

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

July 14, 2024

In His Words

Have We Ever Felt This Way?

To Thee, O Lord, I call; My rock, do not be deaf to me, Lest, if Thou be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit. Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to Thee for help, when I lift up my hands toward Thy holy sanctuary. (Psalm 28:1-2; A Psalm of David. NASB)

My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning. O my God, I cry by day, but Thou dost not answer; and by night, but I have no rest. (Psalm 22:1-2; NASB)

Do We Continue to Pray Despite Hoping?

I waited patiently for the Lord; And He inclined to me, and heard my cry. He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay; And He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm. And He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; Many will see and fear, and will trust in the Lord. How blessed is the man who has made the Lord his trust, and has not turned to the proud, nor to those who lapse into falsehood. (Psalm 40:1-4; NASB)

Do We Trust Him In This Manner?

Blessed be the Lord, Because He has heard the voice of my supplication. The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore, my heart exults, and with my song I shall thank Him. The Lord is their strength, and He is a saving defense to His anointed. Save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance; Be their shepherd also, and carry them forever. (Psalm 28:6-9; A Psalm of David. NASB)
See Luke 18:1-8

Remember....

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and rescues them (also Hebrews 1:14). Taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! O fear the Lord, you His saints; For to those who fear Him, there is no want. (Psalm 34:7-9; NASB)



UPCOMING Events

WEST INDIES BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE JULY 22ND-26TH
Join us for Christian leadership classes with the West Indies Baptist Fellowship Conference during the daytime 8 am—12:15 p.m. and evening sessions at 7 p.m. Sign Up for classes at <https://bit.ly/4bVZdc5> Lunch not provided.

FAMILY BIBLE ENCOUNTER JULY 22ND—26TH
Our Family Bible Encounter Vacation Bible School will be July 22nd—26th each night 6:30—8:30 p.m. Snacks provided starting at 5:45 p.m. Register at <https://bit.ly/4a3VY0B>
For More Information contact Sylvia Edwards at sedwards@lwfellowshipchurch.org

CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING EVERY TUESDAY UNTIL AUGUST 6TH
Living Word Family join us for Christian Education classes and Bible studies every Tuesday at 12 p.m. & 7 p.m. until August 6th. Classes for Men, Women, Young Adults, Youth Kidz & Recovery & Restoration. Visit the events page of the website or contact **Jordan Washington** for more information at jordan.washington@lwfellowshipchurch.org

FREE GOOGLE SUITE/LWFC FORMS WORKSHOP—JULY 27TH 10 AM—2 PM
Living Word come, invite a friend, and learn everything that comes FREE with a gmail account. We will also go over all forms available on the LWFC Website. Register at <https://bit.ly/3KIHG3> and for more information contact **Shani Smothers** at shani.smothers@lwfellowshipchurch.org

CPR TRAINING—AUGUST 24TH 9AM—12 PM
Have you ever wanted to be CPR certified? We have a CPR certification course coming up August 24, 2024 from 9 am to 12 p.m. Must register by August 11, 2024. Cost is \$65 per person. Receive CPR, AED, and First Aid Certification. To register, contact **Lulu Hayes** for more information on Sundays after service or at luluhayes1@gmail.com

Children are now required to check-in upon arrival. Please report to the registration desk located in the children's wing.
Infants—6th grade



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

"Grace...Transforming" Part II
1 Corinthians 15:9-11

Click "Sermon Notes" on the Website

Call to Discipleship
Please remain seated at this time

Visitor's Welcome

Benediction



MIDDLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL

2:30 4:00 & TUESDAY NIGHTS
SUNDAY 7:30 PM

Grace...Transforming
Part II
1 Corinthians 15:9-11

A. Guilty... Not Defining (v. 9):

- 1. Paul’s past haunted him because Paul intensely in a hostile, oppressive manner harassed the New Testament believers. The disciples did not want to associate with him if it wasn't for Barnabas (Acts 9:26-30). People plotted to kill him (Acts 9:19-22). He lived constantly under this threat.
- 2. This was the one sin for which, though he knew that God had forgiven him (1 Tim. 1:13), yet he could never quite forgive himself (Gal. 1:13).
- 3. Paul recognized there is no way to change who he now is. His past actions cannot be changed (His record is forever sealed), his role among the apostles is going to be the way it is, his development as an apostle is going to be what it is and what God has called him to be he is going to fervently work at it more than any of the other disciples.
- 4. Paul’s past defined how people looked at him but he did not allow it to define how he allowed God direct his life because God clearly anointed him as an apostle (Acts 9:19; 1 Corinthians 9:1; 15:8-9; 2 Corinthians 12:1-6). Paul had to count his past loss (Philippians 3:2-7) in order to totally focus on his walk with Christ.
- 5. The very God that we fight a losing battle against is the One Whose transforming grace empowers us to gain the best of the life He sustains.
- 6. God is the one who defines us (2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1-2; 1 Peter 4:10).

B. Grace, Healing Power (v. 10):

- 1. God’s grace toward Paul was not in vain because Paul faithfully served to the point of being poured out like a drink offering (2 Timothy 6:6-8). We all have a spiritual gift that is deposited into us at the point of salvation (1 Peter 4:10) blessing many lives. It is the use of our spiritual gift that defines us and builds up the body so that we grow into the fullness of God (Ephesians 4:16; 1 Corinthians 12:14-27)
- 2. God’s matchless grace should inspire us to love and serve Him, not make us apathetic so that we sin more (Romans 6:1-2) or live a carnal Christian life (1 Corinthians 3:1-3). His grace should inspire us to serve others just like it did for the folks in Macedonia (2 Corinthians 8:1-6).
- 3. It does not matter what anyone thinks. When we serve Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit our ministry transforms us and defines us. Example: Peter went to the same people he cursed out and in the power of the Holy Spirit, won souls to Christ. There was no question that God used him and that established Peter as a leader in the church. His service for God, empowered by the Holy Spirit defined him.
- 4. God’s grace should inspire us because when it does and we respond appreciatively we are better husbands, fathers, wives, mothers, singles being blessed while blessing others around us.

C. Renewed; Be A Blessing (v. 11):

- 1. God’s growth in Paul created a whole new reputation. He was once feared (Acts 9:26) now those he disciplined weep when he is leaving (Acts 20:37).
- 2. What the Lord did for us should make us more passionate about serving Christ. When we allow the past to control us, rather than His grace bless us, we become buried in our memories and feelings of unforgiveness
- 3. Because the Holy Spirit is the One who is mightily working within Paul those who heard the message were able to develop an unreserved commitment to God together with a deep conviction and confidence that His words are truth.
- 4. When the grace of God transforms us, and the spirit gift He blesses us with transforms those around us, all those who experience the transforming work of God believe that “the Lord is able to do exceedingly, abundantly all we can ask and think.” (Ephesians 2:20).



Family Bible Encounter 2024

July 22th-26th

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Snack served at 5:45 p.m.



Register at <https://bit.ly/4a3VY0B>

LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

62nd Annual

West Indies Baptist

FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE 2024

JOIN US JULY 22-26

| DAYTIME CLASSES & NIGHT TIME SESSIONS | OPPORTUNITY TO EVANGELIZE |
| FELLOWSHIP WITH BROTHERS & SISTERS FROM ACROSS THE WORLD |

CONFERENCE IS FREE TO ATTEND DAILY FOR MEMBERS, LUNCH/FOOD IS NOT PROVIDED

For more information on attending the WIBFC or how to volunteer please contact Living Word Fellowship Church Administration at (281) 260-7402.

Sign Up for Classes



PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Bailey Mier-Nava & family, Nikisha Doyle & family, Nathan Harvey & family, the family of JoeAnn Hayes, Mignette Dorsey & family, Deidra McKoy & family, and Nedra Chew & family.

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Eric White, Pat Crawford, Birdie Williams, Tanisha Collins, Jon Heard, Rutha Patrick, Kevin Carey, Sherri Love, Elizabeth Clarke, Clara Williams, Kathryn Ford-Cheatham, Anthony Thomas, Beverly Austin, Joshua Williams, Ruby Hunter, Elizabeth Bean, Patsy Gatterson, Joyce Newsome, Arleatha Housley, Patrina Johnson, Elvis Anderson, Cheryl Walker, Walter Banks, Carolyn Hadnot, Angelique Hudson, Sheryle Crowe, Arnie Glover, Clarence Coleman, Joyce Denman, and Diana Doyle.

Grace

Transforming

Part II

1 Corinthians 15:9-11

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