

# Pastoral REFLECTIONS

February 20, 2022

## Working Together For God's Glory

Have you ever stopped and wondered how God intended for each individual race of people to work together, especially since some races consider themselves smarter or better than others? According to John 4:1-43, Acts 10:34-35, Galatians 3:28 and Ephesians 2:11-18, every race and nationality from all of mankind is expected to do exactly that for the "Glory of God!"

How is that possible? I'm glad you asked. In order to work together for the glory of God, we must first learn to love Him no matter the circumstances we may encounter. When we submit to Him rather than succumb to cultural norms, we prove to be His disciples, not conformers to the world (Romans 12:2; John 13:34-35). By learning to love Him we would then become engaged in loving each other (Matthew 22:26-40; 1 John 4:7-11). All of this is possible because Christ is the One who established a new covenant for everyone who believes in Him (John 3:16; Ephesians 1:7; Romans 3:22-26; 10:9) and have truly accepted Christ in their lives. "For He Himself is our peace, who made all groups (races) into one, and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall:" (Ephesians 2:14). "But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION (1 Peter 2:9-10; NASU)

All those who are tied into Christ are "one body and one Spirit, just as you also were called to one hope of your calling; one Lord, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all." (Ephesians 4:2-7). Even though we are many members, each member serves (1 Peter 4:10) to make up the one body of Christ (Colossians 1:18) so that each believer will grow to the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:12-16). So, whether you are Hispanic, Black, White, or Asian, if you truly love God, working together with all races brings Him Glory!

When we stand before the Lord, He is not going to separate us by our skin color, whether we think our skin color makes us smarter or better than others. This is what He said, "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory...All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; and He will put sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right, "Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." (Matthew 25:31-34; NASU) Christ expects us to work together because we are one nation under God established by His blood on the cross. (2 Corinthians 3:18)



## UPCOMING Events

	<p><b>LEGIT Museum Day Out - Feb. 26th 9:15 a.m.</b> 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.</p>
	<p><b>Black History Month Health &amp; Wellness Event</b> The Silver Stars 55+ are hosting a Black History Month Health &amp; Wellness Event on <b>Saturday, February 26th from 11 a.m.—1 p.m.</b> in Legacy Sanctuary. Register on the events page of our website and for more information contact <b>Jacquelyn Jordan at Jacqjordan@att.net</b></p>
	<p><b>COVID-19 Q &amp; A With Dr. Judy - Sun. Feb. 27th</b> Our very own Dr. Judith Campbell (Dr. Judy) will answer all of your questions about Covid-19, the vaccines, quarantine times, safety of the vaccines with your children and more on <b>Feb. 27th at 10:00 a.m. in the main sanctuary.</b> See you there! Watch the interview between Pastor Cannings and Dr. Judy on our YouTube channel here <a href="https://youtu.be/BPwAZyMsjOE">https://youtu.be/BPwAZyMsjOE</a></p>
	<p><b>Women of Grace Ministry Resource Workshop Sat., March 5th 9:00-11:00 a.m.</b> The Women of Grace Ministry will host a Resource Workshop to empower women to learn, grow, connect and get the resources they need to get to the next level in their spiritual, emotional, mental, professional or wellness journey. Do more, learn more, get more and be more! Join us and get to the next level God has intended for you! <b>Register on the events page of our website!</b></p>
	<p><b>Usher &amp; Greeter Ministry</b> The Greeters and Ushers Ministry Needs You! The Ushers serve faithfully at Sunday Worship Service, Bible Study, Funerals, and Special Events. Join us to welcome and greet family and guests with enthusiasm and love! We are always looking for more volunteers who have a heart for people from all walks of life to join this team. If you are interested in volunteering, contact <b>Lula Hays at lulahays1@yahoo.com</b></p>



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

*Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses*

Special Music

**"Justice"**  
**Zechariah 7:8-14**

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**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL**

**2:30 4:00 & TUESDAY NIGHTS**

**SUNDAY e 2:30 PM**

LEGACY EFFECTING TODAY FOR TOMMORROW youth ministry of LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP



## Justice

Zechariah 7:8-14

### A. The Mindset (vs. 8-10):

1. God is always seeking our attention; preacher after preacher, radio, TV and other media outlets, to win our hearts and lives to Himself just like He did for Israel.
2. This message could not be misinterpreted because it came directly to Zechariah from the Lord.
3. The people are described by Him as stubborn, and the Lord describes Himself as the Lord of Host; the mighty warrior. (1 Peter 5:5; Proverbs 13:13).
4. The Lord of host commands them to organize an administrative process that delivers the people from oppression so that they live in peace. God is holy and therefore just.
5. They were commanded to litigate every decision based on the Word of God. This was not to be out of political biases or personal convictions.
6. They have an ethical obligation to obey the commands of the Lord of host and to remain steadfastly loyal to each other by generously maintaining each other's rights.
7. Generously love each other with sensitivity being given to each other's needs.
8. They must continuously not defraud, extort, or exploit the widows or the orphans, the stranger, or the poor.
9. By stating "evil in your heart", the Lord is saying that they must not create in themselves the mind or will to live in violation of God's standards as they relate to each other (Amos 5:14-15).

### B. Must Listen (v. 11):

1. The people of Israel continuously rejected what the Lord of host said, refusing to obey the will of God.
2. Their body language was continuously decisively demonstrating their lack of interest.
3. They purposefully put it in their minds to force themselves to completely not even try to come to an understanding of what's being said.
4. Flint implies that their hearts became impenetrable due to its extreme hardness.
5. Because their hearts were impenetrable, they had no desire to be instructed about the Word.
6. They need to listen because He's "got the power".
7. The Lord's love for them causes Him to try harder by sending Spirit led prophets.
8. The Lord became continuously angry because of their unwillingness to submit to His will.

### C. The Avenger (v. 12):

1. They were totally committed to not provide their undivided attention to the Lord.
2. Israel continuously, loudly sought to get the Lord of host attention.
3. The Lord of host had determined to endlessly not listen to Israel.
4. The mighty holy warrior who reigns was completely committed to not listen to their prayers (John 15:1-11).
5. The Lord of host punished Israel by scattering them.
6. It is Israel's stubborn attitude that caused their desolation.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

*Silver Stars 55+  
Health & Wellness Event*

**SATURDAY FEB. 26TH  
11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.  
LEGACY SANCTUARY  
REGISTER AT [HTTPS://BIT.LY/33GT18N](https://bit.ly/33GT18N)**

## LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

*Stay Connected For All  
Events*



## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Grieving:** Pam Collier & family, Eleanor Wilson & family, Helen Wardlow & family, Vivian Buckner & family, the family of George Kiel, Kathy Burrell & family, Beverly Austin & family, Leo and Daphne Banks & family, and Susie Farley & 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.

# JUSTICE

ZECHARIAH 7:8-14