

Walking by

FAITH

and Not by Sight 2 Corinthians 5:7

Living Faith Christian Center Newsletter



Living Faith Christian Center
"Reaching the World"
Teaching...Preaching...Healing

September 2022 - Volume 5 – Issue 9

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Living Faith Christian Center Mission Statement

Our mission is to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom throughout the world, and train Believers how to live independent of this world's system and have dominion over it. To provide Believers a word of encouragement, hope and to aide in the development of their faith. Also, to teach Christians who they are in Christ Jesus and how to live a victorious life in their covenant rights and privileges.

Calendar of Events

October 2, 2022

Living Faith Christian Center
Six Year Anniversary Celebration
Guest Speaker: Pastor Todd Foster of Oak Hill Cathedral of Glory, Bassett, VA
Anniversary Celebration will be held at Living Faith Christian Center
1540 Frye Road
Columbia, SC 29203

November 13, 2022

LFCC Sunday Morning Worship Service
Guest Speaker: Pastor Bryan Wright of Boomerang Church, Albemarle, NC
at Living Faith Christian Center
1540 Frye Road
Columbia, SC 29203

December 11-18, 2022

Conference with Pastor Serevia Naituku in Nadi, Fiji (if you are interested in joining us please call the church phone at (803) 609-5714

Service Times & Contact Information

Sunday Morning Worship Service @ 8:30am

Tuesday Noon Day Bible Study @ 12:00pm

Tuesday Night Bible Study @ 7:00pm

Web Address: aldowningministries.org and livingfaithsc.com

Phone: (803) 609-5714

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Speaking Engagement Request

If you would like to invite Bishop Downing for a speaking engagement, the contact info is:

A.L. Downing Ministries
P.O. Box 291808
Columbia, SC 29229
Ph: (803) 609-5714



Bishop A. L. Downing and Lady Inza Downing

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and the recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord” Luke 4:18-19

Words of Encouragement



“WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS”

Romans 8:25-27

Bishop A.L. Downing

The subject and text are implying at least three things. First, that you know what is involved in being a conqueror. Secondly, it's boldly stating that you are a conqueror prior to being battle tested; and finally you're not just a conqueror, but you're MORE than a conqueror.

To be a conqueror, one must engage in conflict and take territories. But to be more than conquerors not only must you be willing to engage in conflicts and take territories, but you must be willing to go where others dare not go. Be prepared for the greater risk and dangers that others are not willing to make or sacrifice. Conqueror is defined as one who wins a country in war, to gain or acquire by force of arms: subjugate **conquer** territory and its people. 2: vanquish **conquered** the enemy: to overcome by force of arms. To be a conqueror you must first of all know who you're conquering. Therefore, you must know who you're fighting. The problem is a lot of times we as Christians are fighting a battle and yet we don't know who we are fighting. We don't know who the enemy really is so we end up fighting each other. We end up wounding or killing each other. In military combat we called this being wounded by “friendly fire” or “death by friendly fire.” All because we didn't recognize who was the enemy. Sometimes the injured person bears the blame for wandering outside the safety perimeter. In verse 28, the fight, the battle, the struggle you're in right now is working for your good. You might not understand it. You may not like what you're going through. It may be uncomfortable. It may be frightening and you may want out of it now. But if you're going to become more than a conqueror you got to face your fears and tell somebody the thing, the mess you're going through, it's working in your favor. Because you've been called, handpicked, and selected for His purpose.

Verse 29 says, *“for those God foreknew, he also predestined to conform to the image of his Son that he might be the first born among many brothers and sisters.”* Verse 30, *“and those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified he also glorified.”* Now we want to look at the word predestined and not get caught up in the doctrine of predestination by John Calvin and become Calvinistic. The doctrine of Calvinism teaches that if one has been predestined that there is nothing they can do about it. They have no choice because they have been predestined. In other words, if a person has been predestined to go to heaven, then they can live any type of life they want and still go to heaven because they have been predestined and the opposite is true. God does not take away your choice and it certainly does not sentence anyone to heaven or hell. That's a choice that we make.

He says I stand at the door and knock and if any man will let me in I will come in and sit with him. The choice



“Creating a Lifestyle of Prayer cont...”

is up to the individual to accept him into their lives. However, God knows the choice that the person will make through his foreknowledge. He is all knowing. Remember, God created everything in this world and after he created everything in which he saw you and I, he said it is good. So He knew the end from the beginning. Also let's not forget the Apostle John writing the book of Revelation on the Isle of Patmos. God allowed him to see how the end would happen, before it actually happened. John was writing the end of time while living in his present age...called speaking Prophetic Past meaning speaking something that's going to happen in the future as though it has already happened. So God knew and knows all things because He was there in the creating of all things. It's like this, if you recorded a game or tv show you know how's it's going to end. So if someone ask you, you probably would tell them just wait and see. But you already know how it's going to end. How? Because you have prior knowledge and they don't. You know who's going to take the winning shot, or if the race is going to be decided at the tape, you have foreknowledge. Therefore, you're not surprised when something happens because you already knew it. The same with God, He already knew you didn't have it all together. He knows you still have a little Peter and Thomas in you. He knows you want to give up at times and get frustrated and count yourself out. But He still called you to do great things. He still called you a conqueror.

Don't think it strange that God will call you more than a conqueror when you have not been battle tested. Notice in Judges chapter 6, God called Gideon a mighty man of valor or a mighty warrior before he had even fought one battle. Why did God call him a mighty man of valor or a mighty warrior without being battle tested? Notice what was said to him by the angel "The Lord is with you." He preferred the statement with the words the Lord is with you and then he calls him a mighty warrior. He's not a warrior with his own might but only because the Lord is with him. You are not more than a conqueror on your own but you're more than a conqueror through him that loves us. He has called us to dominate, take over, to conquer. He already told us in Joshua 1:3 *"Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that I have given unto you, as I said to Moses."* So it's up to us to go and take what the Lord has given us. It's not because of who you are but because of whose you are and whose inside of you. It's not by your power and your might but by the spirit of the Almighty God that you are more than a conqueror.

When a person first comes into the military, we start calling them Warrior, preparing their mind, their thinking. They're issued all of their uniforms during the first week that a Soldier will need, but they're not called a Soldier. For the next 9 weeks they will go through a series of tests, training, marches, and take the PT test. They're still called Warrior or a conqueror. Once they have passed all requirements and they march across that parade platform and give that final graduation salute, then we call them Soldier. More than a conqueror. Why? Because now whenever they go to battle they will never go alone. They have an entire military (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard) backing him. They have other mighty warriors ready to go to battle and take the territory.

“Creating a Lifestyle of Prayer cont...”



God has called you more than a conqueror before you have even stepped foot onto the battlefield, because he already knows the outcome of the battle. He knows what's inside of you. He knew that if you would trust in Him all things would be possible.

The Apostle Paul in verses 33 and 34 brings to mind a quarter of law and in which no charge can be bought against a Christian because God has already pronounced the verdict - I'm not guilty. Therefore we can live as more than conquerors. We have victorious living because of what He has already decreed and declared. In verse 34 he lets us know that there are three reasons why no one can condemn God's elect, which is you and I. The first is Christ died for us. Secondly, He is alive and seated at the right hand of God which is the position of power. And thirdly, He is interceding for us. He is standing in the gap between you and the father. So the Father only knows and hears the good that you have done because the other is covered by the blood. The Apostle now raises the question who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall the tribulation which is trouble or hardship persecution, famine or nakedness or the sword. Paul testifies in 2 Corinthians 11 verse 25, three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned three times. I was shipwrecked. I spent a day and the night in the open sea. I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers. In danger from bandits. In danger from my own countrymen. In danger from the Gentiles. In danger in the city. In danger in the country. In danger at sea, and in danger from false brothers. I have been hungry and I have been thirsty and have gone without sleep. I've been in the cold and naked. Look at what he's saying. I've been through all of that but I'm still More than a Conqueror! **Been in jail. Been beaten with rods. Had to escape through a hole in the wall.**

He's saying he still has the victory. I want you to know your God is and has called you to live a Victorious Life and be conquers in all things. Your Situation can't stop you. The Pandemic can't stop you. The Naysayers can't stop you. You didn't get the promotion...yet. You didn't get the contract...yet. You didn't get the house...yet. Can I tell you it's still working in your favor and you're still a Mighty warrior. A conqueror. But can I tell you...I am persuaded that you will have your business. I am persuaded you will be promoted. You will get the contract. I am persuaded that nothing will separate you from the love of God. I am persuaded that God is super sizing some things for you. That eyes haven't seen, ears haven't heard nor has it entered in the heart of man the things that God has prepared just for you. It's working in your favor...It's working in your favor. You might not feel like it. You may not look like it. But **YOU ARE A WARRIOR! A CONQUEROR! And because God is the GREATEST POWER you will never be DEFEATED!!!**





Words of Encouragement cont...

Testimonials:

Pastor, I am thankful to God who has opened a door for me to go to college. The college offers exactly what I want to do in life. It's a ten month course and upon graduating they will make sure I have employment. I'm sooo happy and thankful to God for this great opportunity.

J. X.

Pastor, The Lord has truly blessed me. I had a very high profile job with the government. However, I didn't have peace and was somewhat conflicted inside. I prayed about it and the Lord open another job, where I will be doing the same thing, but now I will be working from home!

C.V.

My testimony can be summed up this way: child of divorced parents, feeling unloved, worthless and shameful, molestation, sexual immorality, having a child out of wedlock, being told I was going to hell and believing it, marriage to a younger man and being emotional abused, sickness in my young children: asthma for my seven month old daughter, leukemia for my 2 1/2 year old son, my husband cheating, separation from my husband, being jobless with no way to support my children, drug addiction in my now adult older son, the struggle to find work. The struggles with a teenage friend of the family who practically lived at my house at times as his mother was abusing drugs, raised by his grandmother who could not control him, Him getting involved with gangs, stealing and going to DJJ, then breaking in a house and killing the owner. My children getting pulled out of school by the police to answer questions about him and seeing if they were involved and his eventual arrest and in DJJ. And then moved to SCDC with a 30 years sentence for murder. Discovering I had breast cancer, alcohol abuse in my 17 year old son and his expulsion from school just before graduation, my 17-year-old teenage son having a child out of wedlock, my daughter leaving home at 17 and me not being able to stop her. I had more guilt and shame than I knew what to do with, custody battles for my son over his child, the marriage of my daughter at 18 and the children that followed. Eventually my son married the mother of his children and joined the Army.

I met a young lady who talked to me about God. She told me that God loved me. I discovered God had been working in my life the entire time. I just had to sit back and let him show me how much he loved and cared for me. Getting in the right church, with the right pastor who is leading me on the path God has for me. I am so thankful to be a part of Living Faith Christian Center. I still struggle with who I am and God, and sometimes shame, guilt and condemnation try to creep into my life. But now I know that I am more than a conqueror and when the enemy rises up I know that he's already defeated. And I realize he's trying to stop me from walking the path God has set before me.

N.S.

How You Can Get Involved...

- Pray about our upcoming events and that we will pay the remaining mortgage off quickly.
- Become a faithful partner and contributor of the Ministry.
Make contributions payable to: [A. L. Downing Ministries, P.O. Box 291808, Columbia, SC 29229](mailto:ALD@aldowningministries.org) or go to the ministry's website: aldowningministries.org. All contributions are tax deductible.

Lady Downing

Thoughts for the Month

“You may have weaknesses, but God has strength. You may have sin, but God has grace. You may fail, but God remains faithful! What a Mighty God we serve!”

“You may slip, but God isn't going to let you fall! His loving arms will ALWAYS be there to catch you!”

“When you Pray give God the opportunity to answer. Don't be so impatient. He does speak back! You must want to hear his voice and not your own!”

“You don't stop being God's child when you mess up. God knows your heart and He loves you unconditionally!”

“You may think God is not answering your prayers RIGHT AWAY because he doesn't hear them. God hears all of your prayers. Don't rush God, trust God!”

**Be Blessed,
'First Lady Downing'**



CONGRATULATIONS



Living Faith
SCHOOL
of **THEOLOGY**



SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY



Congratulations

LFCC ACCREDITATION

Transworld Accrediting Commission



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LFCC Women's Ministry



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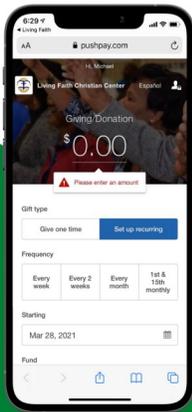
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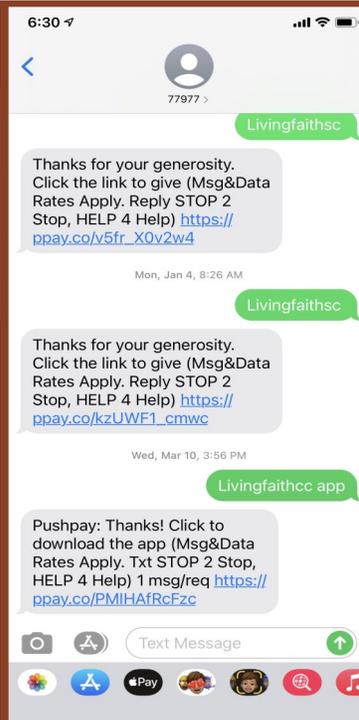
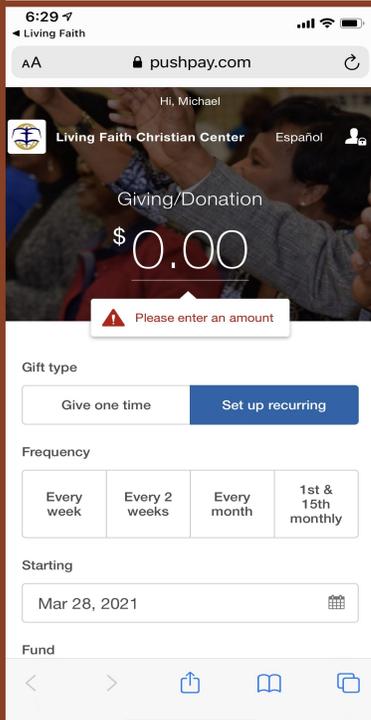
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SCHOOL *of* THEOLOGY

Living Faith Ministries

“Reaching the World”

TEACHING PREACHING HEALING

OUR PROGRAM

Living Faith Ministries School of Theology (LFMSOT) offers the following types of Certificates, Diplomas, and Degrees.

AUDIT CERTIFICATE

The Audit Program is for those individuals attending for their own personal spiritual growth. Audit students must attend all lectures and read all text books. Audit students will receive a Certificate of Attendance for each 30-credit hour program completed.

DIPLOMA PROGRAM

A Diploma in Theology is awarded to students who successfully complete their designated first-year program for academic credit (30 credit-hours total).

ASSOCIATES DEGREE PROGRAM

An Associates Degree is awarded to students who successfully complete their designated second year program for academic credit (60 credit-hours total).

BACHELORS DEGREE

A Bachelors Degree is awarded to a student who successfully complete their designated fourth-year program for academic credit (120 credit-hours total)

MASTERS DEGREE

A Masters Degree is awarded to students who successfully complete a minimum of 36 credit-hours above the Bachelors Degree Program for academic credit.

DOCTORAL DEGREE

A Doctor of Ministry (D. Min) is awarded to students who successfully complete 45 credit hours above the Masters Degree program for academic credit.

Classes are held at the main campus of

Living Faith Christian Center

1536 Frye Road

Columbia, SC 29203

**Now accepting applications for the
Fall Semester**

For more information call 803-609-5714