

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

August 11, 2024

God's Design

Our culture has determined who is handsome or beautiful for us. Hollywood, with fashions from Paris influences, magnifies, and glorifies these images so much that it has become an industry. Plastic surgery is now a big business, not just for seniors who want to look young, but also for young boys and girls who want to emulate what they see in Hollywood or what is glamorized by musical artists. Some people don't just want to look good; they have plastic surgery to look just like some of the movie stars. Amazingly, if these same people go to other parts of the world, they would be viewed as too skinny and unattractive.

"A very peculiar feature of the culture of Palenque, one of the lost cities in the Mayan civilization, was that of tying the heads of newborn babies to boards—one in front and one in back. After several days, the head is flattened for life. Crossed eyes were also prized as marks of beauty, and mothers sought to induce that condition by dangling baubles between the babies' eyes." (Tan, P. L. (1996). Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times (p. 429). Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc.) In some countries, a woman missing her front teeth is attractive. Tall women who are attractive or plump. "As one man said, 'Even a dog likes meat on its bone.'"

What is interesting is that David explains how God formed him when he was formless. God did this for every part of his body. It was done carefully and insightfully, and He made no mistakes, even when it came to God breathing into him. What God did was not something anyone else was involved in because God did it secretly, hidden from everyone. When God did this, He did it with such a deep thought process that no one could ever figure out why or how David was formed. Here is one example; "No scientific instrument is as sensitive to light as a person's eye. In the dark, its sensitivity increases 100,000 times; one can detect a faint glow, less than a thousandth as bright as a candle's flame. He can see light from the stars, and the nearest of all stars is 25 billion miles away!" (Tan, P. L. (1996). Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times (p. 775). Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc.)

In Psalm 139:13-18 David said, "For You formed my inward parts; you wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth..." (NASU).

Young people, do not allow our culture to determine your value. Trust in God's design, for He made you with a purpose in mind (Revelations 4:11). You are fearfully and wonderfully made, and your existence is a testament to His divine plan.



UPCOMING Events

**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 a.m. 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](mailto:luluhayes1@gmail.com)

**WORSHIP MINISTRY TRAINING**  
**AUGUST 17, 2024 8:30 AM—11 AM**  
All Worship Ministries please register for a special training on Saturday, August 17, 2024 8:30 a.m.—11 a.m. Worship ministries include Praise Teams, Choirs, the Band, Mime ministry, Praise Dance Ministries, the Production Teams, Audio Teams, Communion Team and the Drama Ministry. We hope to see all of you there so we can grow spiritually, serve others well, and execute God's vision in the lives of our church. Register at <https://bit.ly/LWFCWorshipTraining>

**YOUTH MONTH—AUGUST 2024**  
Join us every Sunday in August for Youth Month. Come and encourage our LWFC Kidz and Legacy Youth as they minister each Sunday during both services. For more information on LWFC Kidz, contact **Mrs. Sylvia Edwards** or for information on Legacy Youth contact **Jordan Washington**.

**SUMMER TECH SERIES – CANVA WORKSHOP**  
**AUGUST 24TH 10 AM—2 PM**  
Our FREE Summer Tech Series has been amazing. We have had HTML Certification, Google Suite Training and next up is our Canva Workshop. On **Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 10 am—2 pm**. Learn how to use Canva to create graphics, flyers, invitations, videos and more! Register at or on the events page of the website. For more information on our **TECH SERIES** contact **Shani Smothers**.

**LWCA/ABC AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
LWCA/ABC has a dynamic after school program available for \$75 per week with a \$55 Registration fee. The program focuses on the four cornerstones of child development: Academic, Physical, Emotional and Spiritual. Activities include robotics, karate, arts and crafts, outside play, academic enrichment, cooking classes, sports & more, Register at <https://bit.ly/LWCARegister> or call **(281) 445-9673**.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Communion

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

**"Faith That Won't Fail"**  
*Genesis 22:1-18*  
Youth Pastor Jordan Washington

Click "Sermon Notes" on the Website

**Call to Discipleship**  
Please remain seated at this time

Visitor's Welcome

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**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL**  
**2:30 4:00 & TUESDAY NIGHTS**  
**SUNDAY**  
**7:30 PM**



## Faith That Won't Fail Genesis 22:1-18

### I. Obedience Requires Sacrifice v. 1-3

1. Your faith will be tested
  - A. Testing is an unavoidable part of our journey towards spiritual maturity
2. God desires total surrender
  - A. We must yield every aspect of our lives to God
  - B. Obedience is living in conformity to God's commands
3. God's calling is connected to your purpose

#### 2 Things Learned about Abraham's Heart *Available*

Did not neglect/ deny or ignore God's Call.  
Committed to listen AND obey

#### *Intentional*

Functioned with a sense of urgency  
Desire to obey was revealed in purposeful preparation

### II. Remain Committed to Worship vs. 4-8

1. Abraham entrusted himself and his future to God
  - A. Test of faith are challenges of complete dependency on God

#### God Wants You to Trust 3 Things About Him

1. God's Character 2. God's Ability 3. God's Plan

- B. Genuine faith is the foundation of worship
- C. Be ready and willing to express your faith

### III. God Will Always Provide vs. 9-14

- A. Abraham was consistently obedient despite his lack of understanding
- B. God's timing is perfect
- C. Tests reveal our level of respect for God
- D. God made a way that Abraham did not see

### IV. Your Obedience Has Great Reward v. 15

- A. Abraham held nothing back from God
- B. God keeps His promise





CPR, AED, and First Aid Certification

**AUGUST 24 9:00AM-12PM**

HOSTED BY THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

**+ \$65 PER PERSON + MUST REGISTER BY AUG. 11 + OPEN TO ALL AGES**

*"Be the beat & save a life"*

Register before & after each worship service or contact  
Mrs. Lulu Hayes for more information at [luluhayes1@gmail.com](mailto:luluhayes1@gmail.com)




LEARN BASIC GRAPHIC DESIGN SKILLS USING A CLOUD BASED PLATFORM

**AUGUST 24TH 10 AM-2 PM**

REGISTER ONLINE TO ATTEND  
<https://bit.ly/4epxvWP>

FOR INFORMATION ON TECH WORKSHOPS AND MARKETING CONTACT  
[MARKETINGMB@LWFELLOWSHIPCHURCH.ORG](mailto:MARKETINGMB@LWFELLOWSHIPCHURCH.ORG)



## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Grieving:** Karen Carter & family, Marie Perry & family, Helene Wardlow & family, The family of Lee White, and Gloria Franklin & 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, Patsy Gatterson, Joyce Newsome, Arleatha Housley, Patrina Johnson, Elvis Anderson, Cheryl Walker, Walter Banks, Carolyn Hadnot, Angelique Hudson, Sheryle Crowe, Arnie Glover, Clarence Coleman, Shannon Rice, Freddie Reid, and Diana Doyle.

# Faith That Won't FAIL

## Genesis 22:1-18