

## FROM THE PREACHERS DESK

### The Advanced Lessons

We are starting a new series I've entitled, "The Advanced Lessons." In Matthew, chapters seventeen through twenty, Jesus withdraws from the multitudes to spend the majority of His time with His disciples.

In this, His last six months on Earth prior to His crucifixion, He will prepare His disciples for their future ministries. The first of these advanced lessons comes in Matthew 17:14-21.

In this text, we'll observe a man who brings his son to Jesus' apostles for healing, but they cannot heal the boy. It may be surprising to you at first glance, as it was to me, that Jesus became very frustrated when He was told that His disciples could not heal the boy.

Why was he frustrated? He was not frustrated that they could not complete the healing; He was frustrated because of their small faith. When they asked Jesus why they couldn't heal the boy, Jesus replied in verse twenty,

***"Because of the littleness of your faith;***

At this point, Jesus had called them men of little faith for years, and this was a tipping point for His frustration. There are great lessons within this text, but one I would draw your attention to in this article is a lesson of the *why* behind Jesus' frustration.

Does this text indicate that Jesus is frustrated with small faith? That's not it. Look at his next words in verse twenty,

***...for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you.***

The lesson of the mustard seed is not the power of small faith. The lesson of the mustard seed is that from the small *grows* the large. In the parable about the Kingdom, the Kingdom

(continued)

starts small and grows large, like a mustard seed. Here, Jesus teaches that faith that starts small can also grow large.

So why was He frustrated? Because their faith had not grown larger. They have been with Him for over two and a half years. They have heard His teaching and witnessed a multitude of miracles, yet, their faith was still small.

How could this happen? I think the answer, in part, is complacency. A.W. Tozer said, ***"Complacency is the deadly enemy of spiritual progress. The contented soul is the stagnant soul."*** I think he nailed it.

Jesus gave them the ability to heal and cast out demons, yet they cannot do it here. Why? Because they were used to things happening instantly and when the healing wasn't instant in this case, they gave up. What should they have done? They should have sought more power.

Greater spiritual obstacles require greater spiritual power, or in other words, a bigger faith. This week, Jesus is going to teach His disciples the much-needed lesson of how to tap into greater spiritual power. The same lesson applies to us.

Much Love,

Wes LeFlore (918) 607-8489 or [huskerewes1@gmail.com](mailto:huskerewes1@gmail.com)

## JUST THINK...

YOU'RE HERE NOT BY CHANCE,  
BUT BY GOD'S CHOOSING.  
HIS HAND FORMED YOU AND MADE YOU  
THE PERSON YOU ARE.  
HE COMPARES YOU TO NO ONE ELSE—  
YOU ARE ONE OF A KIND.  
YOU LACK NOTHING  
THAT HIS GRACE CAN'T GIVE YOU.  
HE HAS ALLOWED YOU TO BE HERE  
AT THIS TIME IN HISTORY.  
TO FULFILL HIS SPECIAL PURPOSE  
FOR THIS GENERATION.

—SELECTED

## PRAYER LIST

**Russell Day**—He was supposed to have been transferred to Larksville Rehab in Wichita. Keep him in your prayers.

**Shirley Stoner**—fell and fractured her left fibula. She is in a boot and will have more x-rays next week. She is doing okay so far. She would love to receive cards and phone calls. Her address is P.O. Box 307, Oxford, KS 67119

**Kendall Brundage**—continues to recover from a couple of falls. Keep him and Pat in your prayers.

**Hailee Moyer**—daughter of Maria Moyer and granddaughter of Marsha Dugan, was in a bad car accident and needs prayers for healing. She is waiting to get into a long term rehab facility. She still has a long recovery path and needs prayers. She would love Christmas cards and cards of encouragement. You can send them to Hailee Moyer, 412 S. F Street, Wellington, KS 67152

**Melinda Miller**—wife of Chris Miller, saw her doctor and was given the good news that she is cancer free! She has a few tests and some radiation ahead for her. Keep the prayers coming! Her address is Melinda Miller, 14 LaCrumbre Close, Tauranga 3110, New Zealand. Remember there is extra postage for cards sent out of the US.

## CARD OF THANKS

Dear Church Family, thank you for all the love and support for me and my family since my gallbladder surgery last week! The calls, cards, texts, food, and prayers have been a great encouragement and blessing to us. Much love, Kendall LeFlore and family.

To the Church Family, a heartfelt thank you for your prayers, cards, and concerns. We know he is in a better place with the Lord. Sincerely, Carol Norris

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Parker Dodds—17th	Patsy Pierce—17th
Ada Francisco—26th	Eloise Francisco—26th
Martha Howell—27th	Lonnie Bennett—29th
Crystal Shields—30th	Merle Willey—30th

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

### January

Jan 17 Linda Wartick	Jan 24 Kaylee Jenkins
Jan 31 Darlene Cooney	

### February

Feb 07 Helen Norris	Feb 14 Lynette Turney
Feb 21 Linda Wartick	Feb 28 Kaylee Jenkins

**If you can volunteer, see Darlene Cooney!**

*Choose your battles wisely,  
often silence is the wisest road to peace!*



### The Advanced Lessons, Part 1: Faith

Matthew 17:14-21

#### The Scene:

A Desperate \_\_\_\_\_

The Desperate \_\_\_\_\_

- They didn't \_\_\_\_\_ how to \_\_\_\_\_  
the available \_\_\_\_\_

A Frustrated \_\_\_\_\_

#### The Advanced Lesson:

- What Is Little Faith?

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- 
- 

- How Can My Faith Grow?

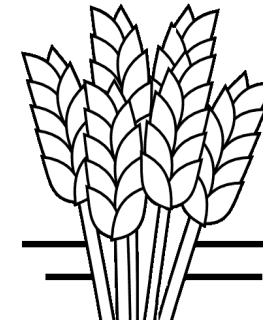
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#### THOSE WHO SERVE

SUNDAY A.M.	17-Jan 2021	24-Jan 2021	31-Jan 2021
<b>Elder in Charge</b>	R. Harris	R. Harris	R. Harris
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	B. Turney	L. Lewis	J. DeJarnett
<b>Song Leader</b>	K. Dodds	K. Dodds	K. Dodds
<b>Communion Prayer</b>	T. Norris	R. Harris	M. Kline
<b>Contribution Prayer &amp; Collection</b>	N. Bradbury P. Dodds	N. Bradbury P. Dodds	N. Bradbury P. Dodds
<b>Ushers</b>	J. Rayl J. Church	J. Rayl J. Church	J. Rayl J. Church
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	R. Harris	R. Harris	R. Harris
<b>Deacon in Charge</b>	K. Dodds	K. Dodds	K. Dodds
SUNDAY A.M.	07-Feb 2021	14-Feb 2021	21-Feb 2021
<b>Elder in Charge</b>	M. Kline	M. Kline	M. Kline
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	L. Turney	K. Dodds	T. Norris
<b>Song Leader</b>	R. Harris	R. Harris	R. Harris
<b>Communion Prayer</b>	E. Newberry	T. Norris	R. Harris
<b>Contribution Prayer &amp; Collection</b>	A. Shields J. Willson	A. Shields J. Willson	A. Shields J. Willson
<b>Ushers</b>	D. Carroll L. Helton	D. Carroll L. Helton	D. Carroll L. Helton
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	M. Kline	M. Kline	M. Kline
<b>Deacon in Charge</b>	A. Hines	A. Hines	A. Hines

**Note concerning COVID-19:** During this month we are asking all public non-speaking participants to wear a face covering while performing their duties. This applies to ushers and to the men collecting our contribution. If you are unable to fulfill your assignment for any reason, please call the Deacon in Charge.

<b>ELDERS</b>		<b>DEACONS</b>	
Rex Harris	Marvin Kline	Kevin Dodds	Aaron Hines
Ed Newberry	Tom Norris	Leroy Lewis	Mike Neal
		David Pierce	Alan Shields
<b>MINISTER</b>			
Wes LeFlore			



*"Reaching Inward, Outward  
Upward, Downward"*

# Wellington Church of Christ

217 W. 13th St. Wellington, KS 67152 620-326-7511

#### ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 17, 2021

Call to Worship

Prayer

Song #587 "Sing and Be Happy"

Song #837 "I Need Thee Every Hour"

Song #315 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Communion Prayers

Contribution Prayer

Contribution Collection

Lesson

Song #902 "Nothing But the Blood"

Closing Prayer

*Every Sunday during the sermon we offer Children's Church to boys and girls ages 3 years through 2nd grade. They will meet in the study for stories, crafts and learning about Jesus.*