

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

January 30, 2022

The one thing that I battle with in my walk with the Lord is not praying as I go, but I do take time to pray, that is alone time with God. This was so much a part of the Jewish culture which as we see has become a pattern with traditional Jews who stop each day and pray, three times a day. Daniel was such a great model, and Paul never stopped praying (1 Thessalonians 5:17). The woman with the unjust judge was persistent (Luke 18:1-8) and it is her persistence that provided a great result. This act of dependence on God is a powerful statement of trust in His grace and love for us.



Prayer is such a great privilege. To go before the throne of God's grace with Christ at the right hand of the Father is a blessing that we must never take for granted. When we approach God, we must always bear in mind that He is "Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:9-10). Our prayer must fit within the will of our Father because He and He alone knows what is best for us. Even though we may not feel He understands we must remember to be ".....of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer." (1 Peter 4:7; NASU)

"A rather lazy student noticed that a fellow student always recited her lessons well, so he said to her, "How is it that you always say your lesson so perfectly?" She replied, "I always pray that I may say my lessons well." "Do you?" said the boy somewhat surprised. "Well, then, I will pray, too." However, the next morning he could not even repeat a word of his assigned lesson. Perplexed, he ran to his friend and reproached her as deceitful. "I prayed," said he, "but I could not say a single word of my lesson." "Perhaps," rejoined the other, "you didn't study hard enough!" "I didn't study at all," answered the boy. "I thought I didn't have to study after praying about it." (from Illustrations of Bible Truths Copyright © 1995, 1998 by AMG International, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.) Abiding in His Word gets prayers answered (John 15:7-10).

When a child asks a parent for something the parent answers based on what is best for the child and the family. The more the child understands the parents, the easier the process becomes. The Lord's Prayer ends this way; "For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen" (Matthew 6:13b). Take advantage of our access to God's throne but remember God knows everything and has our best interest at heart (Hebrews 4:16). There is nothing we will say that He did not know thousands of years before we prayed, so trust Him and persistently pray.

UPCOMING Events



Women's Ministry 2022 Kick Off
Calling all Living Word Fellowship ladies, get ready with a mind to reset, refocus and rebuild" (Nehemiah 4:6). Join us for the 2022 Women's Ministry Kickoff Saturday, February 5th, 2022 in the Legacy Sanctuary from 9-11 am. Our theme is "A Divine Reset to refocus and rebuild Nehemiah 4:6" Highlights of ministry areas and opportunities to sign up to serve will be available. Ladies let's jumpstart our 2022! Register today at www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/events



Widows Connected Hearts Fellowship
Join us on February 12, 2022 for the Connected Hearts Fellowship from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. fellowship, fun, food and connect with your sisters in Christ. Register on the events page of our website or contact Mary Wheatley for more information and details. Masks are required.



Covenant Keepers Marriage Ministry Presents My Sweet Valentine Night
The Covenant Keepers Marriage Ministry presents A Sweet Valentines Night Out for couples and singles full of savory food, soothing jazz and fun-filled dancing. Have a wonderful and sweet night out. Register online by Feb. 9th on the events page of our website. \$60 per couple \$30 per single and \$25 for our Silver Stars (55+) Hope to see you there!



Men's Ministry Bible Study
Come and join the Men's Kingdom Builders Bible Study as we go through the Book 'Landmines' by Charles F. Stanley and learn how to avoid the hidden dangers that get in the way of the believer experiencing God and his blessings.



LEGIT MUSEUM DAY OUT 2/26
Come join L.E.G.I.T. Saturday, February 26th 9:15 AM - 2 PM at The African American Library at The Gregory School for an exploration of over six decades of cultural artwork, good food, and great conversation! The exhibit will showcase African American Artists in Texas: Selections from the John L. Nau III Collection of Texas Art LEGIT will meet at the church at 9:15 to pray and connect for carpooling.

Register on the events page of our website or for more information contact Keron Brown at keron.brown@lwfellowshipchurch.org or Monique Glasper at 832.977.9674.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

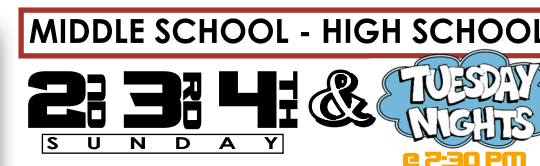
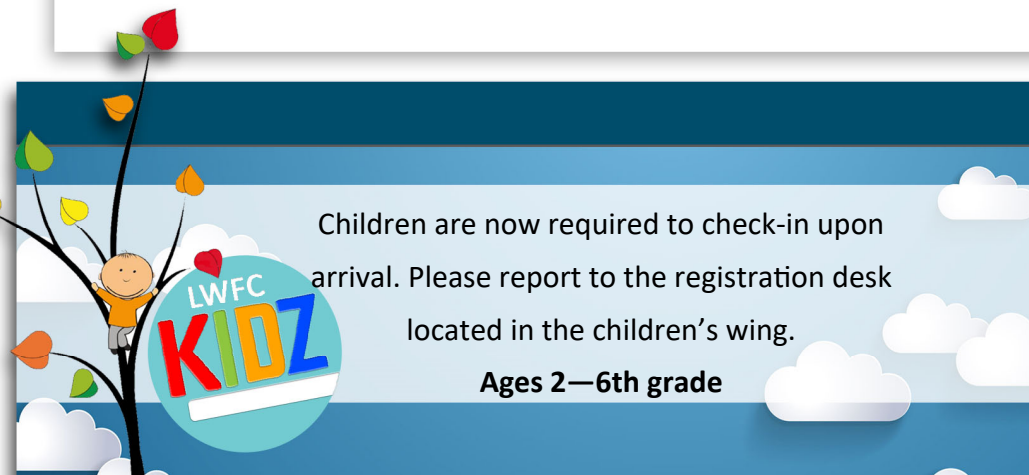
"It Takes a Village"

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

Call to Discipleship

Please remain seated at this time

Benediction



Power Walk Ministries is Hiring
Part Time Secretary

It Takes a Village

Acts 12:11-17

A. God at Work (v. 11):

- 1. Peter eventually came to a full understanding that God released him.
- 2. Even though an angel came, he was sent by the Lord. The Lord initiated the activity of the angel.
- 3. Peter’s call and faithful committed service for the Lord allowed him to experience what the Lord promised in Matthew 28:20.
- 4. The Lord may not stop people from coming against us, but we are never alone. He is ever present fighting for us (1 Peter 2:8-18).
- 5. God did not need anyone’s help. Nothing is impossible for the Lord (Luke 1:37, 18:27).
- 6. Herod a brutal dictator was not stronger and more power than the Lord.

B. When the Church Prays (vs. 12-14):

- 1. Peter set his mind to actively go to Mary’s house, the mother of John Mark.
- 2. The believers gathered for the purpose of praying for Peter’s release.
- 3. They did this continually. It does not seem like they had any plans to stop praying.
- 4. It does not matter who we are, we still need others to pray for us.
- 5. Rhoda’s joy is best described by the true meaning of this word in Greek; “her heart dances with exuberance and great happiness”.
- 6. Rhoda seems to deeply care about for Peter’s well-being.
- 7. The Lord uses a slave girl. God can use whoever chooses to believe.
- 8. They mentioned Peter’s angel because they believed Peter was dead. Jews believed that each person has an angel which Hebrews 1:14 says is true.
- 9. Maybe because of James being killed, Herod being so evil and the Jews being so relentless in their attacks, they were praying but did not have any expectations. Faith is exercised based on what we hope for (Matthew 18:11; Hebrews 11:1).
- 10. Peter’s entire disposition was to get their complete attention, so he persistently kept knocking.

C. The Village Extends the Gospel (v. 17):

- 1. It is not Herod who released Peter. Peter’s work was unfinished.
- 2. God is still in control and directing everything. Peter wants everyone to know the Lord freed him.
- 3. The gospel continued to spread and 1st and 2nd Peter were written.



African-American Museum Day Out
Sat. Feb. 26th
9:15 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Come join the L.E.G.I.T. Young Adults Ministry for an exploration of over six decades of cultural artwork, good food, and great conversation!

For more information, contact Keron Brown at kbrown@lwfellowshipchurch.org or Monique Gasper at 832.977.9674

Register Here at <https://bit.ly/3GildGS>



African American Artists in Texas
Selections from the John L. Nau III Collection of Texas Art at:

The African American Library at The Gregory School
1300 Victor Street
Houston, TX 77019

Meet at the church at 9:15 a.m. to pray and connect for carpoo

A LWFC KIDZ & LEGIT MINISTRY COLLABORATION

FRIDAY, FEB. 18TH
6:00-10:00 P.M.

MOVIE NIGHT

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

LEGACY SANCTUARY

GAMES

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL SYLVIA EDWARDS AT SEDWARDS@LWFELLOWSHIPCHURCH.ORG

PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Lula Walker & family, Carlton Lopes & family, and Carolyn Hadnot & family

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

IT TAKES A

VILLAGE

ACTS 12:11-17

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