

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

July 3, 2022

Be Resolute

Obedience is difficult because God's standards do not always make sense to us (1 Corinthians 1:18-25), because our sinful nature is contrary to His righteousness. A speaker once said, "Every great person first learned how to obey, whom to obey, and when to obey." This is because it is our duty to obey God's commands, rather than seek to direct His counsel.

Aretta Loving, a Wycliffe missionary, was washing her breakfast dishes when she saw Jimmy, the five-year-old neighbor, headed straight toward the back porch. She had just finished painting the back porch handrails, and she was proud of her work. "Come around to the front door, Jimmy," she shouted. "There's wet paint on the porch rails." "I'll be careful," Jimmy replied, not turning from his path. "No, Jimmy! Don't come up the steps," Aretta shouted, knowing of Jimmy's tendency to mess things up. "I'll be careful," he said again, but by now he is dangerously close to the steps. "Jimmy, stop!" Aretta shouted. "I don't want carefulness. I want obedience!" As the words burst from her mouth, she suddenly remembered Samuel's response to King Saul: "To obey is better than sacrifice."

Aretta thought to herself, "How often am I like Saul or like Jimmy, wanting to go my own way?" I rationalize, "I'll be careful Lord, as I proceed with my own plans." "But He doesn't want carefulness, He wants obedience." (Stories, Illustrations & Quotes by Robert J. Morgan)

"Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:7-9)

It is when we are resolute to live under the authority of God that it generates the work and influence of the Holy Spirit. Spiritual development leads to lasting genuine relationships that bring God glory and blesses us (John 13:34-35; 1 John 1:5-7). Living in our own strength does not provide us the ability to make relationships last (Galatians 5:16-25). He is the source, the accountability structure and the direction that makes relationships joyful and peaceful.



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!



WOMEN OF GRACE MINISTRY—July 22-23 DESPERATE FOR JESUS CONFERENCE—DALLAS
Ladies Join us for the "Desperate for Jesus Conference" in Dallas at Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Church July 22-23. Register for the conference via conference website, reserve your hotel and carpool with other ladies. The first caravan group plans to leave the church at 12:30pm on Friday July 22nd. Conference is \$50 Visit the events page of our website for all information on how to register via the Conference page.



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 the 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

"Inner Circle"

Proverbs 18:24; 27:6, 10 (Proverbs 17:17; 19:7)

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

LEGACY
EFFECTING TODAY FOR TOMMORROW
youth ministry of LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP

MIDDLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL
2:30 4:00 & TUESDAY NIGHTS
SUNDAY 6:30 PM

SERMON OUTLINE

Inner Circle Proverbs 18:24; 27:6, 10 (Proverbs 17:17; 19:7)

A. Circle of Trust (Proverbs 27:6; 18:24):

1. When a friend creates lasting affliction on another friend's life, it is trustworthy because it is true.
2. The kind of friends who hurt and can be trusted, are the kind of friends who have proven that they are sincerely dedicated to establishing a loving relationship.
3. The words of an enemy are those who are like Judas. He was an associate, acting like a true friend, alluring people with his persuasive words.
4. A hateful person is one who is hostile, seeks strife, is crafty and misleading about their true intentions, they do not desire a sincere relationship although pretending the entire time.
5. Too many associates are not wise.
6. It is not wise to have too many associates or personal friends because it leads to decisions that can deliberately hurt others or make a person so confused, they become useless or distressed.
7. There is another kind of person who is more than an associate. They are like David and Johnathan were to each other. They had a strong emotional attachment to each other and sincerely desired to spend significant time together.
8. The kind of friends that have a deep emotional connection will forever cleave together like a faithful believer who clings to God.
9. A true friend is so dedicated; they will be more committed to their friend than a blood brother.

B. Never Broken (Proverbs 27:10; 17:17):

1. We must continuously seek to not put aside, abandon, or neglect a person who we consider to be an associate, a family friend, or a marriage partner.
2. We must not abandon or neglect a family friend that has a close relationship to one's father.
3. Continuously make it a point to not go to one's brother's house on the day when there is a disaster.
4. By calamity Solomon means a time when people may have deliberately violated the Word of God creating trouble, whether it is something that is disastrous or even a military event.
5. It is pleasant and of practical benefit to have a friendly person live nearby.
6. A neighbor who is near provides excellent life experiences compared to a person who one holds dear as a family member that is significantly a distance away.

"LET NO ONE LOOK DOWN ON YOUR YOUTHFULNESS, BUT RATHER IN SPEECH, CONDUCT, LOVE, FAITH AND PURITY, SHOW YOURSELF AN EXAMPLE OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE." 1 TIMOTHY 4:12

BE THE LIGHT

FEATURING EXALT THE KING FOR WORSHIP

YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE
GUEST SPEAK: LEON BROOKS
JULY 29TH 6:30 P.M.
& JULY 30TH 9:00 A.M.

REGISTER AT WWW.LWFELLOWSHIPCHURCH.ORG/EVENTS OR EMAIL KERON.BROWN@LWFELLOWSHIPCHURCH.ORG

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: 50,629.55

PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Jenny Dangerfield & family, Anthony Davis & family, Alexander and Ruth Cranford & family, Ken and Nesha Scott and family, Howard and Ora Lee Fields & family, Jessie and Beverly Austin and family, and Kandice Ryans & family.

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, 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, Janice Collins, and Betty Goode.

INNER CIRCLE

Proverbs 18:24; 27:6, 10 (Proverbs 17:17; 19:7)