

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

August 25, 2024

Flee

Temptation is a powerful animal that can devour all of us (Matthew 4:3. 1 Thessalonians 3:5). The Word of God states in Galatians 5:17, "For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh, for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please." This verse should remind us of the power of temptation. Temptation is so powerful for Joseph that he leaves his garment and runs. However, in the case of David, he did not run; he satisfied the flesh by first looking at Bathsheba, which led to adultery and murder. Because the flesh is weak, we must behave like Joseph and flee. This may be why the Lord's Prayer includes temptation. Matthew 6:13 states, "And do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from evil."

One three-year-old's explanation for being in the kitchen atop a chair eating cookies is: "I just climbed up to smell them, and my tooth got caught."

Satan always appeals to the flesh. This is where he starts with Eve because he knows the flesh's propensity with its five senses. Satan at the tree clearly shows how he still approaches us using the five senses tied up in the flesh. He still does this, especially since he knows nothing is good in the flesh (Romans 7:24). John says that for anyone who loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1 John 2:15-17).

Temptation, however, is not powerful only because of the flesh; it is also powerful because Satan knows our weaknesses and uses them to defeat us (Ephesians 6:12). This is why it is good to flee in the midst of temptation. Paul instructs Timothy to do this in 2 Timothy 2:22: "Now flee from youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart."

Despite the overwhelming power of temptation, remember this: "No temptation has overtaken you, but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it."(1 Corinthians 10:13) Temptation is indeed powerful, but we can take heart in the fact that "greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world." (1 John 4:4) With God's strength, we can resist and overcome.



UPCOMING Events

**NOT BY OSMOSIS**  
YOUTH MONTH PRESENTATION  
**08.31.24**  
SATURDAY 10AM  
LEGACY THEATRE  
Join us for a special drama presentation followed by an open dialogue conversation with our youth & parents.  
Register at <https://bit.ly/3YQFirA>

**YOUTH DRAMA PLAY—NOT BY OSMOSIS SAT., AUG. 31ST 10AM**  
Parents and Youth come out for this special Youth Drama Ministry presentation. Which will include a talk back/panel discussion. You won't want to miss this event, closing out youth month with a powerful message. Directed by our very own **Nehemiah Johnson**.  
Register at <https://bit.ly/3YQFirA>

**Bible Study**  
*The Book of Revelation*  
**12 PM & 7 PM**  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024  
The Last Chapter of Revelation  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2024  
A Review of the Book of Revelation  
REVIEW YOUR REVELATION BIBLE STUDY NOTES HERE AT <https://bit.ly/LWFCBibleStudyNotes> or Scan QR Code  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE CHURCH AT (817) 260-7402

**REVELATION BIBLE STUDY A COMPLETE REVIEW—TUES. AUG. 27TH**  
Don't miss this Tuesday, August 27th for Bible Study at 12 p.m. & 7 p.m. Dr. Paul Cannings will teach a complete review of the Book of Revelation. To review all of the Bible Study notes, visit [www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/bible-study-notes](http://www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/bible-study-notes)  
For more information call the church at (281) 260-7402.

**YOUTH MONTH**  
DO YOU KNOW HIM?  
1 JOHN 2:13

**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 more information on Legacy Youth contact **Jordan Washington**.

HE SAID... SHE SAID  
**Cuffing Season**  
PART 3  
SATURDAY AUG. 31  
AT 4:30 PM  
MEN WOMEN SINGLE MARRIED  
FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT KERON BROWN OR RASHAUD HUDSON

**CUFFING SEASON—AUG. 31ST 4:20 PM**  
Living Word Family! You have asked and you shall receive! We are coming back with Part 3 of Cuffing Season – He said, She said! Join us for food, fellowship, and interactive fun as we look to continue to identify God's purpose for our lives and as we tackle dating issues in 2024. All are welcome, both single and married, men and women. Invite your friends and others outside of the church as well. For more information, please contact **Keron Brown or Rashaud Hudson**.

**AFTER SCHOOL**  
7880 W. Westcreek and Houston, TX 77088  
Transportation Provided!  
**\$75 PER WEEK**  
**(281) 260-7402**  
Register at <https://bit.ly/ABCWordRegister>

**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

“Word Count”

Proverbs 15:4; Matthew 15:18;  
Matthew 12:36-37; Ephesians 4:29-30

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**

LEGACY  
EFFECTING TODAY FOR TOMMORROW  
youth ministry of LIVING WORD FELLOWSHIP

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



Word Count

Proverbs 15:4; Matthew 15:18;  
Matthew 12:36-37; Ephesians 4:29-30

A. Our Words (Proverbs 15:4; Matthew 15:18):

- 1. A tongue that is influenced by a peaceful, content emotional attitude so that there is no harsh word or deed.
- 2. The "tree of life" is the tree that gives one eternal, everlasting life. Like fruit trees, words should stimulate spiritual growth in the other person's life.
- 3. A person listening to the words of another can damage relationships when they take what a person says, don't ask them what they mean or follow the scriptures when someone offends them, and distort what they may have meant. The word means to twist.
- 4. A person can be totally destroyed when we speak in this manner. Crushed is a word that describes a city that is demolished and placed into ruins. "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit." (Proverbs 18:21; NIV)
- 5. A perverse tongue can take the life out of a person so that they become useless. "A lying tongue hates those it crushes, And a flattering mouth works ruin." (Proverbs 26:28; NASU)
- 6. When a person repeatedly speaks on their own initiative so those around them can hear what they are saying. This person speaks in a manner that has become the signature of their life.
- 7. This manner of speaking describes a person's deepest emotional state, who they are, their mindset, and what they intend to do.
- 8. People can be persuaded by individuals' religious status, power, the manner in which they dress, smooth and flattering speeches, and the status they hold in society, but God says to listen to the words they repeatedly say, and that describes their heart. This is the difference we see between Saul and David (1 Samuel 9:1-2,8; 10:19, 23-24; 16:1-11).

B. Words Matter (Matthew 12:36-37):

- 1. Careless words apply to anyone who speaks without a careful evaluation of knowledge on the issue, facts in a case, or any conversation that is useless to the persons involved.
- 2. Every word that a person speaks that is useless is recorded. The total number of words will be tallied and addressed upon the day of judgment. This is why a wise person ages their words and practices true religion (James 1:26).
- 3. God will act on all these words to determine righteousness. Righteousness will be rewarded. On the day of judgment, we will learn who submitted to the Lord's way of being good stewards of our words.
- 4. The words that had no careful evaluation of facts, not committed to the true, use less words God will pronounce His sentence on them (Proverbs 6:19; Revelation 22:15).

C. Speak Life (Ephesians 4:29-30):

- 1. To purposefully use words to hurt someone. Functioning in the flesh leads to words that tear others down (Galatians 5:20).
- 2. When the Holy Spirit does not direct words, it corrupts relationships.
- 3. We must be committed to continuously not allowing unwholesome words to come from within us, so we remain under the Spirit's control (Ephesians 3:16-19).
- 4. Whatever we are about to say should be profitable, useful, and pleasing to God.
- 5. We are commanded not to persistently sadden or distress the Holy Spirit by using unwholesome words. We must keep the faith no matter how emotional our interactions may become. When we do, we function like the tree of life.

WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE

SEPTEMBER 3RD - NOVEMBER 5TH

BIBLE STUDY

1ST JOHN

EVERY TUESDAY AT 12 PM & 7 PM

VIEW ALL BIBLE STUDY NOTES AT  
<https://bit.ly/LWFCBibleStudyNotes>

 VOTE

REGISTER TO VOTE

BY OCTOBER 7TH

CHECK YOUR VOTING STATUS  
<https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

REGISTER TO VOTE ONLINE NOW  
<https://vrapp.sos.state.tx.us/index.asp>

REGISTER TO VOTE AT LIVING WORD

Sunday, September 29, 2024 at Draft Day Ministry Fair




PRAYER REQUESTS

**Grieving:** Gloria Franklin & family, Helene Wardlow & family, Karen Carter & family, and Marie Perry & 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, Diana Doyle, Vivian Phillips, Shannon Rice, Freddie Reid, Janie Buchanan, and Robert Edwards.

WORD COUNT

PROVERBS 15:4; MATTHEW 15:18;  
MATTHEW 12:36-37; EPHESIANS 4:29-30

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