



# Drawing Near to God

James 4:8

## Where is Your Faith?


by Ross Fink

**I** once read a quote, "God will carry us in His arms until we can walk, and he will carry us when we cannot walk, but he will not carry us in His arms if we will not walk" (**George McDonald**).

Jesus is seen rebuking the winds in Luke 8:22 that led to Him asking the disciples, "Where is your faith?" When James says that we are to "ask in faith" (1:6), he was comparing a doubting (double-minded) man to the "surf of the sea driven by the wind" (1:6b). Is that us? Would Jesus see us as doubters in the handling of our own contrary winds (those winds that are going against us)? Would He ask, where is your faith? Why are you unstable? Why do you doubt?

"I am progressing along the path of life in my ordinary contentedly fallen and godless condition, absorbed in a merry meeting with my friends for the morrow or a bit

of work that tickles my vanity to-day, a holiday or a new book, when suddenly a stab of abdominal pain that threatens serious disease, or a headline in the newspapers that threatens us all with destruction, sends the whole pack of cards tumbling down. At first I am overwhelmed, and all my little happiness looks like broken toys. Then, slowly and reluctantly, bit by bit, I try to bring myself into the frame of mind that I should be in at all times. I remind myself that all these toys were never intended to possess my heart, that my true good is in another world and my only real treasure is Christ. And perhaps, by God's grace, I succeed, and for a day or two become a creature consciously dependent on God and drawing its strength from the right sources. But the moment the threat is withdrawn, my whole nature leaps back to the toys." **-C.S. Lewis, The Problem of Pain, 106.**

Does this describe us? Are we good with God so long as there are no winds (trials) but when the threat vanishes we are right back to our toys? Such is human nature. How easily we forget the promises we made that accompany the trials of life. We are quick to ask for God's help and throw up our hands to Him pleading for His intervention, but it isn't long before we return to the toys and we forget our promises and our prayers. Then another trial comes up and we go through the cycle again. Three numbers illustrate this perfectly: 9/11. Perhaps COVID-19 is another of those trials. We will soon be over this pandemic and we will all return to our busy ways. Or, as Lewis puts it, we will return to our toys. And we will forget. And then some other crisis will come along...and so it will go. In Jesus' words, "Where is your faith?" 

**AM Sermon: Respecting God's Word — Ross Fink**

**PM Sermon: PM Service Cancelled Until Further Notice**

# C.S. Lewis



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Sunday Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

[www.springdalechurchofchrist.com](http://www.springdalechurchofchrist.com)

**“It is written that we shall ‘stand before’ Him, shall appear, shall be inspected. The promise of glory is the promise, almost incredible and only possible by the work of Christ, that some of us, that any of us who really chooses, shall actually survive that examination, shall find approval, shall please God. To please God...to be loved by God, not merely pitied, but delighted in as an artist delights in his work or a father in a son—it seems impossible...which our thoughts can hardly sustain. But so it is.”**

*—The Weight of Glory*

## Westside Family News... (send news to [durhamchuk@aol.com](mailto:durhamchuk@aol.com))

### Prayer List:

**Parker Family** (family issues); **Kat Deuster and boys** (continued stability); **Kellye Hardin** (for improvement)

**Shut-Ins:** **Bill Lundy;** **Nadine Poteete;** **Darl and Betty Feagin;** **Virginia McElhaney**

### General Family Info:

**Tabitha Hudspeth's** neurosurgeon's appointment was this past Thursday. Please pray fervently for her. **Marc Parker's** brother, **Robert Parker**, is still struggling with the Covid19 virus. Pray ardently for **JR Hart**, the nephew of **Ryan**

**Davis.** He's on radiation for six weeks. **Dana Davis** has asked us to pray for **Micah Grim**, who has a serious infection forcing a needed transplant of a new liver & kidneys. Micah is the granddaughter of preacher Mo Hafley. Please keep **Amanda Beatty** in your prayers. We appreciate her clean heart to confess her wrongs last Sunday.

**Due to Covid19 outbreak:** **Sunday AM Worship services** are at **9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.** We Live-stream the 9 a.m. service on our Facebook page. **Chuck** has begun a new video study for the **Wednesday Adult Class** on the **"History of the Church**

**(A.D. 70—A.D. 350).** This is available on Westside's website, Facebook page and YouTube each Wednesday. **Lesson Two** covers the **Canon of Scripture.** The **Wednesday Study of the Book of James (July-Sept.)** has been cancelled.

**New Quarter Bible Classes** began on, **Sun., June 28.** If you were unable to pick up your child's class workbook, please let **Chris A., Chris L., or Jake** know.

**Chuck** is in Texas this week to move a final load to "Home in Arkansas"! **Note:** The Bulletin today was printed on Wednesday since Chuck left on Thursday. ☺