Pastoral REFLECTIONS

June 19, 2022

Happy Father's Day!

Happy Father's Day men!! I sincerely pray that you have a blessed day and I am glad that the Lord chose you to be a father.

For some reason when my wife told me we were expecting a baby, I felt my whole world had changed. Because of the legacy that my father and mother provided to me I knew my life no longer belonged to me. I can't tell you why I felt that way, I just did. It was the best decision outside of giving my life to Christ, I ever made. It was a decision to dedicate myself to learning how to be a father. I was not good all the time, but in my failures, I fought to get better and in my lack of knowledge, I learned how to seek advice. Over time, I learned things that have strengthened my growth and made being a father more purposeful.

Love God first by being willing to adjust to whatever He says. I became more and more committed to learning His Word, always believing there is more to learn. When we

put God above everyone, we all eventually end up on the same common denominator, God's Word. I did not know at the time that this meant His love would become how I love (1 John 2:3-6; 4:7-21). The love God gives me for my wife strengthens us to walk together even in the tough times. This became a source of strength for our family because it caused our sons to do the same for each other because of what they saw in us. It instilled trust and the value of church, causing it to be a place we needed, not just to attend, but it also made us all accountable to one ultimate being, the Lord God. As a minister I learned that this process protected my family from being destroyed (Hosea 4:6); when I didn't reject His Word, and chose to walk in it, He sustained my home, both financially (Proverbs 24:3-5) and spiritually.

He taught me to remain committed to seeking godly advice from people who knew the scriptures and lived them. "Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise." (Proverbs 19:20; NIV). "Many plans are in a man's heart, but the counsel of the Lord will stand." (Proverbs 19:21; NASU) This, I later learned, transfers to the children and leads to a productive home. "A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish man despises his mother." (Proverbs 15:20; NASU)

God taught me to walk by faith and not by sight. He taught me to never limit my son's potential and to never let them quit, but to always walk with them so they find strength, never thinking they can ever fail. So fathers, be there in their times of pain, be there to rejoice with them and never forsake them whether they do good or bad. The one thing I have enjoyed most, even several times when I did not know what to do or how things would turn out, was being a father.

To all of the fathers I say to you, stay the course!

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



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



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 Moniqua Glasper at 832.977.9674.



LWFC SUMMER CAMP DISCOVERY 6:30 A.M.—6:00 P.M. SPECIAL LIMITED PRICE—\$85 PER WEEK

Unique weekly themes mind-expanding, hands-on activities designed to make our campers smile, think, explore, and grow spiritually in exciting new directions. Your child will discover fun, learning friendships, and a lifetime of memories. For more information, call (713) 686-5538 or register at www.lwcacademy.org



CFCL TEACHER TRAINING JULY 23RD—24TH

Calling all Center for Christian Living Teachers, it's time for growth, greater understanding and skills to feed God's people. Join us for a training on July 23 at 9 a.m. and July 24 at 1 p.m. Register on the events page of our website and contact Nord Bullock for more information nordbullock@yahoo.com



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

"Legacy"

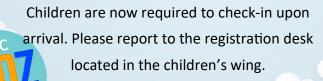
Deuteronomy 6:1-3

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

Call to Discipleship

Please remain seated at this time

Benediction



Infants—6th grade





SERMON OUTLINE

Legacy Deuteronomy 6:1-3

It Has to Start Here (vs. 1-2):

- 1. Before they go into the land, God provides clear cut divine directives through Moses that Israel is obligated to obey. God teaches this to the adults, most likely the emphasis would be to the head of households.
- 2. Moses did not just say "God", he said the "Lord God", meaning the One who established His covenant with Israel and the One who reigns over them is God and He is Supreme and Ruler over all things. He does not just lead Israel, He rules the universe. There is nothing outside of His control.
- 3. From the past to the present the Lord God has dedicated His Word to become the constitution that directed all that Israel did. No one can faithfully obey God's command if there is no inner commitment to respect what the Lord has said.
- 4. When the adults submit to God, they are the best communicators of the Word of God to their children. The man is Christ (Ephesians 5:25), washing his wife with the Word before God instructs him to discipline and instruct his children (Ephesians 6:4).
- 5. God's desire is to create understanding among His people, so that they clearly know how to walk with Him and experience a meaningful and productive relationship with Him.
- 6. God expects Israel to be obligated to His divine will. This is demonstrated by their faithful commitment to cause themselves, even when they don't feel like it, to work hard to obey all He has commanded them.
- 7. Their obligation to obey God creates the discipline that is necessary to consistently walk in His ways. It takes discipline because there are other religions, neighboring cultures and our own weaknesses that can lead us away from $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}\nolimits.$ Obeying $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}\nolimits$ takes a lot of work.
- 8. I Everything is established so that all of Israel lives in the land in reverent awe of the Lord God (Hebrews 12:28-29). Their reverent respect for the Lord would take place because they have a clear understanding of His power and might, especially since they were exposed to it for forty
- 9. A reverence for the Lord's power and might should drive them to pay close attention to what they have learned, causing them to make every effort to remember His rules that are written in stone, meaning they are unchangeable and the clear-cut directives of His moral will.
- 10. When there is a reverent fear of the Lord causing believers to be faithful in their obedience to the Word, God provides prosperity and vitality to their day to day lives (Psalm 112:1-3).
- 11. Being respectfully responsive to the Word of God not only provides prosperity and vitality, it also lengthens a person's life (Psalm 128:5-6) providing them a long life at a time when there were no hospitals nor sophisticated medical practices taking place in the Promise Land.

It is a Blessing (v. 3):

- 1. Israel, as a result, was called upon to provide their undivided attention for the purpose of gaining a full knowledge and understanding of all that was being taught.
- 2. They were expected to be careful to always provide vigilant attention to all that has been thought so that they know specifically how to channel all their energy to obeying all that the Lord has required of them.
- 3. Our respect of God's Word, reverence of His mighty power and appreciation of His blessings, should cause us to be most willing to do whatever He commands us to do.
- 4. Israel would become prosperous, accumulating much wealth because their inner commitment to obey God's standards pleased Him.
- 5. When this structure is maintained, without hospitals and sophisticated medical practices, they will without measure increase in number to become a powerful nation (this took place under
- 6. No matter the opposition or obstacles, God proved how committed He was to His covenant with Israel and how supreme His power was when He established them to be a powerful nation in accordance with everything He said He would do.
- 7. God's Word should be trusted because they were living in the evidence. So it is important to pass His Word down from generation-to-generation since it is by His Word we live and find our being forever and forever (Proverbs 13:13).





PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Jenny Dangerfield and family, Anthony Davis and family, Alexander and Ruth Cranford and family, and Ken and Nesha Scott and family

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Octavia Scott, Margaret Baptists, Cici Sharpe, 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, and Willie Phillips

FATHER'S DAY!



DEUTERONOMY 6:1-3





