

# Pastoral REFLECTIONS

July 25, 2021

Our society has placed so many demands on us, which has caused us to make a variety of decisions to meet those demands. This can lead to higher levels of tension and stress. In many of these instances, God is not making any of these demands. As a result, this tension causes us to lose the joy and the pleasure of living. (Philippians 4:4-5; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Society demands that we must all be a certain size. It demands the kind of clothes we must wear just to fit in. It also responds to us in a certain manner if we are the minority or the majority, Democrat or Republican, tall or short, rich or poor, married or single, educated or uneducated. We can have a car that may be old but drives well, but we become embarrassed and unhappy because it is not the latest model. It is not that we cannot experience joy, because we are blessed with all spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3), but it is the external pressures that are determined by the world that block our internal joy from being experienced each day.

According to the Chicago Tribune, on Monday, August 26, 1996, tragedy struck a Fort Lauderdale, Florida, family. Two boys found their twelve-year-old brother Samuel dead in their yard. He hung himself from a tree. Beneath the tree were a step stool and a flashlight.

There was little mystery about what had provoked Samuel to end his life. Samuel was overweight, and this would have been his first day at a new school. He told his family that he was nervous about going to school because he was afraid of the teasing that would likely come from the other children.

This child did not die because he went to war, developed cancer, was serving the Lord in an uncivilized village, and was killed, but he died because he was fat. Societal pressure so dominates us that enjoying the life God provides can easily be erased.

The Bible says, "...I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." (Psalm 139:14) Luke 12:22-23; 25-26 states; "And He said to His disciples, "For this reason I say to you, do not be anxious for {your} life, {as to} what you shall eat; nor for your body, {as to} what you shall put on. For life are more than food, and the body than clothing. And which of you by being anxious can add a {single} cubit to his life's span? If then you cannot do even a very little thing, why are you anxious about other matters?" The only pressure we should be experiencing should be from the molding done by the hands of the Potter (from His pruning) (Jeremiah 18:4-6), so we bear the fruit of life that He provides (John 10:10; 15:1-5; Hebrews 12:7-11). This process is a lighter yoke than the damage the world does to our lives (Matthew 11:28-30).



## UPCOMING Events



### Health Awareness Month

For the entire month on July, we will host **Self-Care Saturdays** to help give health, fitness, and nutrition information, offer COVID-19 vaccinations, and offer other vital wellness information for Men, Women, Children and Youth.

Join us on **July 31st at 10am- 3pm** for our **Health Fair & Kidz Zone**. Receive your 1st or 2nd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine., get information on Strokes, Heart Attacks, get a Health Check-Up to know your numbers! **Giveaways, Games & More** Take care of the temple God has given you!



### Bible Study With Pastor Paul Cannings

#### 4 Ways To Connect

**Starting Tuesday, July 27, 2021 | 12noon & 7pm**

1. In-Person
2. LIVE on Facebook
3. LIVE on YouTube
4. Free Conference *Call 1-978-990-5374*  
*Access 1165799*



### Family Ties Conference—Aug 10th—12th

Join us for a 3-day event nightly at 7 p.m. for the **Family Ties Conference** with special guest speaker Dr. Paul Chipman, author of the book, **"Conflict in the Mind"**. We will deal with how conflict affects family relationships and how they can be mended to be healthy relationships as God intended. All ages are welcomed. Refreshments will be served. For more information on our Family Ministry contact

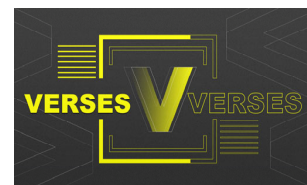
[jeffrey.lynn85@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.lynn85@gmail.com)



### Back to School Bash

Our annual Back to School Bash will happen on Saturday, August 14th at 10am-2pm. Join us for an afternoon full of fun packed activities and games for the kids.

**Donations for school supplies are accepted.** Please contact Pastor Allen Boutte at the Christian Outreach Center (713) 683-0847.



### Youth Bible Study & Fellowship Group

Join the VERSES LEGACY Youth Bible & Fellowship Group (grades 7th-12th) via zoom each **Wednesday at 7 p.m.** Learn how to walk through life's challenges understanding God's Word. The study book is "Basic Bible Interpretation" by Dr. Roy B. Zuck. Contact Youth Minister Jordan Washington for more information at [legacyyouth@lwfellowshipchurch.org](mailto:legacyyouth@lwfellowshipchurch.org)



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

*Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses*

Special Music

**"TRUST"**

Proverbs 3:5-6

Jordan Washington

Youth Minister

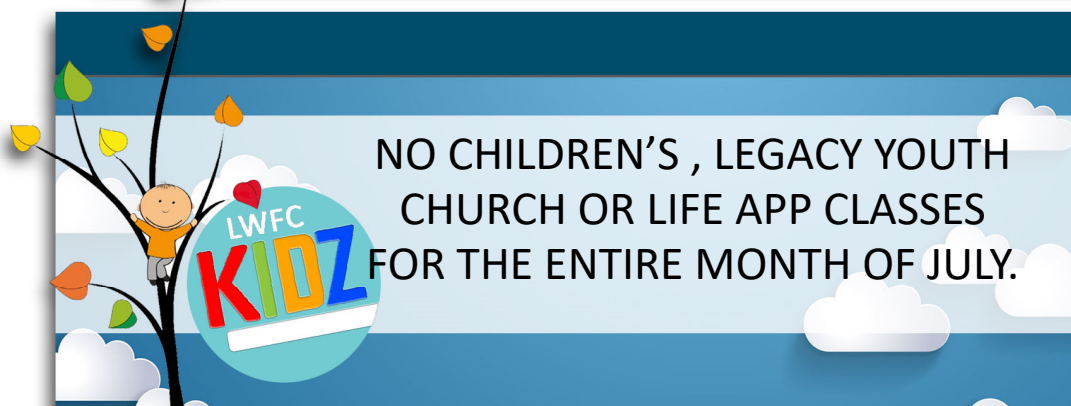
Full sermon notes available online at [www.lwfellowshipchurch.org](http://www.lwfellowshipchurch.org)

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

Call to Discipleship

Please remain seated at this time

Benediction





# SERMON OUTLINE

## Trust

Proverbs 3:5-6

### A. Know the One to Trust (v. 5)

**Trust**—(1) literal physical sense: to physically lean upon something for support and (2) figurative sense: to rely upon someone or something for help or protection

**Heart**- All of your mind emotions and will

**Lean + Understanding**- relying on one's own desires, experience and insight to support the lifestyle choices we make; These things are unreliable for support the weight of your life

#### I. Worth Your Trust (5a)

- 1st and foremost a decision. Emotional security follows if trust is placed in a legitimate subject
- Trust should not be dictated by seeking emotional satisfaction
- Authority + Character + Ability= Perfectly Worthy
- Trust develops within the context of relationship that requires all of you.
  - Submit Inside + Outside

#### II. Can't Afford to Trust Anymore (5a)

- Traumatic experiences since childhood (neglect and abuse)
- The problem of suffering and evil
- Failed political and social systems
- Misconduct & unreliability of those we are supposed to trust
- Waiting on God's timing

#### III. Our Understanding Costs Us (5b)

- Our understanding is made up of past experiences, self-made expectations and limited knowledge
- Things beyond our understanding that cause pride, anxiety & addictive behaviors.

### B. Trust the One Who Knows (v.6)

**Acknowledge** (to know)- To be aware of God and His word and be obedient to what He says. To acknowledge the LORD in every event means trusting and obeying him for guidance in right conduct.

**Paths/Ways**- referring to a person's course of life, actions and desires This is a call for total commitment in trust for obedience in all things

#### I. Acknowledge (6a)

- Awareness
  - Devotional life (prayer and bible reading)
  - Seeking God through community (online and in person)
- Obedience
  - Faithful service within the community of faith
  - Commitment to love our neighbor and love God
- The commitment creates intimacy
  - It comes not from what you do occasionally but consistently

#### II. Divine Direction (6b)

- Prayer (Request) -> Inconvenience -> Reorientation ->Benefit
- We are offered more than guidance we have assurance of an outcome
- God promises to do the work, stay on the road.



ABC WORD ACADEMY

NOW ENROLLING!

18 MONTHS - 4 YEARS

FREE CHILDCARE

281-445-9673



## PRAYER REQUEST

**Grieving:** Catherine Asuquo & family, Shanna Edwards & family, Daphne Banks & family, and Wendy Oliver & family and Margaret Baptiste & family.

**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, Eric White, Lakessia Davis, Rutha Patrick, Linda Rainey, and Nikisha Doyle,

# TRUST

PROVERBS 3:5-6