

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

June 26, 2022

Raise Them Up



The Vancouver Province reports the story of a New York “mad mother.” Mrs. William Morris Friday paid a \$55 traffic fine for her 18-year-old son, then drew back her right hand and gave him a resounding smack. Magistrate Charles Solomon appeared startled at first, but quickly recovered himself and broke into a grin. “Madam,” he said, “that calls for a \$10 reduction in the fine.” “That’s nothing,” replied Mrs. Morris, “wait till I get him home.”

Children learn from parents because parenting is a life-to-life experience. This is clearly illustrated in the life of Timothy. “For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois, and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that is in you as well.” (2 Timothy 1:5) “You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” (2 Tim 3:14-15; NASU) Even though Timothy’s mother was a married woman, she was single when it came to raising her son in the fear of God. This is critical because Timothy’s spiritual influence and development not only saved his life, but all those around him (1 Timothy 4:16). Christ is life (John 10:10), so trusting the scriptures to guide how a child is raised and how they are educated to live is critical (Matthew 18:6, 19:13-16).

The Bible places a heavy responsibility on the father to take on the challenge of raising his children (Ephesians 6:4), and if he does not faithfully parent his children, God will curse the land (Malachi 4:6). Parenting in this manner means that a father must allow God to build his house (Psalm 127). To do this, he must fear God (Psalm 128). When he fears God and leads his home, God promises to financially bless his house (Psalm 112:1-3). “The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, and he who sires (fathers) a wise son will be glad in him.” (Proverbs 23:24; NASU) When God breathes life into a father and mother, he has the power of the Holy Spirit to breathe life into their children. This cannot take place until fathers and mothers commit to walk with the Lord personally as well as obey God for the direction of their home (Proverbs 24:3-5). Allowing the Lord to be our parent is the best process for us being nurtured by Him to be great parents (Matthew 18:1-6). When we are faithful as parents, we will gain the best friends ever in our children.

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!



FBE WORKMANSHIP CONTEST
We Need Your Vote!
The LWFC Kidz Ministry worked diligently to create a workman that they feel would represent them. Please vote on originality and creativity based on Eph. 2:10, after first and second service in the foyer near Legacy. Get your tickets from Brother Crowe. Thank you for voting and your support during FBE!



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

“Game Plan”

1 Peter 3:8 - 12

Click on the “Resources” tab and click “Sermon Notes”

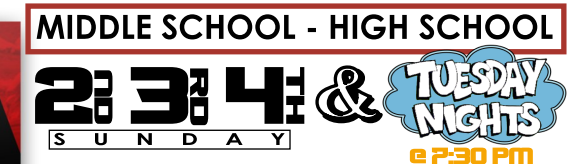
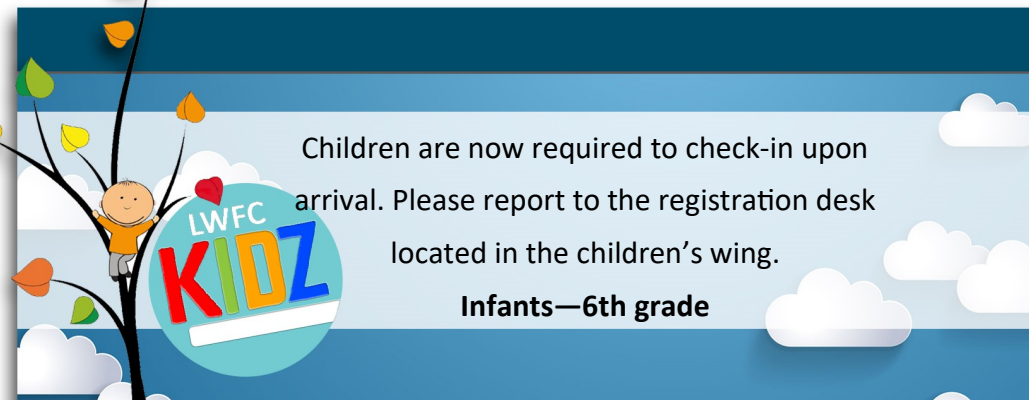
Call to Discipleship

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



Game Plan 1 Peter 3:8-12

A. When Under Pressure, Trust God (vs. 8-9):

1. This is the goal of what Peter has been talking about to this point in this letter.
2. We must seek to be of the same mind, especially when relationships become difficult even if things seem to be going very wrong like it was for Christ when He suffered (2:21-24).
3. When a person experiences difficult circumstances in their lives, we must seek to share those feelings by igniting the same feeling we would have if we were faced with the same situation (1 Thessalonians 5:13-15).
4. Our focus should be to create a community of believers that would be committed to loving one another so that when there are difficult times, people would have a group of believers to depend on.
5. Within the circle of brothers and sisters we need to be compassionate, refusing to turn a cold shoulder on one another.
6. We are encouraged to demonstrate the Christ-like attitude that Peter outlined above that we must not seek to willfully create harm towards one another.
7. We do not seek to possess an attitude whereby we condemn a person or scorn them just because they condemn or scorn us.
8. We must do the opposite, seek to speak well of the person and provide to them the attitude listed in this verse.
9. We are called to a life of holiness, a life to be Christ-like, different from the way the world reacts when placed in the same situation.
10. What God has instored for us, through Christ death (Ephesians 1:13-14), we experience because we choose to suffer righteously.
11. The free spontaneous gift that the Lord would bountifully, generously desire to bestow upon us becomes a reality through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The manner of how this becomes a reality is listed in verse 10-12, 16-17.

B. Cause God to be Your Defense (vs. 10-11):

1. God is our defense when we choose to make it our focus to steadfastly keep the faith and not repay evil for evil or insult for insult, but rather to seek harmony, be sympathetic and be brotherly with a kindhearted spirit; our reward is not just a blessed life on earth, but at the beamer seat judgment we will gain the Crown of Life (Revelation 2:10). We will also share the crown of Christ in heaven (Revelation 2:21-22).
2. A person that will be blessed is a person who makes it a pattern in their life, as directed by the Holy Spirit, to demonstrate sympathy, brotherly kindness and live with a humble spirit.
3. The believer that functions in this manner is going to come to a full understanding of how the Lord would cause their life to be profitable for themselves and those around them.
4. With all the very difficult issues these believers were experiencing daily, Peter knew that to keep their tongue from evil was extremely difficult (modeled on the cross; 2:21-25) and therefore if done, it deserves a reward (James 1:26).
5. Under the pressure of suffering a believer must purposefully make every effort to not be crafty or deceitful in their conversations.
6. We must decisively decide to live in the power of our inheritance, the Holy Spirit (Matthew 19:16-17 – good can only come from God), and willfully turn away from being malicious.
7. To experience God's rewards, as we saw with Christ on the cross, we must seek to do what benefits others so that relationships become blessed by God and therefore profitable for everyone.
8. The Holy Spirit is our peace so we must make a point to strive to not live in the flesh (Galatians 5:20) but in the Spirit because peace is not a feeling, it is not something we can create; it is empowered by the Spirit and therefore only established by the Spirit.
9. The context of this passage indicates that seeking peace has to do with relationships with others, but the verse leaves this seeking somewhat open. It seems like it can also make seeking, like chasing after the influence of the Holy Spirit so that we experience His powerful movement in our lives, especially in difficult circumstances.
10. We are commanded with intense energy to be hasty to seek to live out our heritage with the work of the Holy Spirit within us, so that this is all we do when people are attacking us or when our lives are very stressful.

C. God Fights for Those Who Trust Him (v. 12):

1. The eyes of the One (eyes – anthropomorphism) who has all power and authority and sincerely desires to sustain a covenant relationship with us, has “penetrating sharpness” and has a full knowledge of all that is taking place in us and around us.
2. Every movement the Lord takes is specifically directed to those who willfully commit to live up to the standards that He has put in place for us.
3. When we go before the Lord, who controls everything, for specific blessings, He provides His complete attention to all those who humbly submit to His standards.
4. The face of the Lord means the totality of all that He is (His presence) and is set to oppose those who purposefully go against His standards. Evil here is not said to be of only those who are opposing the believers; it seems to imply anyone who willfully violates the Word of God.
5. The person who makes it a habit to continuously be malicious by the manner in which they act towards creating harm towards others should be aware that the Lord God will commit Himself to oppose everything they are doing. So even though the Lord is slow to anger and abounding in love, there comes a time when He will stand for those who practice righteousness.
6. In quoting Ps. 34:16, Peter left out the closing words “to cut off the memory of them from the earth.” This omission was not an oversight. We are living in the dispensation of the grace of God; it is the acceptable year of the Lord. The day of vengeance of our God has not come yet. When the Lord Jesus returns as King of kings and Lord of lords, He will punish evildoers and cut off the memory of them from the earth.

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

GOAL: \$85,000

CURRENT: 45,396.55

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Octavia Scott, Margaret Baptiste, 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, Janice Collins, Noah Cain, Betty Goode, and Willie Phillips.



1 PETER 3:8-12