



Faith Christian Assembly

May Newsletter



May 1, 2025

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Gathering Your Children Together *by Pastor Sheri Leming*

As we celebrate Mother's Day this month, I was thinking about some of the tricks in the mom handbook that we may remember using when we were trying to get our young children to listen to us. I just read one clever piece of advice on this for those who have small children...

Want to get your kid's attention?

Sit down and look comfortable.

One of my favorite stories on this topic is about one mom who was calling her son repeatedly to no avail. When he finally responded she

asked him why he took so long answering her. "I didn't hear you until the third time you called me."

While this is humorous in children, the laughs quickly subside when one turns a deaf ear to the Savior. Luke 19:41 (as Jesus was nearing Jerusalem), "Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it."

Why was Jesus weeping over Jerusalem? It was due to His unparalleled love to that ungrateful and unrepentant nation. To appreciate the feeling of Jesus for Jerusalem, we must remember how complete was His

knowledge of its sin.

In Matthew 23:37 He said, "Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"

Jesus wept because Jerusalem, the city of peace, was filled with people who knew no peace. Jesus had come to seek and to save the lost. He knew all that the gospel would cost Him to achieve, by His death on the cross.

~ Continued page 2

Lean on Me *by Earlene Leming*



Earlene Leming

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee.
Isaiah 26:3

My life changed in the 1980's and life became hard. I was happy volunteering for the chaplain at a local prison, but I sadly realized I had to support myself again. God gave me a job I loved...teaching piano at private Long Beach schools. The older children asked for popular songs, and especially enjoyed one that always

encouraged me...a simple song titled "Lean on Me."

Lyrics from that song say: "We all need somebody to lean on." Saint Paul tells us in Galatians 6:2: "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." Now look what an original Hebrew text says the word "stayed" means: "to place or lay something upon an object so that it rests upon, and is totally supported by, that ob-

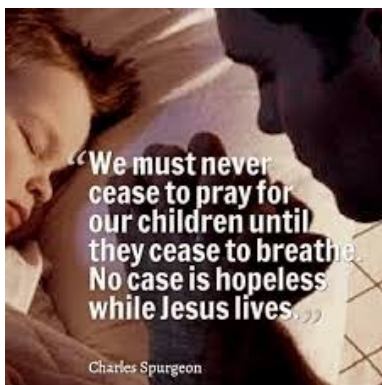
ject."

When we "lean on Jesus" with an ATTITUDE of our mind, we give Him our doubts and questions. We experience HIS PEACE daily as our thoughts and words always "lean" on His promises. We learn to trust His Word that "all things work together for good to those who love God." Romans 8:28.

Remember to look back and see what God taught us in life's hard places!

~ Earlene

Gathering Your Children *continued from page 1*



But He wept over the sad reality that these people had missed out. Jesus knew the dreadfulness of sin, and He pitied those who would not relinquish its grasp. He knew the devastating consequences of refusing the gospel.

The Psalmist gives some of the countless warnings of Scripture on

what sin does to man.

Psalm 38:3-6, NKJV:

There is no soundness in my flesh

Because of Your anger,

Nor any health in my bones

Because of my sin.

For my iniquities have gone over my head;

Like a heavy burden

they are too heavy for me.

My wounds are foul and festering

Because of my foolishness.

I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly;

I go mourning all the day long.

Continued page 3

May Calendar

SUNDAYS

Service Time:

10:30am

May 4 — Communion Service

May 11—Mother's Day

MONDAYS

Office Closed

May 26—Memorial Day



TUESDAYS

Church Office and

Library Hours

10:00am to 4:00pm

Call for appointment

WEDNESDAYS

Bible Study @ 11:00am

May 14—Hymn Sing

THURSDAYS

May 15 —1:00pm Men's Ministry and Touch of Love Women's Ministry

meetings

FRIDAYS

Church Office Hours

10:00am to 4:00pm.

Please call for appointment



Gathering Your Children Together *continued from page 2*

Matthew 23:37 is a wonderful expression of Jesus' deep-seated desire to save from ruin the worst of men, to save the unwilling, to save to the very last. A hen gathering her chickens under her wings, is an apt illustration of Christ's tender love to those who trust in Him, and His faithful care of them. He calls sinners to take refuge under His tender protection, keeps them safe, and nourishes

them to eternal life.

Those who would avoid the despair of their sinfulness by staying far from God find they have also missed the forgiving grace of God. ~ Charles E. Wolfe

Psalm 91:4, NKJV

He shall cover you with His feathers,

And under His wings you shall take refuge;

His truth shall be your shield and buckler.

So in all of our gatherings, let us consider this incredible quote from Charles Spurgeon...

We must never cease to pray for our children until they cease to breathe. No case is hopeless while Jesus lives - Spurgeon

~Pastor Sheri



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Faith Christian Assembly is a member of the Grace International Churches and Ministries, Inc., which was originally organized as the California Evangelistic Association in 1934. Beginning with one church, Colonial Tabernacle, located in Long Beach, CA the organization has since grown to include more than 4400 churches in the United States as well as in many nations of the world. It is now headquartered in Houston, TX, and overseen by an Executive Team and a Board of Directors, including as President Pastor Steve Riggle. Pastor Sheri Leming serves on the Grace International Missions Board and on the Grace SoCal District Committee.

From the Desk of Pastor Sheri Leming ~ May 1, 2025

I'm so thrilled that once again the beautiful fragrance of Spring is in the air! I love the description of the Joy of the Redeemed in Isaiah 35:1-2, "The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy."

We invite you to join us as we honor our moms on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11 in our 10:30am service. All of the ladies in attendance will receive a special gift as a token of our appreciation for all that you do for your families!

Gary and I want to thank you for your prayers for

us as we traveled to attend the Grace International conference in Houston, Texas. It's always such a refreshing time to gather with other Pastors and Missionaries to hear the wonderful ways God is advancing His Kingdom throughout the world! Our heartfelt thanks to Pastor Sam Rios and Pastor Curt Cornelius for ministering in our absence.

Join us for Bible Study every Wednesday @ 11am. God's Word shows us His plan for the way we should walk around this world as He draw others to Himself. Matthew 24:35, Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

We also want to invite you to our Hymn Sing, Wednesday, May 14 at 11am. Gary Leming will once again bring us some of the stories behind the hymns that are so powerful, and he will lead us in singing these hymns as well. This will bless you!

We invite you to join us this first Sunday, May 4 in our 10:30am service as we partake in Holy Communion together. This is the time to partake together and in this way we obey Jesus' command to, "Do this in remembrance of Me."

Looking forward to Sunday,
*Pastor Sheri & Gary
Leming*