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NOVEMBER 2025



THE COST OF ANGRY CHOICES PART 2

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THE COST OF ANGRY CHOICES

PART 2

by Pastor Ty Orr

If the first part of this study exposed the destructive power of anger, the second asks: What hope do we have? Scripture does not deny that anger will come, but it insists that we must not be ruled by it. Jesus Himself demonstrated holy anger when confronting the hardness of heart, showing that anger, when purified by love, can be directed toward justice. The Church Fathers, along with modern voices, teach us that anger can be transformed when brought under Christ's lordship. This second part explores how we can redeem anger through prayer, forgiveness, and the cross.

PART II: REDEEMING ANGER THROUGH CHRIST

If anger is so destructive, can it be redeemed? Scripture responds with both realism and hope. James urges, **“So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God”** (James 1:19-20). Dallas Willard⁹ reflects, “There is nothing that can be done with anger that cannot be done better without it. Anger, when it is allowed to govern our actions, multiplies evil in the replication of anger and rage in the hearts and bodies of everyone it touches.”¹⁰

Unchecked anger, what we could call wrath, will never act in the interest of God's righteousness. In fact,



it distorts the witness of the one consumed by it. But Scripture also shows anger can be redirected for holy purposes. Jesus, grieved at hardened hearts, healed a man in the synagogue, **“And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other”** (Mark 3:5).

Here, the anger of Jesus is not explosive or selfish, but illuminates the injustice and moves Jesus with compassion. John Stott¹¹ comments: “There is a great need in the contemporary world for more Christian anger. ... In the face of blatant evil, we should be indignant, not tolerant, angry not apathetic. ... But we must be careful: our anger must never be self-centered

⁹ Dallas Willard (1935–2013) was an American philosopher, teacher, and spiritual writer whose work has deeply influenced modern Christian thought, especially in the area of spiritual formation. He was a longtime professor of philosophy at the University of Southern California (USC), specializing in phenomenology and the philosophy of mind. He combined rigorous academic work with his deep Christian faith.

¹⁰ Dallas Willard, *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden Life in God* (San Francisco: HarperOne, 1998), 151.

¹¹ John R. W. Stott (1921–2011) was a British pastor, theologian, and author, widely regarded as one of the most influential evangelical leaders of the 20th century. Stott's humble lifestyle, clear biblical teaching, and global vision made him a mentor to pastors and missionaries worldwide. In 2005, *Time* magazine named him one of the 100 most influential people in the world.

¹² John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Ephesians* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1979), 185.

or vindictive, but rather directed against injustice and evil.”¹²

Thus, we see that righteous anger can exist, but it is rare and dangerous. The Psalms teach us how to manage our fury by transforming it into lament, **“How long, O LORD? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul, Having sorrow in my heart daily? How long will my enemy be exalted over me?”** (Psalms 13:1-2). Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann explains: “The use of lament is an act of bold faith. ... Only when such raw speech is given do we escape the corrosive power of unexpressed anger.”

Prayerful lament transforms our rage into holy communion with our God, preventing bitterness from metastasizing into hatred. Thomas Aquinas seeks to provide a balance when he writes, “Anger is the desire for vengeance. If vengeance is sought in accordance with the order of reason, it is praiseworthy ... but if it is sought inordinately ... then anger is sinful.” Christian maturity requires not the denial of anger but its governance under the rule of divine love.

Finally, the cross of Christ provides the only sure path for anger’s redemption. Peter writes of Jesus, **“Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously”** (1 Peter 2:23). Can we say we have done the same? Augustine exhorted believers, “Let not the sun go down upon your wrath: he

that allows the night to pass in anger, admits the devil. But if we forgive before the setting of the sun, we close the door against him.” The choice is a stark contrast between two kingdoms: harbor anger and give Satan room, or forgive and walk in Christ’s peace.

Rash choices of anger devastate marriages, divide churches, and scar friendships. Yet Christ, by His cross, has borne the wrath of humanity and offers His Spirit to heal ours. By rooting out wrath, practicing forgiveness, and praying our anger, Christians can become communities of peace in a world enslaved to rage.

Anger cannot be avoided, but it can be mastered, redeemed, and transformed. When surrendered to God, it becomes holy zeal that mourns over sin and seeks restoration. When given in prayer, it turns into a lament that strengthens faith. When submitted to Christ, anger loses its power to destroy and gains power to heal. The cross shows us that peace, not retaliation, is the way of God’s kingdom.

As you follow Jesus don’t just avoid anger, seek to redeem it. When you’re wronged, resist the urge to lash out; instead, pray your anger to God using the words of the Psalms. Practice forgiving before sunset (Eph. 4:26), refusing to let wrath turn into bitterness. Choose to imitate Christ, **“who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return”** (1 Peter 2:23). By doing so, you will not only break the cycle of rash choices in your own life but also bear witness to a world that desperately needs the peace of Christ.



¹³ Walter Brueggemann, *Praying the Psalms: Engaging Scripture and the Life of the Spirit* (Winona, MN: Saint Mary's Press, 1982), 67.

¹⁴ Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica*, II-II, Q.158, Art. 1, trans. Fathers of the English Dominican Province (New York: Benziger Bros., 1947), 1472.

¹⁵ Augustine, *Exposition on the Epistle to the Ephesians*, in *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, First Series*, vol. 1, trans. Philip Schaff (New York: Christian Literature Publishing, 1887), 385.

Feeling Safe vs. Being Safe

by Pastor Tim Rupp

Feelings are important, but feelings don't necessarily line up with facts. Would you rather feel safe or be safe? I know most of us would say that we want both. But between the two, *being* safe beats *feeling* safe every time.

Twenty-three-year-old Iryna Zarutskya had lived in war-torn Ukraine and fled to America for safety. She didn't feel safe living in a country invaded by a foreign army whose president is bent on taking over the country. She felt safe in America. The fact is, she wasn't safe. In late August, Iryna got off work and boarded a commuter train in Charlotte, NC. She took a seat in front of Decarlos Brown, Jr., a career criminal who had been arrested at least 14 times. Moments later, Brown pulled out a knife and brutally stabbed Iryna to death. When the story hit the national news in early September, it sent shock waves across the country. The President even commented on the horrific murder.

Video footage just prior to the attack shows six passengers, including Iryna, all on their phones.¹ All felt safe and had no idea what was about to happen. A few weeks prior to the murder, President Trump ordered the National Guard and federal law enforcement officers (LEOs) to deploy in Washington, D.C. It's no secret how bad crime was in our nation's capital. After the deployment, crime immediately dropped in D.C. and many who live there attested to the positive effect the federal presence had on stopping crime and making the streets safer.² On September 2, the US military shot and killed 11 alleged Tren da Aragua members that

where were on a boat from Venezuela in international waters. The official position is that the government had confirmed the boat was full of drugs heading for the US.³ Other boats have since been destroyed.

The deployment of federal troops in cities to help local law enforcement fight crime is not new, but it remains controversial as does targeting civilian vessels on the open sea. There's no doubt these tactics work to stop and deter crime. But they fail to get at the root of the problem. When the troops are gone from the streets and another president is in office, who isn't willing to take such aggressive measures to stop drugs from entering the country, what then?

The deployment of troops to D.C., the murder of Iryna Zarutskya in Charlotte, and blowing up a drug boat on the ocean has brought the crime and safety issues back to the forefront. But without getting at the root cause, we won't stop the trend. The root cause comes from the heart of humanity. Two thousand years ago, Jesus said, "For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."⁴ This was clearly attested to in the assassination of Charlie Kirk.

Will armed federal troops walking through our streets lower the crime rate? Yes. But remember what Benjamin Franklin said, "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety."⁵



So, what's the answer? The answer is to address the issue. It's a heart issue. We need to return to a nation who recognizes, teaches, and observes the moral code given us by God. This was Mr. Kirk's mission. Let's keep it going.

BRINGING HOPE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

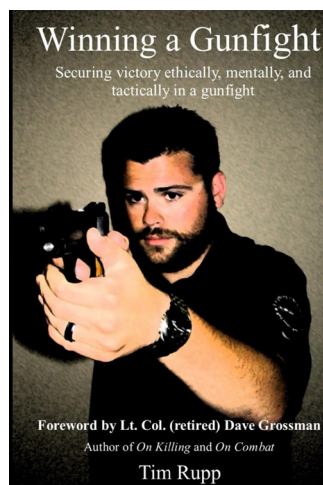
The Strong Blue Line Foundation—at no cost to officers or their agencies—brings hope to LEOs with training seminars that help them navigate a myriad of issues they deal with. One way we do this is by training chaplains. In the “Winning a Gunfight” seminar and book, officers learn how to win a gunfight tactically, mentally, and ethically—or body, soul, and spirit. As important as it is to *survive* a gunfight, *winning* is much more important. Winning means you come out of a gunfight as a victor. Winning is having a holistic victory. It goes beyond a tactical victory. It also means being victorious mentally and ethically. It's complete victory—body, soul, and spirit. Please partner with us to make strong officers with strong relationships by giving them real hope for complete victory!

ON THE ROAD

Sherry and I just returned from a road trip that took us to Louisiana and Colorado for “Winning a Gunfight” seminars and a speaking engagement in Arkansas. This month I am making a quick trip to Washington for a chaplain training seminar; I'll be both a learner and instructor.

Pray for your police.

You can find *Winning a Gunfight* at the Resource Center across from the Connect Center and it's available online.



¹ (<https://apnews.com/article/charlotte-stabbing-ukrainian-refugee-iryna-zarutska-cc9ec826660468830b3f18a71e1a9aaf>)

² (<https://www.dcnnewsnow.com/news/local-news/washington-dc/violent-crime-down-45-in-dc-during-federal-law-enforcement-surge-local-leaders-say/>)

³ (<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2025/09/02/us-military-caribbean-sea-strike-drug-boat/85945169007/>)

⁴ (Mark 7:21-23, ESV)

⁵ (<https://quotesfromthepast.com/benjamin-franklin-on-sacrificing-freedom-for-security/>)

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Should I Be Concerned With Voting? PART 1

by Pastor Dave Coleman

**“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice;
But when a wicked man rules, the people groan.”
(Proverbs 29:2, NKJV)**

In a 1790 letter to Catharine Macaulay Graham, our nation’s father, George Washington, first referred to America as “the great experiment” in self government. Alexis de Tocqueville, the French political thinker and historian, echoed this in his 1835 classic work, *Democracy in America*, calling the United States a “great experiment” in democratic governance and liberty.

When the Founders and early observers called America *the great experiment*, they were referring to the fact that the United States was attempting something unprecedented in human history:

- **Self-government by the people:** Unlike monarchies or empires, America’s government was founded on the idea that authority comes from the consent of the people being governed.
- **Republican democracy:** It tested whether a large, diverse nation could sustain liberty, equality, and justice without collapsing into tyranny or chaos.

- **Constitutional order and individual rights:** The experiment was not merely political; it was a moral and philosophical test of whether freedom and order could coexist under law.

In short, the phrase “the great experiment” captures the radical novelty and global significance of America’s founding — a bold trial to prove that free people could govern themselves and secure lasting liberty. Indeed, we ultimately became something radical, in terms of governance: we are a **Constitutional Republic**. However, the United States did not begin as a constitutional republic overnight — it was the result of a deliberate, often contentious, and deeply philosophical process. The Founders wrestled with competing ideas about liberty, authority, human nature, and governance before settling on a constitutional republic as the best framework to preserve freedom while ensuring stability.



Before independence, the American colonies had a long tradition of self-governance under British rule — local assemblies, town meetings, and charters. However, as Britain imposed greater control (e.g., the Stamp Act, Tea Act), colonists came to believe their natural rights were being violated by King George. Influenced by men like John Locke, they argued that governments derive power from the consent of the governed and exist to protect life, liberty, and property. This philosophical foundation set the stage for the American Revolution. But declaring independence in 1776 was only step one — the question then became: *How do we govern ourselves?*

In 1787, delegates from the colonies met in Philadelphia intending to revise the weak and flawed Articles of Confederation, but instead, they wrote an entirely new Constitution. The challenge was enormous: how to create a government powerful enough to govern, but restrained enough to avoid tyranny or anything that resembled monarchy. The solution they forged was a constitutional republic - a system that blends democratic principles with structural safeguards.

In the end, the Founders gave us many radical and beautiful ideals: three branches of government with a system of checks and balances; federalism, wherein power is divided between national and state governments, to balance unity with local autonomy; and an extraordinarily written Constitution - the Supreme Law of the Land - limiting government authority and protecting individual rights.

Ratifying the new Constitution (1787-1789) required intense debate. Federalists argued it struck the right balance between liberty and order, while Anti-Federalists feared centralized power would erode individual rights. Think of the complex scene in the movie *The Patriot* where Mel Gibson's fictional character, Benjamin Martin, argues in South Carolina against both the Monarchy and Federalism: *"Why should I trade one tyrant 3,000 miles away for 3,000 tyrants one mile away? An elected legislature can trample a man's rights as easily as a king can."*

Benjamin Martin was a fictional composite loosely inspired by several real-life figures from the American Revolution, most notably Francis Marion, the "Swamp Fox," as well as Thomas Sumter and Daniel Morgan.

During the debates of the 1770s and 1780s, many American patriots feared that unchecked majority rule could become just as oppressive as monarchy. Thinkers

like John Adams, James Madison, and Alexander Hamilton wrote extensively about this danger. Madison later warned in *Federalist No. 10* that pure democracy can lead to the "tyranny of the majority," where the rights of individuals or minorities are crushed by popular will. This is precisely why the Founders created a *Constitutional Republic*.

**"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"
(Jeremiah 17:9)**

This biblical truth underscores why no human — whether king or crowd — should hold unlimited power. Liberty must be anchored in law and moral order. Most of the Philadelphia delegates, including James Madison



and John Adams, warned that direct democracy leads to “mob rule.” Adams wrote, “Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself.” (*Letter to John Taylor*, 1814). Thus, the Founders wisely landed on the Constitutional Republic model, with one important added compromise: the adoption of the Bill of Rights (1791). The Bill of Rights consisted of the first ten amendments guaranteeing freedoms like speech, religion, press, and due process. This ensured that even the new government would remain bound by law and accountable to the people.

This is where you and I come in. Read that last sentence of the previous paragraph again. “The new government would remain bound by law and accountable to the people.” The statesman Daniel Webster said, “Bad politicians are sent to Washington by good people who don’t vote.” He’s not wrong. The *great experiment* is flawed in the sense that good people may choose to refuse to participate in self-governance. Too many people throw in the towel and say, “Oh well, the Bible says to submit to Caesar.” Yes, but in America, Caesar is us; *we the people*. We are the government through our elected officials. The representative officials in government are placed there by the will of the people, as made known through our votes.

If we want righteous representation, then the righteous have to vote. It’s that simple.

**“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice;
But when a wicked man rules, the people groan.”
(Proverbs 29:2, NKJV)**

Teaching from Exodus 18:21, which says,

**“Look for able men from all the people, men who fear
God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe,”**

Pastor Kent DelHousaye of the Idaho Family Policy Center writes, “Good leaders are godly leaders who have faith, integrity, and honesty.” He continues, “their moral character must be born out of their fear of God!” (Psalm 25:12; Proverbs 8:13; 16:6).

In the end, our Founding Fathers believed in and fought for liberty with restraint. Their central conviction was that government must restrain evil without crushing liberty. This is a fine balancing act, to be sure, and to ensure that it would endure the test of time, they gave us the beautiful self-governing system of a Constitutional Republic. That is, elected officials representing the public’s interest, ruled and constrained by the written supreme law of the land – the U.S. Constitution.



And what are the basic biblical foundations behind the Republic?

Human nature is fallen (Jeremiah 17:9),
and government must have internal checks
and external controls;

God is the Ultimate Lawgiver, Judge, and King
(Isaiah 33:22), and thus we have the basis
for separation of powers;

Delegated authority is wise (Exodus 18:21),
and thus governing officials must be elected
by and must represent the public;

Covenant Community under God (Deuteronomy
29:10-15), thus it is necessary to have consent
of the governed under a higher moral law.
That is, virtue must flow from a moral and
righteous people, because liberty without
virtue will self-destruct.

For that matter, consider the entire book of Deuteronomy. Moses, the deliverer from Egypt and the Law-giver at Sinai, brought an entire government blueprint to ordinary people; shepherders, craftsmen, and those whom many would incorrectly call “uneducated.” Think of it, an entire book of the Bible dedicated to giving God’s covenant people a government blueprint. Perhaps that’s a deeper conversation for another time.

In the end, America’s founding was not merely a political project — it was a moral and spiritual *experiment*. Indeed, America is the great experiment, and our participation as a moral and righteous influence (salt and light) is necessary. As Christians, our first

and highest calling is the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As citizens of this great experiment, our duty is to cultivate virtue, teach truth, and remain engaged in the stewardship of self-government. So, yes, by all means, Christian, vote.

Primary Sources

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- 2. **John Adams**, *Letter to John Taylor* (1814): warning about the instability of pure democracy.
- 3. **James McHenry**, *Notes on the Constitutional Convention* (Sept. 18, 1787): Franklin’s “A republic, if you can keep it.”
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The Philippines

Excerpt from Brad & Haley Dick's Newsletter

FAITH IN THE PROMISE OF ETERNAL LIFE

In recent weeks we have seen the assassination of a very influential, very bold, world influencer. Charlie Kirk, a 31-year-old man, was shot down while holding a large, open discussion, on a campus in Orem Utah. Charlie was what many of us hope to be inside. Brave, bold, firm in devotion, knowledgeable, a person of faith. To some he was a hero or a role model, to others, he was an assault to a way of life. Despite how people perceived him, God's perception of him is the only

one that really counts. You see, God had tested the depths of Charlie's heart and found a faith that pleased Him. A faith in His Son. A faith in the promise of eternal life, provided to Charlie, through Jesus' life, death, burial, and resurrection. As the Bible explains, this faith came only through someone telling Charlie about Christ,

"So, faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ."

Romans 10:17 This faith changed Charlie, and he sought to bring the same to the people he spoke with. Charlie not only counted Christ as his Savior, but also his Lord (Master). He obeyed the command given to every believer, to go and make disciples of Christ and teach them to obey God also (Matthew 28:18-20).

Before God judges a city or a nation, He sends messengers to that place to

proclaim His truth and to hopefully sway the people to repentance. In the Old Testament these were the prophets. In the New Testament, this is Christ and His followers.

In 2 Peter, Peter points out a promise that God makes about His second coming. Jesus promises to return to the earth and gather the true believers (not the false ones) and afterward judge all the earth. God will judge everyone in the end. He will pour out his wrath on the earth. Every nation alive at that time will experience it. God is as much a God of love as He is a God of wrath. God hates sin with extreme intensity. God's wrath will continue in Hell forever, and remains on the unrighteous (Romans 1:18, John 3:36, Matthew 13:41-42). But God loves us also with extreme intensity (John 3:16-17). This is why He hasn't judged the earth yet. He is "patient toward you, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9) How kind and merciful our God is! This is the message that you, as a believer in Christ, are to bring to the world. This is what drove Charlie to speak



Pastors Angelo and Ronilo spent the night at our house. It was a great time of encouragement and laughter.



We went to church and found out the pastor and his family live in our neighborhood. We had a great night of fellowship.



Our Systemic Theology class is going well and we are learning so much.

before thousands and thousands about his faith in Christ. Who are you speaking to? Who are you trying to sway to repentance?

To hopefully sway someone away from eternal judgment and towards eternal life is why we continue the work that Christ has called us to. Whether here in the Philippines or elsewhere. Our hope is that the people in our neighborhood, city, and island, will hear the good news and commit their lives to Christ.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please pray for our relationships with the local Pastors to continue to grow deeper.
- Please pray that we will be able to grasp everything that we are learning and bury it in our hearts.
- Please pray that the Gospel would go forth and that the hearts that hear it would receive it.
- Please pray for Jim and Keitha's health to continue to get better. Please pray also for their families, that they would grow in Christ.

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.

2 PETER 3:9

- Please pray for Brad's older siblings. They are not saved. Pray that God would continue to soften their hearts and that they would accept Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- Please pray for Jeremy's salvation.
- Please pray for Haley's health to improve. She has been steadily feeling sick ever since we returned.



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REVIVE

by Ryan Fugh

FAITH TO MOVE! MOUNTAINS

God's Word never returns void and His promises never fall short. Jesus says in Matthew 5:6 that **"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied"**, and that's exactly what happened last month at the MOVE! Youth Conference. Over 160 students ranging from 6th-12th grade throughout the region came with a hunger and thirst for righteousness. They came with hearts expectant to hear from God and He did a mighty work in their lives.

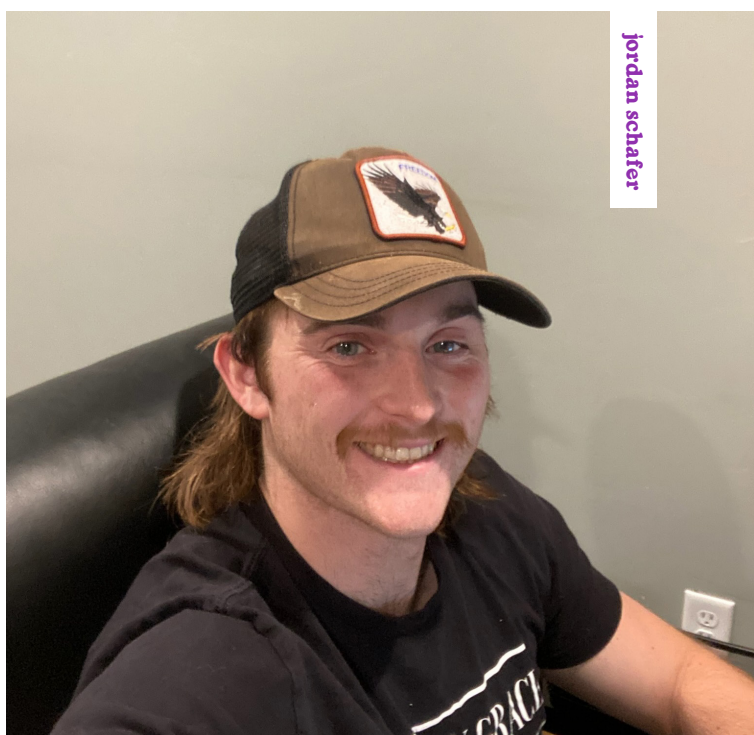
The conference started the Friday night when we held our Ignite Youth Worship Night. Barriers were broken down as we came before the Lord in praise and worship. We read Romans 12:1-2 and reflected on the transformation that comes from the gospel of Jesus Christ.



"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2

On Saturday, session 1 was taught by Pastor Joe Stepp where he dove headfirst into worldview and the common lie of the devil "did God really say?" and how that lie wars against the truth of God's Word in our culture today. Students were challenged to build their beliefs in scripture and not the ever changing views of the world.

Jordan Shafer followed Pastor Joe powerfully in session 2 with the study of Judges chapter 3 titled "Obesity and Assassination" and three steps for defeating sin in your life as we explored Ehud, the left-handed judge from the tribe of Benjamin. I loved it when he said, "We are more than conquerors in Christ Jesus; we're not called to merely defeat sin but through Christ we can destroy the sin in our lives."



jordan schaffer



pastor shane

middle school & high school students took a stand to take their faith seriously and to **MOVE** forward in their relationship with God. It was a day truly set apart for the purpose of serving God.

And what's a youth conference without games and cool prizes between sessions? From custom jewelry to prizes from Born Again Bookstore, the community really came together to make sure these kids had a blast!

Lastly, our very own Pastor Shane McCurry brought the conference home with a study titled "Lukewarm" on the church of Laodicea and how to be on guard against being a lukewarm and passive Christian.

We finished out in a time of communion while the





Watersprings
SCHOOL



WHY WE TEACH OUR STUDENTS TO WORSHIP

by Ms. Pam Dodd, Watersprings School Music Teacher

We were created with a desire to worship our Creator. Our souls long for a relationship that connects our human nature to the One that made us. There is a hunger and craving within us that cries out for spiritual intimacy. If that hunger is not filled with a connection to the living God, the void will be filled with things that are not of God.

"God is Spirit," John writes, and He must be worshipped in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). Worship "in spirit and in truth" puts our humanness into direct contact with God. We also know that one of the most effective ways to worship is through music - praise music! Music is a way to enter into the presence of God. There is a reason why the young shepherd boy, David,

sang his worship. He was a child, out with his father's flocks of sheep - a mere boy!

Yet, as a child, David recognized the vital reason for expressing his love for God. With everything he had, he commanded his soul to praise the Lord. This future giant-slayer knew why and how he must praise God. He was talking from his personal experience when he wrote Psalm 150:6: **"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!"** And with his harp and his voice, the child David exemplifies what Watersprings School strives to teach. Praise is how even the young person will get close to God. It is how the students learn to enter into His presence.



In his article, “Teaching Children to Worship God in Spirit and Truth”, Steve Karges, Founder and President of Children’s Ministries International, Inc., writes:

“Remember, worshipping God in spirit and truth is when our inner human spirit aligns with the Scripture to glorify God in His way and on His terms. Anything less is unacceptable worship of our Heavenly Father. So, you see why this is so important for kids to know?”

Music was created to glorify the Creator: (Psalm 150:3-5 NIV) **“Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet. Praise Him with the harp and lyre. Praise Him with timbrel and dancing; praise him with the strings and pipe, praise him with the clash of cymbals.”** And in case we didn’t get the “clash of symbols” part, he repeats it and states that the chorus of instruments should be “resounding”! Reverberating! Thunderous!

The Bible says, **“God, brilliant Lord, yours is a household name. Nursing infants gurgle choruses about you; toddlers shout the songs that drown out enemy talk and silence the evil babble”** (Psalm 8:1-2 MSG). It is the songs and praises of even the youngest child that will stop Satan in his tracks.

It is through **“the praise of children and infants, you have established a stronghold against your enemies.”** (Psalm 8:2 NIV)

Praise and worship through the music that resounds in our classrooms and in our chapel services is loved and received by our Lord. In fact, we teach our students



that when they worship, “God is in the middle” of their praises. He inhabits those praises; He wants to be there! Worship is not just a song; it is a way of life. We guide our students to worship because “God is worthy.” (Pastor Ty Orr, Living Water September 2025) Pastor Ty goes on to state, “Worship is thus the most hopeful practice of the Church... Worship guides and recalibrates God’s people through their spiritual journey...”

For this reason, Watersprings School stands firm in the belief that we are to serve as a warrior-ally, to partner with parents, and to work together to silence the enemy’s babble, by leading our students to worship with their songs, and cymbals, and sticks, and bells. We even worship with our trash cans, buckets, with our xylophones and chimes, and our dance! Our worship and praise at Watersprings School does what it is designed to do: glorifies our Creator, gives thanks for our redemption, and silences the enemy! With everything that is within us, we praise the Lord!



Wonder



Dear Families,

Welcome to God Speaks!

Relationships can't happen without communication, and our God is relational. He knows us and wants to be known by us. He is the God who speaks. Throughout His story, we see our Father talking to His kids. Whether in an audible voice or a gentle whisper, or through the godly advice of others, God speaks. And His words are always worth listening to. As we explore in this series the Old Testament stories of people who listened (and didn't listen) to God's voice, may you and your kids tune your ears to the kind voice of our loving Father.

WORD OF WONDER

*Come near to God, and he
will come near to you.*

—from James 4:8a

SERIES OVERVIEW

Bible Story	Bible Passage	Wonder Truth
God Calls Out to Samuel	1 Samuel 3	God Speaks
Samuel Anoints David as King	1 Samuel 16	God Looks at the Heart
The Kingdom Divides	1 Kings 12	God Wants Us to Follow Godly Advice *We Can Follow God
God Whispers to Elijah	1 Kings 19	God Can Speak to Us in Unexpected Ways *God Can Speak to Us



Age 2 - 12th Grade



REGISTER @ [WATERSPRINGS.NET](https://watersprings.net)



\$5 TICKETS

KiDMin

POP CORN

TICKET CINEMA

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

JOIN US FOR DINNER & A MOVIE

Dec 7th | 4:30pm - 8:00pm



PURCHASE TICKETS & CONCESSIONS ONLINE. Wear your comfy clothes. Register & find more info at watersprings.net or scan QR.



At-Home Bible Story Video



Wonder @Home SERIES



Spotify playlist

FAMILY SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Look at my Heart: In 1 Samuel 16, God chose David as King because God saw his heart. In Psalm 139:23-24, David writes that God knows what's in the heart and asks God to examine His heart. Draw a picture of a heart and then pray together and ask God to examine your hearts. Read Psalm 139 and pray the words of the verse.

The Examen: In 1 Kings 19, Elijah hears God speaking in an unexpected way: a still, small whisper. God speaks to us too! The Examen is a practice of noticing where God is at work or speaking. Do it as a family at the end of the day: start by being still before God. Think about your day and consider the ways God may have been moving or speaking. Ask each person how God was present today. Then pray together and thank God as you listen for Him.

FAMILY WONDER QUESTIONS

1. Share about a person you like to talk with. Why?
2. Have you felt or heard God speaking to you? When?
3. What do you think God sees when He looks at your heart?



Train up the next generation!

Watersprings CHURCH CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CHECK OUT the Children's Ministry Serving Opportunities



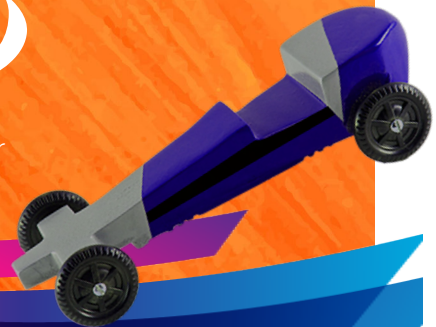
Spot the Differences in Jesus Taught About Prayer

Compare the picture on the left with the picture on right. Circle the 16 things that are different.





by Tammy Garnier



You're Invited!

It's time to rev up your engines and warm up your taste buds! Join us for the Annual Awana Grand Prix and Chili Cookout—a fun-filled day of racing, food, and fellowship for all Clubbers, Leaders, and the entire Congregation!

THE GRAND PRIX

Whether you're racing your custom-built car or cheering from the sidelines, the Grand Prix is an exciting event for all ages. Awards will be given for speed and design in each division, with a final race to crown the Clubber Grand Champion!

Racing Schedule:

All racers must be checked in 30 minutes before their race time.

- 9:00 AM – Gym Doors Open
- 10:00 AM – Cubbies & Puggles
- 10:45 AM – Sparks
- 11:00 AM-12:30 PM – Chili Cook-Off Open for Tasting & Voting
- 12:15 PM – T&T
- 1:15 PM – Trek & Journey
- 2:00 PM – Clubber Grand Champion Race
- 2:30 PM – Adult/Leader Division

Trophies and ribbons will be awarded at the end of each division, with a special ceremony following the Grand Champion race.



Register to Race:

Visit the Awana Kid Check counter on Wednesday nights to sign up and get your car kit!

Chili Cook-Off:

Come hungry and ready to vote for your favorite chili! Enjoy a variety of homemade recipes and cast your vote for your favorite chili.

WANT TO COMPETE?

Email us at awana@watersprings.net to enter your chili!

All proceeds from the Chili Cook-Off will go toward sending our Trek and Journey Clubbers to state and national competition.

Thank you for supporting our youth!

Fun for the Whole Church Family!

Whether you're racing, cooking, tasting, or just enjoying the show, there's something for everyone. Bring the whole family and invite your friends for one of our most exciting events of the year!

Don't miss out—mark your calendar for Saturday, November 15th, and come be part of the action and ministry at the Watersprings Auxiliary Gym!



We are in full autumn season now. The colors have changed and the leaves have fallen. Our hearts are full of thanksgiving. Next the snow is threatening to fall and make a white blanket on the earth. The evergreen trees are soon going up to remind us that Christmas is next. Then the New Year is rung in with all the fireworks of new resolutions or goals. A few weeks later those goals are replaced with the hearts of Valentine's Day. Then, what? Are we simply looking for the next thing to fill our time and energy?

Seasons here in Idaho are amazing. I grew up in a place where seasons were only on a postcard. I never truly experienced the four seasons of the year. When I moved to this amazing state I was able to understand the difference of the seasons. I felt hot and sticky in the summer, the cool breeze brought in the fall dip in night temperatures, which turned into the frigid cold of winter, to next bring the green newness of rebirth in the spring. Our walk with Christ can sometimes

have these kinds of seasons too.

When we come to Christ with our whole heart we often experience the spring of new life. Our eyes are open to see the goodness of God and all He has done, continues to do and will do for us. Our lives are full of awe and wonder just like the spring in each year. We have come out of the winter deadness of life. Maybe our hearts were cold and frozen over. Maybe our eyes were frozen shut to the nature of Christ. Our hearts cold to the warmth of Jesus' blood covering our sins. Then comes the spring of new life in Christ. This is an amazing feeling of lite joy in salvation. Then we experience the weight of the issues of this world.

The experience of hurts, pain, rejection, or loss can cause us to question the validity of our salvation. The fear of the unknown and the thoughts that maybe salvation isn't for me can cause us to feel sticky and sweaty. Then the autumn breeze of the Christ blows us back into His loving hands and care.

Seasons are for everyone. We all have those moments of extreme exuberance for Christ and then there is the choice to follow Him even though it doesn't feel good.

We also have seasons in our worship, service, rest, prayer, engagement with the Word, finances/investments, sharing, blessing, accountability, encouragement, awareness, and community. We all know about this, whether we acknowledge it or not. We all have those moments of pure excitement to go forward and then there are times when we step back and watch for a bit.

We see each of you and the season you are in. God knows the season you are experiencing. In each season God has lessons to be learned and more of Himself to be experienced. The Psalmist continually reached for God in the trials. Paul was imprisoned and yet he experienced the God of his salvation fully in those seasons. Whatever season you are in find a



rhythm that glorifies God. Read your Bible like it is your business, pray for that revival in your heart, honor God in what you do even if it doesn't feel like your heart is in it, praise God in worship even through the tears. Sometimes we are on fire and other times we are smoldering ash.

When you have the rhythm of reading the Bible, praying and seeking God in the morning and evening it can carry you through those seasons of dryness and then when the fresh out pouring of the Spirit falls you're already there ready to receive and do what He has for you to do.

So if you are in the winter of your faith, seek the spring of new life as you continue to go to God for everything. If you are in the summer of your faith, being persecuted or far from the Lord, know the gentle breeze of the Spirit in the autumn is coming. Be encouraged to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:33

When we seek Him first, He will be found and He will show you the way.

Proverbs 3:5-6 is the best encouragement for you to move forward!

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.

If you are struggling I encourage you to get involved! Ladies Night Out is a great place to start. The dates for the next few LNO's are November 7, December 12, January 9 and February 6. Conference is March 13-14 and then back to LNO on April 10 and May 1.



Ladies NIGHT OUT

GROUND & STEADFAST

Study in Colossians

Nov 7 7 PM

Register at watersprings.net



TESTIMONY FROM OUR LIFE CLASS STUDENT S.J.

I believe God has interceded in my life directly at least 3 major times. (This article will testify to two of them).

The first time was when I was in 8th grade. It was the first week of summer break, and the boy who I liked was hit by a car while riding his bike on the way to my house. That accident made a very energetic, goal orientated young man who had big plans of following his dad's footsteps as a police officer, fire fighter, Search and Rescue...into a quadriplegic. I spent most of that summer at Pocatello Regional Hospital learning with him how to live life in a wheelchair. Up to this point I was scared or didn't know what to say or how to act with people with disabilities. That summer started my God gift of working with people who have special needs, I have been doing this for the last 45 years.

The second God moment was when I was in my mid 20's. I was working as a CNA doing home

health with a 19-year-old Indian boy named BJ. This boy was not supposed to live past the age of three. He was born prematurely, with several medical conditions. He has been tube fed all his life. At age 4 the muscles in his legs and arms didn't work anymore (atrophied) and started becoming frozen in place. He couldn't move his arms or legs, couldn't talk, or even cry. The only thing that you would notice is when his gorgeous eyes light up when someone came in to see him.

At that time, I was a single mom, just going through a divorce with 2 small kids. My car had given me some trouble that morning, and I was running late for work. I was raised to always arrive 10 minutes early for your job, or you're late. Well, on this day I was about 45 minutes late. As I come in to tend to BJ, his eyes just lit up, so happy to see me. I would talk to BJ as I went about my duties of caring for him. I was upset and apologizing to him, about how crazy my life was. I was talking about how my car needed repair, kids giving me heck this morning, and my ex-husband was also giving me trouble at the time. I heard a voice just as plain as day tell me "Well at least you have something to complain about!" I knew it was God's voice coming through BJ. BJ is unable to make even noise, let alone talk. This stopped me in my tracks, and I said; "you know what? you're right." These things: cars, kids, jobs, the ability to be married and have an ex, were all blessings. I finished my day working with BJ, thanking him for the great life lesson. I went home and wrote out 4 pages, with 2 columns on each page of things I have been able to do or enjoy that he never would. Examples: taste food, walk, stretch, scratch an itch, let someone know you're

in pain, talk to friends or family, run, play tag or sports, let people know who your "girl crush" is or go on dates, first kiss, get married, have kids, work, live on his own, to know the basics of what clothes to wear, temperature of water for his showers, what tv shows or music he likes to listen to. He passed away that November, which is also the month of Thanksgiving. Since that time, I thank God every day during November for at least 5 things each day I am thankful for that I get to experience, that BJ never had the chance to.

ON AIR

TUNE-IN



HIS MUSIC • HIS WORD

THE REV

88.7 • 90.1 • 90.3



Weekdays
9am & 5pm



Podcast
drops at
10am



VISIT THE CONNECT CENTER

The informational hub for all things Watersprings!

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

REGISTER @ WATERSPRINGS.NET

Sunday, Dec 14, 1:00pm.

Meet Pastor Ty
in the Homestead



LivingWATER

EDITORS

TY ORR, HELEN MCKINNEY,
MELANIE VERHOEVEN,
KATHY WILSON

CONTRIBUTING PASTORS

DAVE COLEMAN, TY ORR,
TIM RUPP,

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

BRAD & HALEY DICK,
PAM DODD, RYAN FUGH,
TAMMY GARNIER, TIFFANY KIDD,
MELANIE VERHOEVEN

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

JOSH JACOBSEN, BEN ORR

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

CLASSIE VANDERMOLLEN

Baptism



Nov 15 & 16



PACK A SHOEBOX!

Visit the kiosk in the lobby for more info or contact Pastor Shane! shane@watersprings.net



samaritanspurse.org/occ



UPCOMING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

NOV 7	Ladies Night Out - 7:00pm / Fellowship Hall
NOV 8	Brothers Breakfast - 8:00am / Fellowship Hall
NOV 9	Pre-Baptism Class - 1:00pm / Register Online
NOV 15	Awana Grand Prix & Chili Cook-Off - 9:30am / Aux Gym
NOV 15 & 16	Baptism Weekend - Baptisms at each service
NOV 19	Night of Thanks & Giving - 8:30am / Sanctuary
NOV 23	Operation Christmas Child - Last day to turn in shoe boxes!
NOV 23	Life Class Begins - 11:00am / Register Online
NOV 23	Coffee with the Pastor - 1:00pm / Homestead
NOV 27	Online Service! No In-person Service - 7:00pm
NOV 27-28	OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF THANKSGIVING
DEC 6	Brothers Breakfast - 8:00am / Fellowship Hall
DEC 7	Family Movie Night - 4:30pm / Register Online
DEC 12	Christmas Ladies Night Out - 7:00pm / Sanctuary



*Thank you for
being a part of the
Watersprings family!*



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