# Pastoral REFLECTIONS

July 20, 2025

## True or False

Today, we live in a culture where truth is often perceived as relative. AI, Google, and other platforms have become a truth serum? Truth is critical for all that God wants to do in and through us; "I am the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6). God can never lie (Hebrews 6:18). When the Holy Spirit is deposited in us, He is the Spirit of truth (John 14:16-17) This contrasts with; ".... the devil, ......., does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him, whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies." (John 8:44).

Truth is an event or something that someone said; credible eye-witness accounts can verify that; therefore, it is factual. It is a living reality, not perception, speculation (this can become demonic; 2 Tim. 2:23-26), or is it philosophical? When it is philosophical (what the Bible calls human wisdom), it is demonic (James 3:13-18). If it is false doctrine, the scriptures represent it as demonic (1 Tim. 4:1-4); Christ states this in the case of Peter in Matthew 16:21-23. There are no half-truths or white lies. In the scriptures, it is either truth or, as in the case of Ananias and Sapphira, Satanic.

When we are committed to "walk in the truth" (2 John 1:4; 3 John 1:4) Peter says this protects us from becoming "blind or short-sighted" (2 Peter 1:9). John says it is the only way we can have an intimately relationship with Christ (1 John 2:3-6) or establish a friendship with Him (John 15:13-17). This is why knowledge and truth are different. Knowledge is required for a believer to experience what it takes to come to the truth (Phil. 1:9-11). Knowledge alone, as can be seen in the Jewish leaders of Christ's day, leads to arrogance and pride (1 Cor. 8:1-2). A believer must surrender their will to the will of God in order to be transformed (Romans 12:2). Once this occurs, a believer's love for God is perfected (1 John 2:5; 4:18).

Christ blesses us to be able to walk in the truth. The Holy Spirit is the truth (John 14:16-17), He came to guide us to the truth (John 16:13), reminds us of the Word (knowledge so that we can walk in the truth (John 14:26), and He illuminates the scriptures so that we can understand them (1 Cor. 2:10-15). All the Holy Spirit is in us (Titus 3:4-8) so that we have the inner ability to work out our salvation (Phil. 2:12-13), making good decisions (Eph. 5:15-18; Psalm 119:9-11) with guaranteed success (Isaiah 55:11), while conquering all obstacles (Hebrews 12:4; 2 Peter 1:10c).

Truth is a person, the Holy Spirit. It is not our understanding (Prov. 3:5-6). Human wisdom is here today and gone tomorrow. Walk in the TRUTH!





CHRISTMAS PLAY AUDITIONS—TODAY
Join the Drama Ministry today after second
service to audition for our
Christmas productions. If you're interested in
the Christmas Play or have general Drama
Ministry questions, please contact Rita

Ministry questions, please contact Rita
Hughes or Melita Washington at
melita.washington@lwfellowshipchurch.org



#### **DESPERATE FOR JESUS 2025—**

Join the Women of Grace, Saturday, August 2nd for a Watch Party! Experience the Desperate for Jesus Conference together via livestream in the Legacy Sanctuary. Event cost is \$10 and registration is required! For more information on this event and how you can become a part of the Women's Ministry please email wog77088@gmail.com.



#### **BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE**

We are now accepting school supplies and backpacks for back-to-school. This year we are partnering to give 50 backpacks to 3 schools in our community; Highland Heights Elementary, Garcia Middle School, and Eisenhower High School. For more information please contact Keron Brown at

keron.brown@lwfellowshipchurch.org



CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING — JULY 2025 Join us every Tuesday throughout the month of July for CFCL. Noon Classes will focus on Spiritual Struggles, while 7PM Classes will tackle a wide variety of topics including Spiritual Growth & Formation and much more. This is an awesome time for you to gain wisdom and ask tough questions. Contact Keron Brown for more information.



Families, join us September 19-20 for Restore Us, LWFC'S first family conference. The cost of the conference is \$30 per adult. There will be small group break-out for the entire family sessions, and general sessions presented by Rev. Jordan Washington, Ikki Soma, Pierre Cannings, Ph.D., and many more phenomenal speakers. For more information contact Jeffrey Allen at

Jeffrey.allen@lwfellowshipchurch.org.



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Announcements** 

**Opening Song** 

Communion

Welcome Video

**Praise & Worship** 

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Visitor's Welcome

**Special Music** 

"Lights On" Part III

1 Corinthians 2:11-13

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





### SERMON OUTLINE

### **Lights On** Part III

#### 1 Corinthians 2:11-13

### A. Knowing Him (v. 11; 1 John 2:3-6)

- 1. A person's thoughts are hidden from everyone, and so is the mind of God.
- 2. The way of thinking and passions of the world are driven by a spirit that is not from God.
- 3. To think like the world prevents us from experiencing God (Romans 12:2).
- 4. We must live in the Spirit; this turns the world off.
- 5. The benefits of living by the Spirit of God are:
  - a. We can continuously come to a complete experience of God.
  - b. God becomes a daily experience, not just a message.
  - c. The Spirit reminds us of God's Word and makes it plain (John 14:26; 16:13).
  - d. God continuously directs our path (Proverbs 3:5-6).
  - e. Our knowledge of God provides blessings and power against satan (Proverbs 24:3-5; Hebrews 4:12).
- B. Spiritual Wisdom (v. 13; Colossians 1;9-11; James 3:17-18)
  - 1. We can better understand God's Word when we live by His Spirit.
  - 2. The world does not need to approve what we think before we believe and live it.
  - 3. When the Spirit is in control:
    - a. God's Word makes more sense, so we can better apply it daily (Psalm 119:9-11; 105).
    - b. Making good decisions is more consistent (2 Peter 1:3-4, 9-10).
    - c. We can discern what is of God and what is not (John 15:12-16; Phil. 1:9-11; Hebrews 5:14).
    - d. As a result, we can walk in step with the Spirit for a blessed life (John 15:8-10).

Start Your IT Career With Certifications & Skills

10 AM-2 PM A+ CERTIFICATION/IT CAREERS SESSION

JULY 18TH 6-8 PM

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - THE BASICS

AUGUST 8TH 6-8 PM

**NETWORK+ CERTIFICATION** 

AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup> 10 AM - 2 PM AI YOUTH/ADULT CODING CAMP

Register at www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/events



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Michelle Stewart & family, Maryland Flax & family, and Reginald Mitchell &

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Eric White, Pat Crawford, 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, Arleatha Housley, Patrina Johnson, Cheryl Walker, Walter Banks, Sheryle Crowe, Arnie Glover, Clarence Coleman, Diana Doyle, Shannon Rice, Freddie Reid, Yolanda Barnes, Rochelle Carter Brown, Terrance Ford, Robert Edwards, Jessie Austin, Evelyn Harvey, Shinell Clark, Elsie Starks, Sandra Phillips, Ruth Cranford, Eugene Reese, Donna Ross, and Sylvia Edwards.



1 Corin. 2:11-13

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