

# Pastoral REFLECTIONS

June 12, 2022

## The Faith in Surrender

We must allow God to have His way. When God is in control, we are allowing someone Who loves us with His whole life to care for us, fight for us, and to direct our lives. There is nothing to lose! We have everything to gain (Philippians 1:21; 3:7-16). The issue that prevents us from allowing God to have His way in our lives is our lack of complete trust in Him.

A little boy walked down the beach, and as he did, he spied a matronly woman sitting under a beach umbrella in the sand. He walked up to her and asked, "Are you a Christian?" She said, "Yes." He then asked, "Do you read your Bible every day?" She replied, "Yes." He surprised her by asking another question. "Do you pray often?" She answered with a smile, "Yes." After this question was answered, the young boy sighed expressively and then asked one final question, "Will you hold my quarter while I go swimming?"

The young boy's faith in God caused him to trust this woman with his quarter. Is our faith in Christ being alive in us and our belief that he is the only way, truth, and life, enough for us to trust Him with our life? If our answer is yes, then we must allow God to have His way by first committing to renew our minds, so He can transform them. Second, we have to allow ourselves to experience His perfect will (Rom. 12:2; 2 Corinthians 3:18). "I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve." (Jeremiah 17:10; NIV)

Sometimes people will ask, what is God's will? The answer is found only when you release your will to Him, trust that Christ loves you and will never leave you, nor forsake you (Matthew 11:38-30; John 10:11-18). His Word never returns void (Isaiah 55:11), it endures at all times (1 Peter 1:22-25), it is powerful (Hebrews 4:12) and the Holy Spirit remains with us forever (John 14:16-21). The Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth and enlighten our hearts to love Christ as we experience His love for us. (Ephesians 1:18; 3:14-21; 5:15-18).

Remember God is most glorified in us, when we are most surrendered to Him.



## UPCOMING Events



**600 Club 3-Month Giving Campaign**  
Living Word Family, please give to the **600 Club Giving Campaign** over the next three months so we can replace everything lost in the recent fire, including the lawnmower tractor trailer which keeps our grounds in compliance with city codes. Also we will improve the parking lot at the Christian Outreach Center. The COC has been feeding over one hundred families 3-5 times a week throughout the pandemic. To give, use the envelopes and boxes around the church or **Give Online** by clicking on the Give Tab and choosing the **600 Club** dropdown in the menu. Thank you so much for your continued support!



**SHEPHERDING TRAINING—JUNE 25TH 10 A.M.**  
If you are currently serving in a Deacon Family as a Coordinator, Prayer Leader, Comfort & Care Leader, Minister for Deacon Family, Steward, and New Members Leader or you desire to serve in any of the mentioned areas of service, please make plans to attend our Deacon Family Fellowship Training on Saturday, June 25, 2022, 10:00 a.m. in Legacy. Register on the **Events Page of our Website** or for more information contact **Pastor Duane Lawrence at (281) 260-7402 or dlawrence@lwfellowshipchurch.org**



**KINGDOM BUILDER'S MEN'S MINISTRY MOVIE DAY—SHOW ME THE FATHER**  
Join us for a Watch Party **Sat. June 18th from 12:00-3:00 p.m.** in the Legacy Sanctuary. Come and get fresh insight on the roles fathers play in today's society. Get new perspectives on your earthly father and above all learn how to better relate to God, your heavenly father. For more information visit the **Events Page of our Website** or contact **James Thompson at thompson929@gmail.com**



**ABC WORD ACADEMY—PLAYGROUND DESIGN WORKSHOP AT JUNE 18TH 12:00 — 2:00 P.M.**  
Join ABC Word Academy and the Outdoor Learning Environment (OLE) sponsored by the Texas Department of State Health to give your input at an Outdoor Design Workshop to help beautify the playground and outdoor spaces around ABC Word Academy. For more information contact **ABC Word at (281) 445-9673**



**LEGIT BE THE LIGHT CONFERENCE JULY 29TH 6:30 P.M. —JULY 30TH 9:00 A.M.**  
Ever wonder how you can make an impact for the kingdom as a young adult? Join the LEGIT Young Adults Ministry for empowering messages, dynamic worship, and engaging breakout sessions to discuss topics relevant to your maturity in faith as a young adult. 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

"Intentional"

Acts 16:14-15, Luke 8:11-15

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

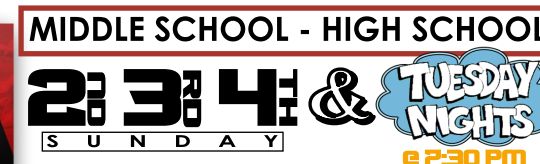
Call to Discipleship

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.

Infants—6th grade





**Intentional**  
**Acts 16:14-15**  
**Luke 8:11-15**

**A. Be Purposeful (v. 14):**

1. Lydia’s dedication to God in a polluted religious system was already a blessing to her and her family.
2. Lydia was single, productive and ran her household so well that those who lived among her respected and followed her leadership. How often do you find a wealthy person caring for her servants so well that they would follow her leadership to Christ so readily.
3. Lydia, without hearing the gospel message, knew enough to become a person who revered God to the point that she was in awe of Him and completely continuously devoted to Him. This is despite all the false religion that existed in this city that was controlled by Rome.
4. Lydia was continuously in awe of God because she viewed God as the superior creator she understood Him to be. Her view that continuously created reverence for God was because she had a true understanding of who God was. This is similar to David in Psalm 8.
5. I believe that because Lydia was already drawn to God (imperfect tense meaning this was her endless disposition), like the Samaritan woman, she was a part of the fields being ripe for harvest.
6. Lydia’s heart was so prepared for the Lord’s Word that she endlessly gave her full attention to all that Paul and Timothy were saying. She did not need any of the frills that come with church ministry today. Her heart was ready for the Word.
7. Lydia proved to be good soil because of how committed she was to the Lord.
8. The Lord who has all power and authority moved with the will of Lydia so that her desire to experience and know God would become totally available to her. God created in her a desire to learn about Him and understand His ways.
9. The scripture is careful to say that the Lord opened her heart which means that Lydia was so ready to receive Christ, the Lord powerfully moved so that her inner spirit became controlled by His power.
10. Lydia’s life completely belongs to the Lord because she surrendered her heart to Him and it was changed by Him. Her life now makes a difference for God’s kingdom purposes. This led her to be a strong supporter of the ministry expansion of Paul. She was one hundred percent in; a soldier. She is an unsung hero in the scriptures.
11. Because Lydia was ready and the Lord responded, she continuously gave her complete attention to everything that was taught by Paul and Timothy. She was devoted to their teaching.
12. Speak – Paul was continuously teaching the Word with no plans to stop and Lydia was all in.

**B. Be Faithful (v. 15):**

1. Lydia was so engaged in what the Lord had done in her life and what He was doing in Thyatira she convinced her entire household to surrender their lives like she did. It seems that this was something she had not done before when she was a proselyte of Judaism.
2. Lydia’s experience of Christ was so meaningful she took this relationship to another level and earnestly pleaded with Paul and Timothy with an authoritative tone to come stay at her home.
3. Lydia challenged Paul to make a decision as whether he has to condemn her or find her trustworthy, and dependable because she proves to be someone who would remain steadfast in doing the Lord’s will. This proves true when we read verse 40.
4. Lydia was so confident of the work that Christ had done in her life that she did not mind Paul evaluating her character so that he could depend on her to fulfill whatever the Lord would request for her to do since she was convinced that He ruled her life.
5. When someone is fully surrendered to Christ, the Lordship of Christ in and through their lives always sets the agenda for how they live their lives. Lydia’s life was now totally Spirit-led.
6. Lydia not only leads her household spiritually, she desires to continuously be a supporter of Paul’s ministry so that whatever Paul needs to accomplish, for God’s glory, she can be depended upon to get it done.
7. Lydia was compelling with her request, somewhat forceful, so as to willfully persuade Paul and Timothy to remain in her home. This exposes her excitement and passion for the ministry.
8. Lydia’s full surrender to the Lord created a passion for ministry that made a difference in Thyatira and wherever the Lord led Paul to serve.

KINGDOM BUILDER'S MEN'S  
MINISTRY PRESENTS

# MOVIE DAY

SATURDAY  
JUNE 18TH  
12:00 - 3:00 P.M.  
LEGACY SANCTUARY

ALL ARE WELCOME!

SNACKS, FUN & SHOW ME THE  
FATHER MOVIE FELLOWSHIP

REGISTER AT  
<https://bit.ly/38BvTvE>

FROM THE CREATORS OF WAR ROOM AND COURAGEOUS

KENDRICK BROTHERS'

## SHOW ME THE FATHER

EVERYONE HAS A FATHER STORY AND IT'S STILL BEING WRITTEN

3-MONTH 600-CLUB GIVE-CAMPAIGN TO:

- REPLACE LOST FIRE ITEMS INCLUDING TRACTOR LAWNMOWER
- IMPROVE CHRISTIAN OUTREACH PARKING LOT

GIVE TO THE  
600 CLUB

Click Give on Our Website &  
Choose 600 Club on the Dropdown  
[www.lwfellowshipchurch.org](http://www.lwfellowshipchurch.org)

GOAL:  
\$85,000

CURRENT:  
\$26,311

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Grieving:** Christopher Chapman & family, Jenny Dangerfield & family, Ruth Cranford & the Slaughter family, and Beatrice Williams and family.

**Health and Healing:** Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Octavia Scott, Margaret Baptiste, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Barbara Gordon, Eric White, Ella James, Pat Crawford, Lisa Roberts, Birdie Williams, Jon Heard, Lakessia Davis, Rutha Patrick, the Tillis family, Betty Goode, Loretha Logan, and Willie Phillips.

# INTENTIONAL

ACTS 16:14-15  
LUKE 8:11-15

WWW.LWFELLOWSHIPCHURCH.ORG | @lwfchouston

7350 TC JESTER BOULEVARD HOUSTON, TEXAS 77088 281-260-7402

THE JOURNAL AND THE URBAN LOWTIME, N. E. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

CLAY AND JEROME IN ACTION | CHAIRMAN: MARK DELACATES | PEOPLE IN PRINT | CRISIS REPORTING FUND

CHILDREN OF LEWIS COUNTY | TO OTCA BOARD MEETING | L. A. DORRICK IS REPORTING LOSS | NOW GIES INTO EFFECT