

Pastoral REFLECTIONS

October 12, 2025

The Faith Process

Often, when we read the scriptures, we are encouraged by the many successes of various Bible characters. We are encouraged by their strong faith and acts of heroism. People often covet their interactions with God. Because these acts of heroism encourage us, it may seem implicitly implied that they were perfect. However, a closer look reveals that even the most celebrated saints of Scripture had significant failures.



Abraham, though called righteous by God, faltered – his treatment of Hagar is a notable example. Elijah, a man revered by all those around him, deserted God because of the wickedness of Jezebel. David, described as “a man after God’s own heart,” fell into grievous sin with Bathsheba. Paul crystalizes this well when he said, “.....for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate.” (Romans 7:15; NASB) “.....For the good that I wish, I do not do; but I practice the very evil that I do not wish.” (Rom 7:19-20; NASB) “.....Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?” (Rom 7:24-25; NASB) John writes, “If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us” (1 John 1:8-10; NASB) The passion wasn’t just about fishing; it was about love. The sign belonged to the father, but the son was in that truck because he loved his dad and wanted to be with him. Over time, the father’s love and passion naturally became the son’s passion. Like father, like son.

Being a person of faith means understanding that spiritual growth is a process – one that God is aware of and is committed to completing (Phil. 1:6). He guides us to become less self-reliant (Luke 14:25-27; John 12:23-26), renews our minds (Romans 12:2), convicts us through the Spirit when we sin (John 16:7-11), teaches us to trust that His Word speaks comprehensively about all life issues (2 Peter 1:3-4), and ignites the Holy Spirit – fully deposited in us (Titus 3:4-8) through our obedience (Hebrews 5:11-14). When we become drunk with the Spirit (Eph. 5:15-18), we are able “to work out our salvation in fear and trembling because of He who is within us – the Holy Spirit.” (Phil. 2:12-13). Our victory is not in what we achieve, it is learning to walk in what the Lord has accomplished for us (Romans 8:28, 31-39).

This is what we find in the spiritual development of Abraham whose faith became so refined he would raise the knife to kill Issac or Paul who would later say, “I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.” (Gal. 2:20-21; NASB)

God does not expect us to run a perfect race. He expects us to persevere, keeping our eyes on Jesus and practicing His Word daily (Hebrews 12:1-3).

UPCOMING Events

MARRIAGE MINISTRY GAME NIGHT
Join the Covenant Keepers Marriage Ministry on Saturday, October 24th for a game night! There will be food, fun, and competitive games. The cost is \$30 per couple. Registration is now open!

CREATIVE JAMS SESSION
Do you have a passion for writing, acting, directing, or singing? Join us on our next brainstorming session, October 18th as we start planning for next year’s Easter production. Contact Melita Washington at melita.washington@lwfellowshipchurch.org for more information.

SINGLES MINISTRY BRUNCH
Are you tired of swiping to find your match? Join the singles ministry in fellowship at First Watch on Saturday oct. 18th at 11:30AM. Contact Stephanie Lyons or Keron Brown at keron.brown@lwfellowshipchurch.org for more information.

HARVEST FESTIVAL
Harvest Fest is quickly approaching and we need your help! Dontae individually wrapped candy and drop off your donations to the Children’s Wing. Please contact Mrs. Sylvia Edwards for more information

ABC WORD ACADEMY PRESCHOOL FALL SPECIAL
The Texas Rising Star 4-Star Accredited ABC Word Academy is having a Fall Pres-School Special starting now with a \$60 Registration Fee, discounts are available for siblings and LWFC members. 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
“The Journey”
Luke 5;9-10; 1 Peter 5:5-6; Acts 4;18-21
Dr. Paul Cannings, D. Phil
- 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

MIDDLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL
2 3 4 & TUESDAY NIGHTS
SUNDAY
e 7:30 PM

The Journey

Luke 5:9-10; 1 Peter 5:5-6; Acts 4:18-21

Dr. Paul Cannings

A. Fearless (Luke 5:10-11)

B. Grid Up (1 Peter 5:5-6)

C. Remain Focused (Acts 4:18)

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Grieving: Marcia Anderson & family, the family of Eunice Johnson, Markeith Hicks & family, and Pastor Duane Lawrence & family.

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, 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.

The Journey

Luke 5:9-10; 1 Peter 5:5-6, Acts 4:18-21