

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

November 7, 2021

One of the hardest things to do is to wait on the Lord to respond during the most difficult times in our lives. Especially being in an American culture where most people do not like waiting or have so much at their fingertips. Long lines, long hold times, or restaurant lines can be frustrating. His sovereign will can be mysterious; for example, Joseph knew his brothers would bow to him, but he had no idea what that meant for his life when he had no power to control anything that took place. Since Joseph believed in God all he could do is wait.



This could be the same for those listed in the 'The Hall of Faith' (Hebrews 11; I call 'The Hall of Hope'). I wonder how they would have felt when they were going through so much and had to wait so long but were so ready when the Lord finally came through. Joseph, betrayed twice, humiliated several times, in much pain (constantly cried when he saw his brothers), waited twelve brutal years but he was so ready to forgive when he saw his brothers and so ready to lead a nation when he was called up by God's power to serve a nation that to his own people could seem like the worst ever because they eventually became enslaved. But when they had grown to two million people, enriched by the might of Egypt, blessed by a leader named Moses who was trained by the most developed nation, they would dance at the Red Sea when they saw the bodies of their enemies washed up.

Dean Little recently received a letter that had been in the mail for over five (5) years. When he opened the letter, Little found a check for \$90.18 inside.... The old envelope caught Little's eye when it arrived because it had a canceled 32-cent stamp on it. The letter was postmarked on August 24, 1998. No one knows where the letter has been for the past five (5) years..... Little is sales manager for the Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania area Schwan's ice cream business. He says the letter was from a former customer making a payment on his account. Since the original check was considered lost, the family wrote the company another check settling their account. Little says he remembers calling about the amount owed in 1998 and being told, "The check is in the mail." He says, "They weren't lying." —Associated Press, Payment Was in the Mail, for Five years, January 21, 2004, Submitted by Jim Sandell. Even though we know it is impossible for God to lie (Hebrews 6:18); have you ever felt, based on all the promises the Lord has made that He may have just forgotten about what He said or forgotten us?

Is it that the Lord has forgotten us, don't do the same miracles, or don't answer prayers the same or His time is perfect for those, like Joseph who keeps the faith? (Galatians 4:4; Romans 8:28)

UPCOMING Events



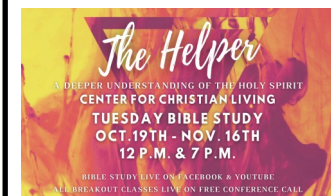
Thanksgiving Gift Card & Basket Giveaway
Living Word Fellowship Church will host it's annual Thanksgiving Gift Card and Basket Giveaway on Saturday, Nov. 20th and Sun. Nov. 21st.

Sign-up to volunteer, donate items for the baskets or register to receive a gift card or basket at www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/thanksgiving.



Leadership Meeting

ATTENTION ALL LEADERS. Get ready for the last Leadership Training of the 2021 season! Next **Saturday, November 13th at 8:30 a.m.** in Legacy Sanctuary please attend the last Leadership Training of the year. We have a busy holiday season coming up with much information to be shared!



Center for Christian Living

Join us Every Tuesday at 12 p.m. & 7 p.m. until Nov. 16th for the Center for Christian Living Bible Study Series, *The Helper: A Deeper Understanding of the Holy Spirit*. This Series will be available in-person, on Facebook, on YouTube, and all breakout classes at 7 p.m. will be offered on Free Conference Call. Download your Bible Study Notes at www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/bible-study-notes



LWFC Kidz Christmas Rehearsals

Last call for eager participants for our annual Christmas program which will take place on **Dec. 24th at 6:00 p.m.** Rehearsals will be **Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.**

Saturday rehearsals will begin *November 20th. from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.* Sunday rehearsals will begin today *November 7th from 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.* Meet in the Children's Wing. You must register your child to participate online no later than Saturday, November 20th.



Christmas in Haiti—Toy Fund—NOV. 7TH

Give to the Haiti Toy Fund so we can send toys to children in Haiti to allow them to have a bright and beautiful Christmas filled with joy. **Give by Nov. 7th on the Give Tab Choose Missions and Haiti Toy Fund.**



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Domestic Violence are patterns of abusive behaviors, not limited to physical abuse, but also sexual, psychological as well as financial coercion—used by one partner against another or a child. Wear your purple ribbons this month, check out our video on YouTube, and for more information on Domestic Violence and to raise awareness, visit www.dvawareness.org.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

Steady

Exodus 32:1, 7-10, 19-20, 29

Full sermon notes available online at www.lwfellowshipchurch.org

Click on the "Resources" tab and click "Sermon Notes"

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



SERMON OUTLINE

Steady

Exodus 32:1, 7-10, 19-20, 29

A. Amidst God's Delays (vs. 1):

1. The people of Israel waited for Moses to return; after 40 days they gave up any hope that he is alive.
2. Moses was completely set on spending his time with the Lord. Moses nor God were in no rush to come back.
3. When the people approached Aaron it was as if they were going to be continuously at war with him unless he does what they request. They were highly volatile, and it was a large number of them.
4. They (a very large volatile group) demanded that Aaron continuously and immediately make it his everyday mission to lead the process of designing a god.
5. They have completely no idea of what has become of Moses and most likely will never know. Joshua was not going to let them go up the mountain and no one had any idea if Moses was still alive.

B. Worship Him Only (vs. 7-10):

1. Not until the people were in full swing of worshipping their false god, did the Lord speak about it.
2. On their own initiative, the people willfully decided to pollute their worship of the Lord by worshipping a false god. This can also mean that they completely ruined themselves.
3. Now that God is meeting with Moses there is no fire or cloud with them, the people of Israel willfully made a cognitive decision to change who and how they worship.
4. The people of Israel clearly understood the divine will of God. "The way" is therefore, God's righteous straight path that He has put in place for us (John 14:6; Matthew 7:13-14; 1 Timothy 6:14).
5. God clearly constituted what He expected of them and demanded their obedience.
6. Not only did the Israelites willfully turn away from the Lord and purposefully created their own god, they actually prostrated themselves in an act of respect as if it is a superior to lead them.
7. God describes Israel as arrogant, rebellious, stubborn like an ox that refuses to accept the heavy yoke on its neck and is unwilling to plow the field as directed by the farmer.
8. God is so angry that He is contemplating totally consuming everyone that has committed treason against Him.
9. God will continuously, endlessly obligate Himself to (fashion) a whole new group of people.

C. Be Accountable (vs. 19-20):

1. What God continuously wanted to do became what Moses wanted to do.
2. Moses became continuously, intensely emotional so that his anger became like an intense ravenous fire consuming him from the inside out.
3. Even though Moses had complete control over the tables, he violently casted the tablets against the mountain intending to smash them.
4. Moses's actions demonstrated his intent to completely destroy the idol. This symbolized how powerless the idol was. It was not necessary for God to do it.
5. The people were made to humble themselves before God.

D. Be Blessed (vs. 29):

1. After the responsible people were held accountable by the Levites, Moses continuously and verbally sought to communicate a blessing upon God's people in an effort to restore them back to God.
2. Worshipping the Lord is only acceptable when we are totally consecrated to Him alone, reverencing Him as the only true God who reigns (Hebrews 12:28-29).

3. The only way that Moses can generously bless them is when they decisively turn their worship back to God.

4. His grace is always sufficient and is always availed to us.

5. God freely provides us His goodwill, and His favor when we sincerely worship Him with a true heart.

BOOKSTORE



ARE YOU READY TO CONNECT WITH A UNIQUE MINISTRY?
THE BOOK STORE IS LOOKING FOR YOU!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING
EMAIL GAIL O'NEAL AT GONEAL@LWFELLOWSHIPCHURCH.ORG

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Save
the
Date

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 13, 2021

8:30 A.M.
IN LEGACY SANCTUARY

LEADERS LET'S FINISH THE YEAR
STRONG WITH THE
LAST TRAINING OF THE YEAR!

PRAYER REQUEST

Grieving: Linda Rainey's family, Reese Times & family, Nedra Chew & family, Brenda Bonhame & family, and Sherri Randle & family.

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Octavia Scott, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Brittany Bullock, Barbara Gordon, Ella James, Pat Crawford, Lisa Roberts, Birdie Williams, Jon Heard, Eric White, Lakessia Davis, and Rutha Patrick.

STEADY



Exodus 32:1, 7-10, 19-20, 29