

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

September 7, 2025

Worship in Giving



Talking about giving to God is rarely a popular subject—and I’ve often wondered why. The heart of the issue comes down to a single question: **How can people who rely completely on God for everything not want to thank Him—for sustaining them, protecting them, and granting them eternal life?**

J. Oswald Sanders put it well when he said, “The basic question is not how much of our money we should give to God, but how much of God’s money we should keep for ourselves.” This leads to another question I’ve often pondered: **What can we actually give to God?**

The truth is, we can't give God anything He doesn't already own. As James 1:17 reminds us, “Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.” Everything we have is already His.

So what does our giving really mean? Our offering is simply our way of saying **thank You**—thank You for providing, for blessing, and for allowing us to keep the other ninety percent. 2 Corinthians 9:10–15 shows us that our generosity reflects our gratitude, not our obligation.

As one anonymous quote puts it, “We need to get God off the charity list and put Him on the payroll.” Or more pointedly, “A lot of people are willing to give God credit, but not many are willing to give Him cash.”

R.T. Kendall, former minister of Westminster Chapel in London, shared a powerful personal story. Not long after he and his wife were married, they found themselves deep in debt. Tithing felt out of reach. Some of the debt was unavoidable; some was due to poor choices. At the time, Kendall was working in a secular job. One particularly discouraging day, he came home and collapsed in despair.

On the dining room table lay a large white Bible—a gift from his grandmother. He opened it at random and read the convicting words: “Will a man rob God?” (Malachi 3:8). Uncomfortable with what he read, he closed the Bible and turned on the television—which he still hadn’t finished paying for.

He knew what God was asking him to do: start tithing. But he delayed, and things only got worse. “Even though my wife and I were both working,” he said, “paying our bills felt like dipping a cup into an ocean of debt.”

Eventually, they made a choice: to give God the first ten percent—right off the top. Tithing became their first priority. With the remaining ninety percent, they paid their bills. It didn’t solve everything overnight, but within two years, they were completely debt-free. “And those days,” Kendall wrote, “became the happiest we have known.”

“Honor the Lord with your wealth, and from the first of all your produce; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.” (Proverbs 3:9–10)

UPCOMING Events



DATE NIGHT WITH THE MARRIAGE MINISTRY
Join the Marriage Ministry in Kemah for date night on Sat., Sept. 27th. We’ll have dinner at Landry’s Seafood and then take a stroll on the boardwalk. All married or seriously dating couples are welcomed. Wear matching colors for fun! Register online or in-person Sunday 9/14 & 9/21 . Contact Terry or Sherri Randle at lwfcmarragemin@gmail.com



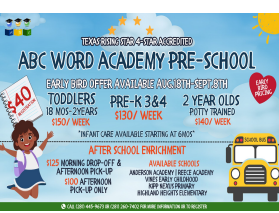
YOUTH CHOIR
Youth, do you have a passion for singing and music? Rehearsals are every Thursday at 6PM. Sign up online or contact Chris Kinsey or Melita Washington at melita.washington@lwfellowshipchurch.org.



JOIN THE PRODUCTION TEAM
Lights, camera, action! Are you interested in the Production Team? Now is the time to join because we need you. We encourage anyone who may be interested in the ministry to attend training on Saturday September 20th at 10AM. For more info contact Melita Washington at melita.washington@lwfellowshipchurch.org



SILVER STARS
55+ seniors, join the Silver Stars for a general meeting on Saturday September 27th at 11AM in the Fellowship Hall. For more details and information on the Silver Stars Ministry, contact Jacquelyn Jordan at jacqjordan@att.net.



ABC WORD ACADEMY PRESCHOOL EARLY BIRD FALL SPECIAL
The Texas Rising Star 4-Star Accredited ABC Word Academy is having a Fall Pres-School special until September 8th. \$40 Registration Fee
Toddlers Ages 18 mos—2 yrs.—\$150/week
Potty-Trained 2-Year-Olds —\$140/week
Pre-K Ages 3-4 yrs. —\$130/week
For more information, call (281)-445-9673



ORDER OF WORSHIP

- Announcements
- Song
- Communion
- Praise & Worship
- Visitor’s Welcome
- Worship In Giving
Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses
- Special Music
- The Word of God
“Heart of the Matter”
2 Corinthians 9:6-8
Dr. Pierre Cannings, Assistant Pastor

Sermon notes available online at lwfellowshipchurch.org
Click on the “Media” tab and click “Sermon Outline”

- Call to Discipleship
Please remain seated at this time
- Benediction & Closing Song

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 3 4 &
SUNDAY
TUESDAY NIGHTS
7:30 PM

Heart of the Matter

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

- A. What Gives (v. 6)
- B. How to Give (v. 7)
- C. Who Gives (v. 8)

Scan To View Full Notes



TEXAS RISING STAR 4-STAR ACCREDITED

ABC WORD ACADEMY PRE-SCHOOL

EARLY BIRD OFFER AVAILABLE AUG.18TH-SEPT.8TH

TODDLERS
18 MOS-2YEARS
\$150/ WEEK

PRE-K 3&4
\$130/ WEEK

2 YEAR OLDS
POTTY TRAINED
\$140/ WEEK

INFANT CARE AVAILABLE STARTING AT 6 MOS

AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

\$125 MORNING DROP-OFF & AFTERNOON PICK-UP

\$100 AFTERNOON PICK-UP ONLY

AVAILABLE SCHOOLS
ANDERSON ACADEMY | REECE ACADEMY
VINES EARLY CHILDHOOD
KIPP NEXUS PRIMARY
HIGHLAND HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY

CALL (281) 445-9673 OR (281) 260-7402 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER

LIVING WORD **Center for Christian Living**
Every Tuesday in September | September 2-September 30

September 9th	September 16th	September 23rd	September 30th
12:00PM Noon Discussion Never Forsaken: Trusting God to See Us Through Our Trials by Pastor Duane Lawrence	12:00PM Noon Discussion The True Meaning of our Salvation by Dr. Aaron Lavender	12:00PM Noon Discussion Addressing Carnality in a Believer by Dr. Clarence Bunch	12:00PM Noon Discussion Building Relationships We Have Broken by Pastor Rene Manago
7:00PM Discussion Financial Seminar Part I by Tarea Doty Legacy Sanctuary	7:00PM Discussion Financial Seminar Part II by Tarea Doty Legacy Sanctuary	7:00PM Discussions Undone: How Lust Kills by Jeffrey Allen Legacy Sanctuary	7:00PM Discussion Panel Discussion Legacy Sanctuary
Sex: Let's Talk About It by Pierre & Monica Cannings classroom One		Overcoming Strongholds by Pastor Allen Boutte Classroom One	
		Atmospheric: The Blueprint for a Godly Home by Rashaud Hudson Classroom Two	

Contact Keron Brown for more details.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Natividad Smith & family, Donnie Emerson & family, Leatrice Sam & family, the family of Clarence Coleman, 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, 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, Diana Doyle, Shannon Rice, Freddie Reid, Yolanda Barnes, Rochelle Carter Brown, Terrance Ford, Robert Edwards, Jessie Austin, Evelyn Harvey, Shinell Clark, Elsie Starks, Ruth Cranford, Eugene Reese, Donna Ross, and Sylvia Edwards.