

# The Disciple

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

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## Becoming a Child of the King Sermon Series on James (Parts 5 – 7)

*An extensive overview of James 2:13 – 26*

*(Part 5 in the Sermon Series) is available on our*

*website: [louisachristianchurch.org](http://louisachristianchurch.org)*

As we continue to explore the themes and messages in the book of James, in these next 3 sections, we start to explore the apparent contradictions between James and the writings of the Apostle Paul. One of these becomes apparent in the treatment of the balance of works and faith. Are we saved by faith alone, as the Apostle Paul tells us, or must we have works that accompany our faith to truly show that we are people of God as James tells us?

Perhaps, these aren't contradictions but only different ways of phrasing similar thoughts. Maybe both men are trying to lead us to a living faith. In the final verses of Chapter 2, James is continuing to try to reach Christians. He is pleading for our salvation. He explains that we are offered a saving faith in this relationship with God. It is a faith that grows. To grow this faith relationship, we must grow trust with God.

To strengthen the bond of trust, we have to do things that fill us and reinforce the bond. By reading the scripture, remembering God's faithfulness, and surrounding ourselves with people who testify to God's goodness, we strengthen the foundation of our trust in God.

James then says that it is through works and helping others that we show our bond with God. We exhibit our relationship of faith to the world when we show ourselves to be people who are willing to give others the help they need. We offer our belief in this trusting relationship as we bring to others the same trust that we have found in our relationship with God. Through these works, faith grows in ourselves and in others.



**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**Romans 15:13**

Moving into Chapter 3, James picks out specific things that stand between this relationship with God. He is forthright in his assessment. He states clearly that a lot is expected of those that guide others for God's glory.

The power of the words we use is significant and can be harmful should we not take the time to think about the things we say. The tongue is small, but it has a huge impact. We must watch against gossiping, complaining, and negativity. This is true not only of what we say aloud but of the ways we use words to talk about ourselves. Not only can your words hurt others, but they can hurt ourselves. When words are negative and discouraging, they can formulate a hellish influence.

Our words can both praise and curse. James warns that cursing and negativity take away from the good our words can accomplish. Be aware of the source of your language. Does what you say come from a place of humility and wisdom, or is it based in boastfulness and pride.

What will your words renew and affirm in yourself and to others? When we use our words to uplift others, we ourselves are renewed and find peace. Wisdom can be found in language that is pure, peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy, impartial, and sincere.

In Part 7 of the series, James 4: 1 -10 tells us again that James is writing to remind his readers why we are here. We are here to be in an intimate relationship with God. More personal than a marriage and requiring the same amount of care and dedication. The burdens of this world will overtake us and cause us to forget why we are here. They cause us to forget our focus and to lose God in the priorities of the world. We become distracted, and those distractions change our priorities. The priorities of the world become more important than maintaining this relationship with God.

Though God is jealous, He is not vengeful as he continually tries to reconnect with us. God continues to offer grace and redemption as a way for us to reconnect with him. When we can pull our focus out of the world and, with humility, turn back to God, God will meet us right where we are. In fact, he proved this in the form of Jesus, sacrificing himself on the cross. This was the ultimate example of humility, freely given, to set us up for a continued relationship with God.

Each moment, God stands at the door to our life and knocks; if the door is opened, he sits with you in intimate fellowship, and the relationship continues.

*If you are just starting a relationship with God, or if you have a desire to re-dedicate yourself, please reach out to Pastor Vincent or a member of our congregation. For more on James, we invite you to listen and watch the remainder of this sermon series online or join us in person on Sunday mornings at 11 AM.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### **Bible Studies**

Wednesdays  
10:30am

Thursdays  
7:00pm

You may attend in person (please wear a mask) or by Zoom conference link. Contact Pastor Vincent to get the Zoom information.

**Please contact Pastor Vincent to let him know if you plan to attend in person.**

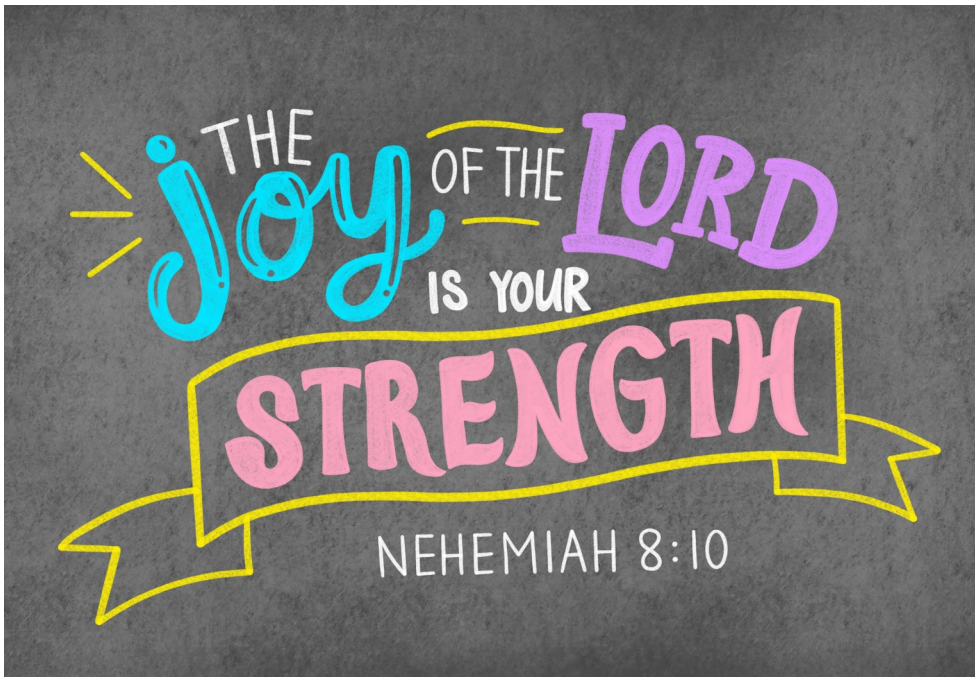


### **BOARD MEETING**

**LCC Board Meeting**  
Tuesday, September 8  
7:30pm

You may attend in person (We will be practicing social distancing. Please wear a mask.) or by a Zoom conference link. Watch your email for more information.

**Please contact Pastor Vincent to let him know if you plan to attend in person.**



## Labor Day Quotes

No work is insignificant. All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.”  
 — Martin Luther King, Jr.

— “We often miss opportunity because it’s dressed in overalls and looks like work”  
 — Thomas A. Edison

“It is only through labor and painful effort, by grim energy and resolute courage, that we move on to better things.”  
 — Theodore Roosevelt

“A hundred times every day, I remind myself that my inner and outer life depend on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am still receiving.” — Albert Einstein

Nothing ever comes to one, that is worth having, except as a result of hard work.  
 — Booker T. Washington

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You can give online.  
 Visit our website, [louisachristianchurch.org](http://louisachristianchurch.org) and click on “Tithe Here” to donate using a credit card.

You can also donate by mailing your contribution to:

**Louisa Christian Church**  
**P.O. Box 1344**  
**Louisa, VA 23093**

We thank you for your support.

# Word Search

## NAMES AND TITLES OF JESUS

U Q O K A I S N S M T K R P M  
 V L F Z J T Y O A E E O A O R  
 O M G Y V O N T N Z I C B X K  
 Y D N Y M O E N U V A N B O A  
 D L O V F H T C A S I R I X R  
 E R I G W A R S P D S H E W E  
 N T O G B M A L I D O V Z N D  
 F D J L H Q Y V K R T T R Z E  
 I G Q R R T A E G T H V E P E  
 P B Y I H D S E K E U C T X M  
 T S W K F T Y A J I O Q S L E  
 L I I O N A M F O N O S A H R  
 V N N Q Z Y K V A D E J M V R  
 G O J E S U S E M M A N U E L  
 S V B G G W T Z T P B Q J F E

CHRIST

KING of the Jews

LORD

RABBI

SON OF DAVID

EMMANUEL

LAMB of God

MASTER

REDEEMER

SON OF GOD

JESUS

LIGHT of the World

NAZARENE

SAVIOR

SON OF MAN



# Enjoy the Joys of Summer

Warm days, cool nights, fireflies, shooting stars, bare legs, iced tea, watermelon, sweet corn, and swimming - God lingers around every corner, in the shade of every tree, around every campfire.

To make the most of this season, here's an invitation to be as intentional as possible about savoring the wonders of summer - and growing closer to the One who makes it so sweet!

As the summer evenings linger, go for a walk with God in the cool of the day. Even better, go barefoot and enjoy the feel of the ground beneath your feet.

Take a Wifiatus! Wifi + hiatus = Ahhhhhmazing...

Go stargazing. See if you can find Andromeda, the only celestial object we can see with our naked eyes that isn't in our own Milky Way galaxy. Andromeda's a galaxy, too, the nearest one to us: a swirl of a trillion stars!

Say a special prayer for peace in our homes. Say a prayer for peace and justice around the world.

