

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

July 2, 2023

Speak Life

Communication can be difficult, and has become even more complex because of social media. We need help with taking the time to understand each other and sometimes are more interested in being heard, than understanding. We like others listening to us, but sometimes have no desire to listen to others. We sometimes like winning an argument rather than cultivating a relationship. At times we find it delightful to tear someone down with our words, than to build them up. "He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him." (Proverb 18:13; NASB) "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit." (Proverb 18:21; NASB) Please remember why this is said. It is written this way because the tongue never got saved (James 3:1-12), and depending on how a person uses their tongue can determine how they work out their salvation (James 1:26).

"Lincoln was extremely surprised one day when a man of rather forbidding countenance drew a revolver and thrust the weapon into his face. In such circumstances, "Abe" at once concluded that any attempt at debate or argument was a waste of time. "What seems to be the matter?" inquired Lincoln, with all the calmness and self-possession he could muster. "Well," replied the stranger, who did not appear at all excited, "some years ago, I swore an oath that if I ever came across an uglier man than myself, I'd shoot him on the spot." A feeling of relief evidently took possession of Lincoln at this rejoinder. "Shoot me," Lincoln said to the stranger, "for if I am an uglier man than you, I don't want to live." —Benjamin Botkin Encyclopedia of 15,000 Illustrations: Signs of the Times.

"Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person." (Colossians 4:6; NASB) "Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word is good for edification according to the need of the moment, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you." (Ephesians 4:29-32; NASB)

When emotions are high, tongues fly. We must remember that the tongue never got saved, and can destroy our spiritual growth if not controlled. "If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless. (James 1:26-27; NASB)

The complexity of our communication can be minimized when we maximize our commitment to spiritual growth. When we gain self-control, we can better speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:11-15).



UPCOMING Events



L.E.G.I.T. YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE
Join the L.E.G.I.T. Young Adult Ministry for the Be Intentional Conference Sat., July 8 from 12 PM—8PM. The conference will feature Be Intentional workshops, speakers, performances by Exalt the King,, a Drama Ministry presentation, dinner, and much more! Register at <https://bit.ly/LEGITConference2023>



VOLUNTEER AT THE REACH
All are welcomed to come out and serve at The Reach. We will help distribute food to those in the community. Please arrive at 7:30 a.m. Tues. July 10th, Thurs. July 12th. Closed-toed shoes are required and please dress accordingly for outside weather. Families with children younger than 10-years-old can serve with their younger children. **For more information, contact Natividad Smith at nds_smith@yahoo.com**



CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING
Don't miss Center For Christian Living every **Tuesday at 12 p.m. & 7 p.m.** up until July 25th. This reformatted CFCL will focus on topics related to the theme for the year, which is "BE INTENTIONAL" There will be classes for women, men, 55+ adults, adults, young adults, youth, and kids. For more information visit www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/center-christian-living



WOMEN OF GRACE MINISTRY EVENT
Desperate for Jesus In-Person Live Stream
Ladies join us for a two-day watch party to experience The Desperate for Jesus Women's Conference featuring Chrystal Evans-Hurst, Priscilla Shirer, and many more speakers. Fri. July 21st at 7PM, light refreshments will be served. Sat. July 22nd, lunch will be provided. The cost is \$10 per person. **For more information, contact Eleanor Wilson at wog770882gmail.com**



BACK TO SCHOOL BASH
Join us Aug. 5th 10 a.m.—1 p.m. as we serve and evangelize to our community! Please help us by donating clothes, backpacks, girls hair accessories, and any other school supply items that you can donate. You don't want to miss this opportunity to serve our community. **For more information, contact Keron Brown or Rashaud Hudson.**



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

The Meaning of "I Do"
Genesis 2:21-25

Click "Sermon Notes" on the Website

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 **MIDDLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL** **TUESDAY NIGHTS**
EFFECTING TODAY FOR TOMMOROWS **WEDNESDAY**
youth ministry of LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP **6:30 PM**

The Meaning of “I Do”
Genesis 2:21-25

A. God’s Design (vs. 21-22):

- 1. Adam’s relationship with the Lord and willingness to surrender to God’s will avails him to allow God to be Lord of His life. Marriage is forever better when God leads it (Ephesians 5:25-32).
- 2. Adam’s life finds a new direction when placed under God’s total control. It is not how Adam felt or what his opinion is all about. A life surrendered and directed by God is best for marriage.
- 3. Before Adam can be taken to become a husband, he was first made a male (Genesis 1:26); he was called a man once the time came to put him in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:7-9). When he surrendered to cultivate the Garden of Eden, he was then ready to be a husband.
- 4. The woman’s design will directly correlate to the man’s life; he will always be the giver. He provides, he delivers the sperm for the making of the child, he protects (rib covers the lung), and as God directs his life, he leads (1 Corinthians 11:3).
- 5. While the man was still asleep yet fully restored, the woman was literally meticulously designed by God. Please note this is after everything was put in place. She was designed to complement everything God had set in place for the man to accomplish under the Lord God’s complete direction. Again, God set the agenda, so everyone is structured to get it done.
- 6. The rib taken from the man’s side to be placed in the woman’s body demonstrates that the Lord God intended for the woman to complement the man’s body so that they are dependent on each other (1 Corinthians 11:8-13) and are equal to each other (1 Peter 3:7).
- 7. The word brought is typically attached to bringing a sacrifice into the Lord’s sanctuary. Marriage is a sanctuary unto the Lord God; this is possibly why the writer of Hebrews uses the word defiled when speaking of the marriage bed (Hebrews 11:3).

B. Establishes Purpose (vs. 23-24):

- 1. Only when the Lord puts everything in place that Adam has the opportunity to speak.
- 2. Adam’s first response was that Eve was exactly like him in ability and capability to do anything he could do. They were physically and spiritually the same. This fulfills what God said in chapter 1:27; “God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”
- 3. When Adam said flesh of my flesh Adam made public that he was intimate with Eve (1 Corinthians 6:16), which means they must now cleave (Matthew 19:4-6). This is why unless there is adultery, divorce is impossible.
- 4. When a man no longer submits to his parents’ direction or authority is when he takes on a wife. This man is now completely under God’s authority (1 Corinthians 11:3).
- 5. This is a straightforward statement that the parents must be put aside or even abandoned if that is what it takes to fulfill the Lord God’s direction for marriage. Similar to being a disciple of Christ (Luke 14:26-27).
- 6. Sexual intimacy is implicitly and explicitly emphasized in this text because God made it clear to Adam that this seals the marriage and keeps the marriage union pleasing to God (1 Corinthians 7:1-7). It is what determines its end (Matthew 19:9). This is why satan has perverted sex. Satan knows that this can erode everything.

C. Creates Oneness (v. 25):

- 1. God made them and allowed Adam and Eve to remain fully exposed to each other, and God never intended for them not to continue this way.
- 2. God expects the husband and wife to remain vulnerable and open with each other.
- 3. Adam and Eve were naked, but it was not disgraceful to the Lord God or each other. This highlights moral excellence and the innocence you see in two small children of the opposite sex taking a shower together, playing with each other, having lots of laughs and fun.
- 4. This verse highlights why the marriage bed is holy, a place that is a sanctuary to God (Hebrews 13:4).

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023 12 PM.

LEGIT.
YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY
BE INTENTIONAL
CONFERENCE

REGISTER AT [HTTPS://BIT.LY/LEGITCONFERENCE2023](https://bit.ly/legitconference2023)

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS THROUGH END OF JULY

BACK to
SCHOOL
BASH

DROP OFF
DONATIONS TO
YOUR DEACON
FAMILY!

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT KERON BROWN AT
KERON.BROWN@LWFELLOWSHIPCHURCH.ORG

PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Pastor Cannings & family, Bryan Grand & family, Pastor Lawrence & family, Wayne Jackson & family, Nord Bullock & family, Michelle Lewis & family, Moniqua Glasper & family, Clifford Jackson Jr, & family, Susie Farley & family, Vincent Robertson & family, Tonya Hudson & Rashaud Hudson & family, Sylvester Jackson & family, and Mrytle Nichols & family.

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Eric White, Ella James, Pat Crawford, Lisa Roberts, Birdie Williams, Jon Heard, Lakesia Davis, Rutha Patrick, Betty Goode, Latifah Brown, Tanisha Collins, Eric Prichett, Rufus Hadnot, Pat James, Kevin Carey, Lori Lee, Nikisha Doyle, Jessie Austin, Sherri Love, Elizabeth Clark, Clara Williams, Betty Cunningham, Dorothy Price, Kathryn Ford-Cheatham, Anthony Thomas, Beverly Austin, Joshua Williams, Ruby Hunter, Yvette Ford, Elizabeth Bean, Diane Ford, Patrice Terell, Patsy Gatterson, Rita Hughes, and Calvin Wilson.

THE MEANING OF

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DO

GENESIS 2:21-25

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