



HAPPY Father's Day

June 2016
LFC NEWS

GOD BLESS YOU

From the Pastor:

Gospel Storytelling: Part 3 Sanctification, a Matter of Community over Programming

Two months ago I began writing this article around the idea of helping us develop into a community of Gospel Storytellers. In these writings I have been dissecting our definition of the Gospel: "Imperfect people, clinging to the perfect Christ, being made perfect through the Holy Spirit and helping other imperfect people."

In April, I wrote about "Embracing the Imperfect Without Embracing the Imperfection."

Last month I addressed the issue of "Clinging to the Perfect Christ and Embracing Your Perfection in Christ." I hope you read this and spent some time dwelling on the amazing gifts that become ours the moment we accept Christ as our Lord and Saviour.

This month I want to briefly encourage us with the third piece of our definition of the Gospel: "being made perfect by the Holy Spirit". This is the lifelong call of the believer to be sanctified. Sanctified means 'to set apart as or declare holy or to consecrate'. This is the process of making us into how God sees us. Upon our acceptance of Christ's sacrifice on the cross, God immediately sees the righteousness of Christ when he looks on us, rather than seeing our filth and shame. This is called justification. Now we need to become what God sees.

The Holy Spirit is given to the Christian as one of the gifts of our salvation. One of the Holy Spirit's roles in our lives is to guide us and protect us as we walk the road of sanctification. This road is a long and arduous one that will without fail last as long as our life here on earth. While the results of justification are instantaneous and dependent on the work of Christ alone, the fruit of sanctification comes slowly, much more slowly, and requires much effort on our part. Author and pastor Eugene Peterson, in a book I have read often, has this to say about the process:

"There is a great market for religious experience in our world; there is little enthusiasm for the patient acquisition of virtue, little inclination to sign up for a long apprenticeship in what earlier generations of Christians called holiness."

~ Eugene H. Peterson, *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society*

In my mind, I cannot separate the process of sanctification from the call to be a diligent disciple of Jesus Christ. While I believe that discipleship began before I accepted Christ, the bulk of my discipleship has been focused on the sanctification and redemption of my life through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Continued on next page...

I admit that this has not always been easy, and for sure I have had seasons where sanctification has seemed weak, if not missing altogether, but I know without a doubt it has always been worth the level of commitment that it requires.

I often have people ask me for tools to aid them in the sanctification/discipleship process in their lives. What they want most of the time is a book, a program, a video series or some other tool. While I used to give out these tools and still do at times, I believe that what is most needed is more and/or better relationships. It always means deepening our relationship with Christ. We simply cannot be sanctified without deepening in that relationship. Often, though, what is most needed is more or deeper relationships with other stumbling disciples of Christ. We have not been called to walk this journey alone. We have access to our Heavenly Father through our relationship with Jesus, and we have the Holy Spirit working in us at all times, but another great gift we have is the community of faith that God has designed for our good and His glory.

If you truly desire to grow in sanctification, I encourage you to read your Bible regularly to hear from God, pray to Him so He hears from you, and connect in relationship to other Christians. Walking in community is a good way to be encouraged on your journey as you encourage others

as well. We are all stronger when we walk together and as we walk in accountability to God and others.

“Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” Colossians 3:16

Pastor Dennis



SISTERlife (Women’s Ministry) announcements:

Sisterlife would like to invite you to our “Women at the Well” gathering on **Friday, June 3rd at 7p.m.** Come and join us around the “*Brownie Sundaes*” bar. All women - Sr. high school and up are invited to come and be encouraged in a time fellowship and testimony of all generations. Let’s have some fun....looking forward to seeing you all there!

Saturday, June 18

Prayer Walk at Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary. You are warmly invited to come to Kanaan to spend time with Jesus and have a deeper encounter with Him... Need a time of rest? a fresh encounter with God to counteract the stress of daily living? Then we invite you to take a day off and to come for a visit to our little land of Kanaan with its various biblical sites which can be an inspiration to spend more time in prayer and meditation. The “heart” of our grounds, our Garden of Jesus’ Sufferings, provides a setting to contemplate His Passion.

We will meet at LFC at 10AM to carpool. Bring a bagged lunch. Check out www.kanann.org to see the location we are going to. Donations to the Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary are graciously accepted that day.

SISTERlife...



LFC Kids Newsletter:

Welcome to Summer!! Here is what is happening with our LFC Kids:

DURING THE WEEK:

Moms & Tots: Meets Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30am.

During the summer months, we will be meeting at parks in the area. For the month of June, we will be at the Meadowview Dinosaur Park! Come and join us (rain or shine!) July will be at the Alexandra Spray Park and August will be at the Southfork McKinley Park. Maps/schedules are available at the LFC Check-in counters.

Contact Adrienne Braithwaite - litldods@shaw.ca

Jujubes (Gr. 5-6): Meets every other Wednesday, 6:45-8:15pm.

Jujubes has wrapped up for the year. A huge thanks to Darrell Ohlmann, Carolee Stevenson and Olivia Milne for your dedication to this awesome ministry! See you in the Fall!!

LFC KIDS: SUNDAY MORNINGS, 10:15am-12:00pm

Nursery for ages birth to 18 months and **Toddler Room** for ages 18-36 months. *If you are a volunteer, please check your church mail folder for the new schedule.*

Contact Heather Feldbusch - feldbusch@shaw.ca
or text/call: 780.906.3516

3-K class and Grades 1-4 class.

Contact Joanne Gulley - joanne@leducfellowship.ca
or text/call: 780.441.1671

Nursery, Toddler Room and the 3-K class will be available all summer. The Grade 1-4 class will end on June 26 and resume on September 4. The Worship Service will be family friendly and enjoyed by all!

COMING THIS SUMMER!

CAVE QUEST VBS! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

It’s not too early to sign up to volunteer for VBS - we need people from Grade 5 through age 95! More information will be available in the coming weeks so be praying about how you can help with this exciting ministry!

What is VBS? This is a fun way to teach our LFC kids and surrounding community about Jesus! It’s coming **August 22-26!** VBS will be available for kids going into Kindergarten through Grade 5. Our theme is *Following Jesus - The Light of the World!* We will again be offering nursery and a program for Preschoolers for the children of VBS workers. Don’t miss out!

Any questions concerning LFC Kids Ministries can be directed to Joanne Gulley at joanne@leducfellowship.ca or text/call: 780.441.1671.



Youth

Join us for our wrap-up party on June 8, 6:30-8:30pm.

Stay tuned to our Facebook group LFC Youth, and follow us on twitter @LFCYouth for info on our summer events.

Monday Morning Prayer time

If you have a passion to pray for LFC & specific needs that arise, you are welcome to come to the church Monday mornings from 10:30 - 11:45am.

If you would like more details, please speak with Diane Ohlmann.

LFC Young Adults Group

Community Night:

Friday, June 17th, 7-9pm

End of the year potluck wrap-up party/shindig of awesomeness.

See the Facebook group (LFC Young Adults) for details and RSVP with what food you’ll be bringing.

young adults...

ministry updates...

WHY DO WE...?

Introducing our Summer Teaching Series...

This summer we have a really exciting theme for our times together on Sunday mornings – “**Why Do We...?**”. Often our journey with Jesus becomes routine, as our normal practices and schedule becomes a habit instead of an intentional and engaged experience. So this summer we want to go right back to the basics and explore together why it is we do the things that we do!

Why do we have a Sunday service? Why do we have a sermon? Why do we tithe or seek accountability or worship? As we explore these things together, I hope that you will find a renewed energy and passion for the “normal life” parts of our Christian life.

Tied in with this, and because of some heavier construction and renovations that will be going on throughout the building, our services will actually look a bit different too. Starting in July grade 1 and up will be joining us for our services, so this is a great opportunity to teach the whole body, young and old, what we do and why! Our services will be a little bit shorter than usual to help with that, and we will try to build them in such a way that all ages can engage with what’s happening.

I’m really excited about this summer series, as digging into the “why’s” of what we do really helps me to deepen my own experience and walk with Jesus, and I hope you’re excited too!

grow together...

June 5 - LFC Grad Celebration

After the service on June 5 we will have a potluck and fellowship time with our grads as we celebrate this milestone together. If you would like to stay, please bring either a main dish or a side/salad to share. All are welcome! As a church family these are great chances to celebrate life and accomplishments together. See you there!

2016 HS grads from LFC:

Ireland Braaten	Daniel Kruitbosch
Rylan Davis	Max Ohlmann
Zoe Issler	Emma vanBruinessen

LFC Annual General Meeting & Vision Sunday ~ June 12

Join us June 12 for our Annual Vision Sunday. Plan to stay after the service for our very important annual general meeting where we will affirm our Elders and approve our budget for the July 2016 - June 2017 fiscal year.

Everyone is welcome. Members are encouraged to stay and participate in the decision-making process that impacts how we serve with the resources God has provided!



LFC Staff:

<i>Pastor:</i> Rev. Dennis Gulley	dennis@leducfellowship.ca
<i>Associate Pastor:</i> Dustin Strauss	dustin@leducfellowship.ca
<i>Children's Ministry:</i> Joanne Gulley	joanne@leducfellowship.ca
<i>Administrative Assistant:</i> Penny Carleton	penny@leducfellowship.ca

Contact us:

4401 Rollyview Road, Leduc, AB T9E 7H4
Phone: 780.986.9299 office@leducfellowship.ca

www.leducfellowship.ca

Office hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00am - 4:00pm
Tuesday: 9:00 am - 12:00pm.
Thursdays & Holidays the office is closed.