

# Pastoral REFLECTIONS

## February 6, 2022

Paul was the most aggressive apostle to address racism. Here are a few of many examples in scripture.

1. Paul's ministry was to the Gentiles (Acts 9:15; 15:7), the people the Jews once referred to as dogs.
2. Some black Gentile brothers anointed Paul for ministry (Acts 13:1-3).
3. Paul addresses the church in Ephesus about accepting their Gentile brothers without being biased (Ephesians 2:11-19).
4. Paul openly confronted Peter about the way Peter behaved towards his Gentile brothers (Galatians 2:11-14).
5. Paul is one who was the most vocal during the dispute concerning the Gentiles being circumcised (Acts 15:1-35).
6. Paul is the one who wrote Galatians 3:26-29; *"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise."*
7. Paul's argument in Romans chapter 3-5 is that we are one whether Jew or Gentile through Christ Jesus.
8. Paul in Colossians 3:11 says *"... A renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all."*
9. Paul wrote the book of Philemon instructing a slave owner on how to treat his slave as a fellowship brother in Christ. Paul calls Philemon who was a slave *"our beloved brother and fellow worker."* *"...that you would have him back forever, no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother, especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. If then you regard me as a partner, accept him as you would me."* (Philemon 1:15-17).

### Remember

*"Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 2:1-5; NASU)

*"The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now. The one who loves his brother abides in the Light (1 John 1:5-8) and there is no cause for stumbling in him; but the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes."* (1 John 2:9-11; NASU)



## UPCOMING Events



**LWFC Drama Ministry Auditions for the Easter Production –Today After Second Service**  
The LWFC Drama Ministry will host auditions for the Easter Production today after second service in the main sanctuary. Please contact **Rita Hughes or Melita Washington** if you cannot attend or for more information at [melita290@gmail.com](mailto:melita290@gmail.com)



**Widows Connected Hearts Fellowship**  
Join us on **Feb. 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 at [mwheatley2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mwheatley2@sbcglobal.net) for more information and details. Masks are required.



**Covenant Keepers Marriage Ministry Presents My Sweet Valentine Night - Fe.b. 12th 7:30 p.m.**  
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 (\$5+) Hope to see you there!



**Men's Ministry Bible Study - Feb. 19th 9 a.m.**  
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 Feb. 26th 9:15 a.m.**  
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](mailto: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

"The Source"

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

Call to Discipleship

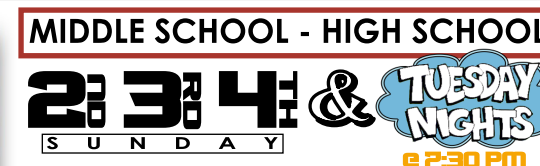
Please remain seated at this time

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**





The Source  
Luke 17:5-10

A. Microscopic (vs. 5-6):

1. After Jesus talked about the consequences for being a false teacher and the need to forgive seventy times seventy the apostles requested more faith.
2. By apostles Luke is identifying those whom had seen Jesus and have been the authority (Paul – 2 Corinthians 15:6-9; Acts 9; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; 1 Corinthians 9:1; Acts 1:20-26) to write the scriptures (John 17:13-19), and represent Christ throughout the world while establishing the church.
3. The apostles commanded Christ to take to a whole another level to increase their confidence and steadfast conviction in His Word so that they can intensely trust, fully surrendering to obey Him.
  - a) Faith comes from God (Romans 10:17; we hear because of John 6:44).
  - b) Faith begins with hope and this expectation creates faith (Hebrews 11:1).
  - c) Doubting cancels faith (James 5:6)
4. Jesus said to them that their confident trust in His ability to do what He is teaching does not need to be large. It just needs to exist even if it as small as a mustard seed.
5. Once they say only what the Lord is saying, based on His Word, whatever they are speaking to will conduct itself accordingly no matter how impossible it may seem.

B. Directional (vs. 7-9):

1. Trusting the Lord at His Word, in the manner described above, is like being completely at the will of another. This slave is someone who diligently, habitually work hard at fulfilling what they were assigned to do.
2. Even though the slave functions in a diligent manner they will still be treated as a slave and will always be required to serve their master whether in the fields or when they come to church.
3. The slave is not first asked to come and find shelter, rest, and refreshment because they diligently obeyed their master because they are a slave.
4. When the slaves come inside, they would be commanded to manage the serving of food which is a lot of work in their day. The work of the slave is not done until all the needs of the master are taken care of.
5. The master does not provide generosity to the slave. In other words, no favors are extended to the slave as he would to an employee who works hard.
6. There are no special favors extended to the slave because he only did what was required.

C. Comprehensive (v. 10):

1. The disciples must operate with the same mindset as a slave if they want their faith increased.
2. When the disciples behave in the same manner as the slave described in this passage, they must continually keep saying they are undeserving of praise. If all they do is what the law demands they do.
3. If the apostle's function at the will of the master, as described in this passage, they prove to lack the qualities that would have provided to them special commendations.
  - a) Faith is accepting the role of an obedient servant without expecting great gratitude and reward. Faith trusts Jesus and so follows Jesus.
4. They kept continuously doing what they were obligated to do because of the commands of the Lord. This is the increased faith because they remained steadfast, abounding in the work of the Lord (1 Cor. 15:58).



PRAYER REQUESTS

**Grieving:** Pam Collier & family, Doris Henderson & family, Eleanor Wilson & family, Helen Wardlow & family, and Vivian Buckner & 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.

THE SOURCE

LUKE 17:5-10