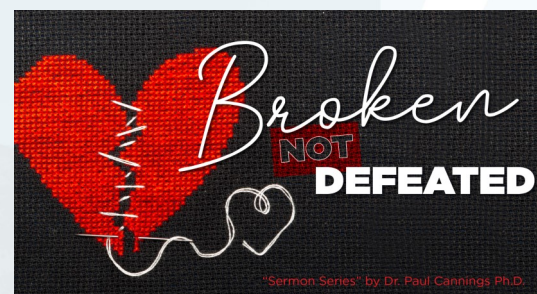
*Ruth Cranford* - "Children are like arrows in an Archery Set. Draw them close to your heart (love, tell, teach, train & pray for them). Aim them towards the bull's eye (God-fearing, up-right, people of integrity)." (ref. Psalm 127:4)

*Gail O'Neil* - "Love and Grace are marvelous gifts from God, always give them away, especially to your children."

*Sylvia Edwards* - Proverbs 31:26 "She opens her mouth in wisdom and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."

*Elie Starks* - the oldest mother of LW - "Always listen to your mother because she knows best; she has lived it."

Happy Mother's Day!!



## UPCOMING Events



### "From Tragedy to Triumph"

Join us as we begin our weekly **Center for Christian Living** series on Tuesdays entitled "From Tragedy to Triumph" starting **April 20th—June 1st** online through Free Conference Call.

Let's come out and learn how to get to the other side of tragedy. Restoration and Triumph is on the way.

For more information, contact [nordbullock@yahoo.com](mailto:nordbullock@yahoo.com)



### Acts 2 Houston

On Pentecost weekend every year, Acts 2 Houston will seek to unify the churches of Houston as one church with one worship service to give and go serve **one cause**.

We are excited to bring Acts 2 Houston to the most diverse city in America on **May 22nd—23rd** with special guest speaker **Dr. Tony Evans**.

This free event offers an opportunity for churches to serve the Houston community and worship together collectively.

Register TODAY: [www.acts2houston.org/register](http://www.acts2houston.org/register)



### Leadership Training

The first leadership training for 2021 is planned for Saturday, **June 12th at 8:30 a.m.**, in LEGACY. Every leader is expected to be present. Dr. Mark Bailey, former President of Dallas Theological Seminary is our guest speaker/trainer. Please carve the date into your calendar and plan to attend.



### Family Bible Encounter

We are excited to announce our upcoming Family Bible Encounter starting **June 8th—10th**. Our theme is "**I Got This**": "I Can Do All things Through Christ ..." *Philippians 4-13*. We have awesome classes for Adults, Youth, and Children! Hope to see you there at 6:30pm nightly.



Children are now required to check-in upon arrival. Please report to the registration desk located in the children's wing.

**Ages 2—6th grade**



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

*Offering boxes are located at all*

*perimeters under crosses*

Special Music

*Chosen*

Judges 13:1-3, 9-11,20

Dr. Paul Cannings

Sermon notes available online at [www.lwfellowshipchurch.org](http://www.lwfellowshipchurch.org)

Click on the "Media" tab and click "Sermon Outline"

Call to Discipleship

Please remain seated at this time

Benediction





# SERMON OUTLINE

## Chosen

Judges 13:1-3, 9-11,20

### A. The Call (vs. 1-3):

1. Israel again purposefully decided to energetically forsake the standards of God.
2. The Israelites clearly understood that the Lord has tenderly cared for them and establish them in the Promise Land supernaturally, but still purposefully did what was right in their own eyes (Judges 21:25).
3. The Israelites knowing the reason they were under the Philistines' abusive power is that the Lord was holding them accountable for their disobedience, yet they still did what was right in their own eyes. This is called abstinent sin.
4. The Lord, because of their attitude towards Him, put them under the power and authority of the Philistines. This is a decision the Lord made by not resisting the Philistine's desire to come and possess the land of Israel. This was going to take place endlessly.
5. In midst of a stubborn people, the Lord knew of a man that truly walked with Him and revered Him (13:9-23, especially verse 20).
6. His wife was completely incapable of having children.
7. For women who remain barren, it does not mean they did something wrong. God just has a different plan for their life (Priscilla and Aquilla, Dorcas, Debra).
8. The angel of the Lord did not come and endlessly inspect Manoah.
9. The angel of the Lord endlessly inspected the condition of Manoah's wife and came to a complete understanding of her inability to have children.
10. The angel of the Lord continuously verbalized what He was saying to ensure that Manoah's wife clearly understood Him.
11. The angel of the Lord focused on a specific message that He wanted to emphasize and give special attention to.
12. The angel of the Lord said this to establish that God was in control of her womb; therefore when no one else may have known, He can specify without asking her.
13. A couple may decide to have a child, but God chooses who He wants to be a mother. You are in a special place even if you think it is an accident (Psalm 127:3).
14. God will open her womb whenever He chooses.
15. The angel of the Lord continuously provided to Manoah His undivided attention and developed a full knowledge of what Manoah was requesting.
16. Interestingly that the angel of the Lord did not explain to Manoah what to do with Samson.
17. The angel appeared purposefully to make every effort to continuously come and interact with Manoah's wife when describing the conception and the pregnancy.
18. Manoah's wife was in the fields as if she were going to remain there. It seems like the entire incident caused her to spend some alone time, which led to a second visit from the angel of the Lord.
19. Manoah's absence is distinctive.
20. As a true woman of God she urgently and with much enthusiasm, rushed to find her husband.
21. Manoah's wife relayed to her husband the message she received from the angel of the Lord.

22. The message was given to her by the same "man" who keeps coming to her while she is alone.
23. The angel of the Lord is completely committed to executing Israel's deliverance by way of Manoah's wife conceiving Samson.
24. Manoah responded to his wife's message immediately with a firm commitment to go where the angel of the Lord was located.
25. Manoah's only focus was to walk behind his wife as she goes to the place where the angel of the Lord was located.
26. Manoah was incredibly determined to hear what the angel of the Lord said to his wife, so, he kept following his wife with no intentions of stopping until he got to the place where the angel of the Lord was.
27. Manoah immediately engaged in a conversation with the angel of the Lord.
28. Manoah wanted to know if the angel of the Lord relayed the circumstances that his wife was going to experience.
29. This time the angel of the Lord spoke to Manoah.
30. Angel of the Lord told Manoah to allow his wife to continuously preserve in her heart all that was said, and she needs to be ready for it to take place.
31. Everything that the angel of the Lord communicated needs to be remembered and obeyed.

### B. Blessed (vs 20):

1. "For it came about" represents something that is coming into existence that is going to take place and can always be this way.
2. The flame going up means that the offering is being offered up for acceptance by the Lord God.
3. As the flame is going up and as the angel of the Lord is going up means this is an acceptable offering.
4. When Manoah and his wife saw God's acceptance of their offering and the supernatural act of the angel of the Lord, they humbled themselves and worshipped God in awe.
5. This is the model of raising a child because it all begins here (sincere, acceptable worship) and continues endlessly no matter how the child turns out.

## PRAYER REQUEST

**Grieving:** April Caldwell & family, Elaine Marshall & family, Jennie Dangerfield & family, Dale and Jackie Ward & family, Larry Black & family, Eric White & family, La Toi Gillyard & family, Flossie Jones & family, Betty Biggom & family, Dorothy Price & family, and Wesley Buckner & family.

**Health and Healing:** Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Octavia Scott, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Brittany Bull-ock, Sara-Beth Mathis, Barbara Gordon, Ella James, Debra Gaines, Pat Crawford, Lisa Roberts, Birdie Williams, and Jon Heard.

# Chosen

Judges 13:1-3, 9-11,20