

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

June 27, 2021

I saw a sign on the back of a boat that was being pulled by a truck that read “I live to fish.” This person was either heading to go fishing (fishing polls in the boat) or returning from fishing. It was early in the morning, so I assumed they were heading to fish. I wondered what motivates a person to get up that early on a Saturday morning, after working all week, put together their gear and go to the lake in hopes of catching a fish when they could go to the grocery store and buy a fish? What would cause them to put their life at risk to fish? What would cause them to go to the expense of buying a boat and all their fishing equipment? What makes a person this dedicated to fish? As I drove by, I saw a child in the truck that I assumed may have been his son and then the light bulb in my mind came on.

The sign on the back of the truck belongs to the father, not the son. The son is probably going fishing that early on a Saturday morning because his father loves him, and he loves his father. His love for his father soon becomes his love for fishing. Like father like son.

We love God because He first loved us. The only way we can become passionate about the purposes of God is if “we ride with Him whenever and wherever He is going fishing.” It is when we decide to have the faith of a child, that we come to know Him deeper. (Matthew 18:1-4) “We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.” (1 John 4:16). “If you keep My commandments you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My father’s commandments and abide in His love.” (John 15:10). It is His love and His agenda that shapes our hearts and controls our will to do things we would not have otherwise cared to do.

“Are you in the truck (i.e., is in His will),” whenever God determines it’s time? “Are you in the truck,” committed to go wherever He is going? “Are you in His truck,” when you may not care to be going where He is directing you to go? “I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself up for me.” (Galatians 2:20).

“Do you love to do what Christ loves to do?” Where the Shepherd goes, the sheep go!!!



UPCOMING Events



**COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER
DONATE TO OUR FOOD PANTRY**
Next Sunday & Every 1st Sunday Drop Off Your Non-Perishable Food Items for our Community Outreach Center and Food Pantry. For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact Pastor Allen Boutte at allen.boutte@hotmail.com



SUMMER SPECIAL INVITE:
Need a small and intimate setting that's filled with love, learning and fun.
2-years-old to 3rd grade.
Family and Friends cost is \$85.00

Our teachers are vaccinated and CDC guidelines are being followed. Call 281-445-9673.



**LIFE APPLICATION CLASSES
SUNDAYS AT 10 A.M.**

Life App Classes are Back in person and virtually on Free Conference Call. Learn how to practically apply the word of God in your life. See you after First Service!



Contact your Deacon Family for your Free Conference Call Meeting Information or visit bit.ly/lwfcfccdirections

Life Application is Key so Walk With Us in Life Application Classes!



HOMES FOR HAITI

Join the Living Word Fellowship Missions Ministry in a dynamic effort to raise funds to build much needed homes in rebuilding communities in Haiti. Give at <https://www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/missions>



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

“Blameless”

Job 1:8; 2:3

Pastor Duane Lawrence

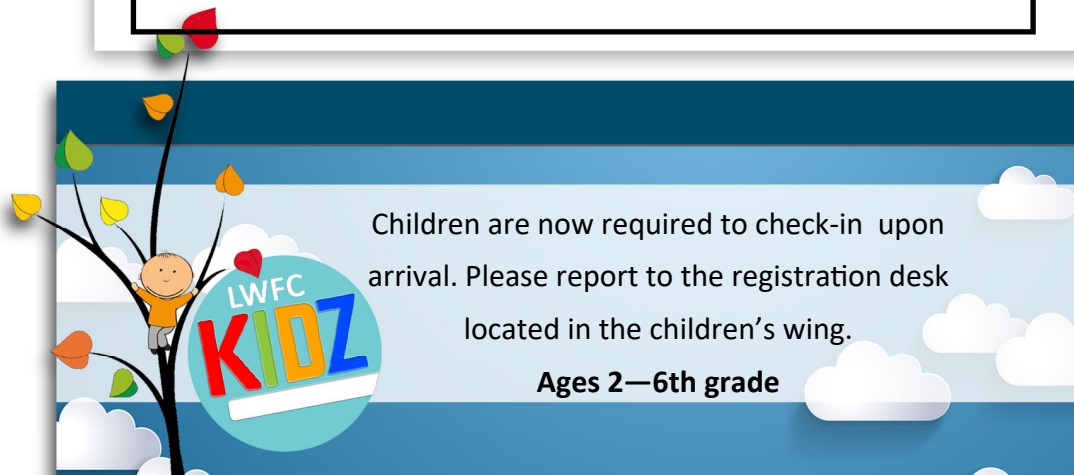
Full sermon notes available online at www.lwfellowshipchurch.org

Click on the “Media” tab and click “Sermon Outline”

Call to Discipleship

Please remain seated at this time

Benediction



SERMON OUTLINE

Blameless

Job 1:8; 2:3

Duane Lawrence
Associate Pastor of Shepherding

It is very interesting to note that Job 1:8 and Job 2:3 are identical in their writing:

- I. Notice, each time The LORD addresses Satan, He calls Job, “My servant” – This is the kind of relationship every Christian should have with The LORD –
 - a. Rejoiceful
 - b. Respectful
 - c. Reliance – He will come through
- II. God knew that Job was going to be tested and He knew how Job would do in the testing:
 - a. Nothing is hidden from God – He sees all
 - b. Nothing can hinder God – His progress cannot be interfered with
 - c. Nothing can hamper God – His movement cannot be impeded
- III. We oftentimes say that God is testing me to see how I would respond:
 - a. Wrong – He already knows how we will respond
 - b. The testing is for us
 - c. The testing is for us to know where we are spiritually (mature)
- IV. Too many of us make the same mistakes Job friends made:
 - a. We assume that people are suffering because of some sin in their lives –
(Sometimes this is true but in Job’s case, it was caused by divine purposes unknown to Job’s friends)
 - b. We act without having the authority to do so
 - c. We accuse without having adequate information -
(we “jump” to conclusions)
- V. Not only do friends sometimes do not encourage us but those closest to us do not understand:
 - a. Job’s wife was of no help to him
 - b. She challenged him to let go of his integrity
 - c. She told her husband to curse God and die
- VI. So, how do you remain blameless in the midst of false accusations, suffering, and testing? You must do what God reminds us of what He said about Job:

- a. You must be willing to be that person who “there is no one on earth like him.”
 - I. Be yourself – Job 1:8
 - II. God knows our frame –
Psalm 103:14 – “...we are but dust.”
- b. Be a blameless person – not perfect but blameless in the sense that we should have a spotless character and a blameless reputation.
 - I. II Peter 3:14 – “..., be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless,”
- c. Be an upright person – adhering to Biblical principles and applying them to your life daily – Romans 12:1-2
- d. Fearing God – respectful reverence for God; the fear of the Lord is a state of mind in which one’s own attitudes, will, emotions, service, and goals are exchanged for God’s – Psalm 42:1 – “As the deer pants for the water brooks, So my soul pants for You, O God.”
- e. Turning away from evil – to respect what is proper and honest and have the right attitude when in the presence of others, especially around those who are not Christians – Romans 12:18-19
- f. Hold fast to your integrity (honesty) – telling the truth; no deception; truthfulness – Psalm 15:1-2

The above characteristics are what God used to describe Job to Satan and because of these characteristics, God said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job?”

The influence of God in Job’s life was so great that He could declare, “..., Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked I shall return there. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away, Blessed be the name of the LORD.” Job 1:21 (NAS)

PRAYER REQUEST

Grieving: Melinda Parsee & Family, Nikisha Doyle & Family, the Family of Debra Gaines, Wanda Ryan & Family, Curtis Sanders & Family, Sybil Grenion & Family, Pastor Duane Lawrence & Family, Doris Henderson & Family & Billy Mitchell & Family, Catherine Asuquo and Family & Shanna Edwards .

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Octavia Scott, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Brittany Bullock, Sara-Beth Mathis, Barbara Gordon, Ella James, Pat Crawford, Lisa Roberts, Birdie Williams, Jon Heard, Lyndia Tarkington, Deacon Jessie Austin, Loretha Logan, Jonathan Ned, Athena Hall, Lurlean Lane, Eric White, Lakessia Davis



BLAMELESS

J O B 1 : 8 ; 2 : 3