

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

June 6, 2021

When the life of great people in the Bible is evaluated, it may be inspiring because of the results they experienced, but it is certainly not enticing. How would you like to be Abraham? God told him to leave friends and family and go to a place where hardly anyone lived. He waited twenty-five years to have a son. He probably expected to have a nation by then. What would you do if you had to wait this long? During this time there was a famine in the land, he had to fight to get Lot and his family back after the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah were defeated, and he had the struggle to resolve problems between Sarah and Hagar. Each day he had to get up and take care of sheep, away from family and friends, interact with neighboring nations and kings, all because of what God told him to do. No results, but constant promises from God for twenty-five years. We may admire the results, but what about his day-to-day life?

How about Daniel? Came to Babylon as a young man. Lived there until he was old, maybe in his eighties. He had to go on a vegetable fast as soon as he arrived. He risked being killed by the king. He had no family, just his three friends. The king changed his name, gave him strange clothes to wear, and told him what to do every day. His friends were placed in a fire, his enemies tried to kill him, he had to sleep with lions all night, he went through several kings so that as soon as he became great under one king, God's prophesy was fulfilled, and he had to get used to another king. Here again, are results you may admire or even covet, but what about his day-to-day life?

How about the day-to-day life of Ruth? Lost her husband at a young age, decided to go to a strange country, work in the hot sun day after day for a woman that was not her sister or mother. She married a man that fell in love with her. She did this because of Jewish law and humbled herself to go out to the fields at night risking rejection by this man her mother-in-law, that she is slaving for, told her to marry. Because of her history and the fact that she is in the line of Christ, we would admire her commitment and her blessing of being married to a rich landowner, but what about her day-to-day life?

Great people were great because they kept their eyes on the mark of a higher calling (Galatians 2:20; Philippians 4:7-16; Hebrews 12:1-3). What made them great was their commitment to die to self and live a life (John 12:23-26) under the constant control of the Word and the Spirit of God (Colossians 3:1-4). Great lives were those who made great sacrifices for God. When we focus on their life, and the results God provided, it should strengthen our day-to-day faith.



UPCOMING Events



Family Bible Encounter
We are excited to announce our upcoming Family Bible Encounter starting **June 8th– 10th**. Our theme is *"I've Got This with Jesus": "I Can Do All things Through Christ ..."* Philippians 4-13. We have awesome classes for Adults, Young Adults, Youth, and Children! Hope to see you there at 6:30pm nightly.
REGISTRATION ONLINE IS MANDATORY
www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/event



← **SCAN QR CODE TO 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.



ABC WORD Academy Summer Program
SUMMER SPECIAL INVITE: Need a small and intimate setting that's filled with love, learning and fun. *Ages 2 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
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. *Join us after first service at 10:00am.* Contact your Deacon for conference call details.



West Indies Baptist Fellowship Conference
Will be hosted on **June 14th-18th at 7:15pm** featuring our very own Pastor Paul Cannings.
Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82398279798>
Meeting ID: 823 9827 9798



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

"Power Up"

2 Corinthians 12:4

(2 Corinthians 4:7-11; 11:21-32; 12:5, 7-10)

Dr. Paul Cannings


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



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



LEGACY
EFFECTING TODAY FOR TOMMORROW
youth ministry of LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP

MIDDLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL
2:30 & 4:00
TUESDAY NIGHTS
SUNDAY
6:30 PM

SERMON OUTLINE

Power Up

2 Corinthians 12:4
(2 Corinthians 4:7-11; 11:21-32; 12:5, 7-10)

A. Christ Weakness God's Strength (vs. 4a):

1. Christ once and for all had His flesh nailed to the cross allowing Himself to be subdued to humiliation because of His love for God and mankind. He was obedient even to public humiliation because God so loved the world.
2. When Christ allowed Himself to be nailed to the cross, He permitted Himself to be fully human, lacking strength yielding Himself to depend on the power of God.
3. It took the mighty power of God to endure such an injustice. He was innocent of all charges but guilty for our sin.
4. Christ consistently lived independently from any source of aid from other human beings. He was solely dependent on God's ability and capacity. God responded to Christ because He was obedient to His will.
5. God sustained Christ on the cross, so Christ had to give up His life because God is life and therefore no one can take it from Him. While His body was in the grave Christ condemns rebellious demons to remain in hell (1 Peter 3:18-20). He rose from the grave by His own power and the power of the Father (John 10:15-18). So even though the flesh died in the power of God Christ lives.
6. Christ had the inherent ability to overcome any obstacles that He encountered, because He possessed the ability and mighty capacity of the totality of whom God is comprehensively.
7. In Christ's death, God's power is manifested leaving Satan powerless from ever separating man from God.

B. He Became Weak So We Become Strong (vs. 4b):

1. We like Christ, while He was on the cross, are continuously powerless and lack strength to overcome any obstacle that life presents to us.
2. Christ carried the cross to Calvary and was nailed to Calvary because He modeled crucifying the flesh in obedience to the will of God.
3. Whenever we have a cross to bear, we must continually deny ourselves (the influence of the flesh; Romans 6:6-12; 7:24) because to not do so is to live in weakness when we get into our feelings. There is nothing good in the flesh (Galatians 5:19).
4. Practicing the truth is a powerful transformation (Hebrews 5:14). It blesses us to live in the Spirit and not in the flesh.
5. Because we possess the presence of the Holy Spirit in us (Titus 3:4-8) we live based on the ability and capacity of God (1 John 4:4) to overcome all obstacles (Romans 8:37). When we spiritually function, each day, we gain the ability to overcome all the attacks of Satan (Ephesians 6:11-18; Phil. 4:13). We should work out this power that we possess with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12-13) as He works within us.
6. Putting on the armor of God gives us power against the fiery darts of the Devil (Ephesians 6:11-18).

7. The direct object of God's power is purposefully focused on providing us strength when we are weak. This is the constant movement of God directed to power us up because Satan is constantly on the attack (Revelation 12:10; 1 Peter 5:8-9).
8. When we become weary (Gal. 6:9-10) we can sow to the spirit by walking in the truth of God's Word. This blesses us to "Power Up" from the inside out (1 John 4:4). The Spirit is the Spirit of truth (John 14:16-17) and came to guide us into truth (John 16:13) by illuminating God's Word (1 Corinthians 2:10-15) and reminding us of it (John 14:26). So, He is constantly working for us so that we live each day "Powered Up".



PRAYER REQUEST

Grieving: Flossie Jones & family, Betty Biggom & family, Dorothy Price & family, Melinda Parsee & family, Nikisha Doyle & family, the family of Debra Gaines, Wanda Ryan & family, Curtis Sanders & family, Sybil Grenion & family, Pastor Duane Lawrence & family, and Doris Henderson & 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, Pat Crawford, Lisa Roberts, Birdie Williams, and Jon Heard.

