



# THE LIFE LINE

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Monthly Newsletter of Lifeway Baptist Church

September 2020

## Cast All Your Anxiety on Him

By Frank Keeler

We've been going through the letter of 1 Peter on Sunday mornings and chapter 5, verse 7 says, "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." Peter here seems to presuppose that his readers have anxiety- you can't cast something that you don't have, right?

We are being told time and time again today that we should, in fact be stressed in these trying, challenging, unprecedented, uncertain – pick your own adjective – times. Peter indicates to his readers that they have anxiety. Jesus promised us that in this world we will have tribulation. We can try to deny we are having anxiety or stress in our lives but usually a close look at our life will reveal the truth. Our anxiety is revealed in:

- Additional trips to the drug store or pharmacy for something to help us feel better
- Anger frequently directed at those closest to us or sometimes revealed when we are behind the wheel of a vehicle
- Reckless behavior
- Endless "screen time" for something to make us feel happy or distracts us
- Physical indicators like an eye twitch or tick or rash
- Eating too much, or way too little
- Insomnia or perhaps just wanting to stay in bed all day



The anxiety in our life will eventually pop out some time in some way. Fortunately Peter not only tells us what we will have but also tells us what to do and why. Cast all your anxiety on Jesus, because He cares for you! But how do we do that? Let me give you three steps:

1. Get low! In the Scriptures humility is always a better thing than pride. The stress and anxiety in our lives shows that there are things afflicting us that we can't master. That should humble us. When soldiers are in the midst of a fire fight do their commanding officers tell them to stand up or get down? Get down! In our spiritual battle, we fight best from the humble position because that gives Jesus His place.
2. Acknowledge the anxiety and give it to the Lord. In Philippians 4:6-7, Paul gives us the prescription for anxiety. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." If we cast anxiety on Jesus we don't have it any longer.
3. Don't reel it back in! When I was young and got to go fishing it was very exciting. But after my line was cast I always seemed to have a problem waiting for the fish to bite. I was always wondering, "What's going on with the bait? Is it still on the hook? Inevitably I would start reeling the line back to check the bait. That is no way to fish and it's no way to trust Jesus with your stress! If you trust Him enough to give it to him then trust Him enough to work on your behalf. No one will ever care for you like Jesus!

***"We can try to deny we are having anxiety or stress in our lives but usually a close look at our life will reveal the truth."***

*God Bless.  
Pastor Frank*



LIFEWAY BAPTIST CHURCH

*O grasp the strong life line for Jesus can save.*

from "Throw Out the Life Line" words & music by  
Edwin S. Ufford, 1888 & George S. Stebbins, 1890

# This Month in the Life

## DEVOTIONAL: HOPE, IT'S REAL

By Shira Campbell

**I**SAIAH 43:2 WHEN YOU PASS THROUGH THE WATERS, I WILL BE WITH YOU; AND WHEN YOU PASS THROUGH THE RIVERS, THEY WILL NOT SWEEP OVER YOU. WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH THE FIRE, YOU WILL NOT BE BURNED; THE FLAMES WILL NOT SET YOU ABLAZE.

It seems we are living in some pretty vile and destructive times. There is no regard for life, there are vigilantes seeking their own type of justice, and it does not matter the color, nor age of their victims, all in the name of "No Justice, No Peace". I have never read or seen so much hate and ugliness that is being demonstrated in the world today.

My heart, for so many months has been broken among all this chaos. We have public figures fighting against our own Nation (my opinion only). If they are not shutting down these protestors and rioters, then they are promoting them. In some States, citizens do not feel safe, walking or driving

down their own streets. So many families losing lives to these violent protesters, so many families broken and looking for answers ... and we have none to give them.

However, there is still HOPE, which we all need to hold on to. God created this world that is under attack, and though we may feel like we are walking through the burning embers of what once was and is no more, God will bring us through. We may be a little singed, but we will never be burned. And though we may feel like we are drowning under the weight of all that is going on, he promises us that the water will not sweep over us and take us under.

Hope, Faith and Love—these are gifts man cannot destroy, for they are given to you through God, your father.

## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

By Dagna D. Stencel

**I** took a small book from the library shelf, "The Guiding Light" by Christine Hunter.

Set in rural Scotland, Sally Laurie had twin daughters born the day their father died. One was Margaret the name their father chose, the other was Mary.

Sally favored Margaret who was outgoing and strong willed and attractive. Rachel the aunt who lived with the Laurie's shielded Mary who was shy and thoughtful. Margaret goes to Glasgow to further her education. Mary is left behind to help put her through. Margaret always had the opportunities while Mary waited.

It is a story of two girls whose quest of life goes different ways and somehow comes back together in the end.

Please remain safe, practice social distancing and wear a facemask if possible, when out in public.



## MISSIONARY HIGHLIGHT

*Jeremy and Crystal Nelson—Spain*

**T**his month for our prayer time we are going to pray for Jeremy and Crystal Nelson, who serve in Madrid, the capital of Spain. We can say they are "our" missionaries because we support them through our church's Cooperative Program giving.

Spain is a huge mission field: About 46 million people live in Spain and fewer than 1 percent of them are saved. But Jeremy and Crystal have an interesting approach to evangelism.

Thousands of people from South America have settled in Spain in recent years and many of them are Christians. So Jeremy and Crystal reach out to

these immigrants. They teach these immigrants the Bible and how to share their faith with Spaniards who do not know Christ as Savior.

Jeremy grew up as a missionary kid in Venezuela. Also, he and Crystal served as missionaries in South America for several years before moving to Spain. This is how they are planting new churches in parts of Madrid that have no evangelical witness.

Let's pray now for Jeremy and Crystal and their multi-national approach to missions. Let's ask God to show our missionaries how to lead thousands of Spaniards to faith in Christ.

May the God  
— of hope —  
fill you with all  
joy & peace  
— as you —  
trust in Him,  
so that you may  
overflow with  
= HOPE =  
by the power  
of the Holy Spirit.  
ROMANS 15:13



# The Church Around the World

Sources: The Voice of the Martyrs, submitted by Pastor Frank

## FOCUS ON INDIA

### A PRAYER FOR OUR INDIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS

When we don't know what to pray, the Spirit intercedes for us (Romans 8:26–27). But we also have God's Word to help guide us in prayer. Using Scripture as a guide, join us in prayer for our Christian brothers and sisters in India, who are increasingly targeted by Hindu nationalists and are having life-sustaining supplies withheld from them during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Join us in asking God to:

- Provide shelter, food, education, opportunities to fellowship, places to worship and a daily wage (Philippians 4:19)
- Heal the divisions between friends, neighbors and brothers that still fester from the 2008 riots in Kandhamal (James 3:16–17)
- Provide for widows and orphans, and help them know Jesus' comforting presence; meet them in their loneliness through His Spirit (2 Corinthians 1:3–4)



- Strengthen the faith of those who have given up or wandered away; provide Bibles, good teaching and sound leaders for those who are searching (Hebrews 13:9)
- Restore family relationships weakened by distance and time (Romans 15:13)
- Create a longing in the hearts of many in the region to know the transformative power of God's Son, Jesus Christ (Romans 8:19)
- Rekindle the desire for worship and prayer in the lives of Christians there (Psalm 107)
- Remind our brothers and sisters of their value in His eyes, despite what society tells them (Hebrews 12:2)
- Turn what the enemy intends for evil into good for God's glory (Genesis 50:20)

For more information on the Persecuted church visit:  
[www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)

## MEDIA MINUTE

Submitted by Pastor Frank

### THOUSANDS URGE NETFLIX TO PULL 'CUTIES' FILM THAT SEXUALIZES YOUNG GIRLS

Thousands of people are now urging popular streaming service Netflix to pull a controversial French film about an 11-year-old girl rebelling against her conservative family to join a dance crew, after the media company apologized for using a sexualized poster to promote the film. "We're deeply sorry for the inappropriate artwork that we used for Mignonnes/Cuties. It was not OK, nor was it representative of this French film which won an award at Sundance. We've now updated the

pictures and description," Netflix said in a statement posted on Twitter Thursday. The apology came after more than 150,000 people signed a change.org petition, calling on Netflix to remove the film set for release on Sept. 9. "This movie/show is disgusting as it sexualizes an ELEVEN year old for the viewing pleasure of pedophiles and also negatively influences our children! There is no need for this kind of content in that age group, especially when sex trafficking and pedophilia are so rampant! There is no excuse, this is dangerous content!" Allison Mitchell, who started the petition, wrote.

## SANCTUARY SIDEBAR

### Announcements and Upcoming Events



Our fundraising yard sale was a huge success due to all the help we received resulting in funds raised that exceeded our expectations in our church's history! Thanks again to those who donated and helped make it all happen!



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Email submissions to  
[newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com](mailto:newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com)

Newsletter  
Articles  
Due



## CHURCH STAFF

**Frank Keeler**  
*Pastor*

**Becky Kline**  
*Church Clerk*

**David Kline**  
*Deacon*

**Danny Zenner**  
*Music Coordinator,  
Youth Ministry*

**Barbara Jarvis**  
*Financial Secretary*

**Christine Kline**  
*Treasurer*

**Cheryl-Ann Calica**  
*Kitchen Manager,  
Correspondence,  
VBS Director,  
Operation Christmas  
Child Coordinator*

**Donna Keeler**  
*Women's Ministry,  
Special Events*

**Dagna Stencel**  
*Librarian,  
Media Worship*

**Cathy Oquendo**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Lina Cardenas**  
*Newsletter Editor,  
Digital Marketing &  
Webmaster*

Please direct any  
suggestions, corrections  
and/or articles for  
consideration to:  
newsletter@  
lifewaychurchvista.com

## Prayer and Praise

- **Kenny McIntyre**—quick recovery and healing from tumor removal.
- **Dennis Maze**—healing from a broken rib.
- **Shameka Baumbach-Majeski**—continued prayers for her eyesight to improve. Praise for funds that were raised for surgery.

**“For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and His ears are open to their prayers...”**

### Verse of the Month:

**Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”**

*John 6:39 NIV*

## The Culture Corner

Submitted by Frank Keeler

DR. DOBSON COMES OUT SWINGING AGAINST  
CA “GENDER MUTILATION AND STERILIZATION” BILL

As the California state legislature enters the last week of this year’s session, evangelical icon and world-renowned Christian family psychologist Dr. James Dobson takes the debate against California’s gender transitioning bill national, saying this legislation supports gender mutilation and sterilization” and celebrates “acts of cruelty.” AB 2218, authored by Assemblyman Miguel Santiago (D – Los Angeles), uses taxpayer dollars to fund nonprofits, hospitals, and health care clinics that provide transgender-identifying minors and adults with sterilizing transitioning drugs and surgeries. The bill has made its way through the legislative process and is set for final votes in the Senate and the Assembly this week. Senate Republican Leader Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield) also condemned the bill saying it incentivizes doctors to “rush” immature children to make “life-altering and irreversible” decisions about their bodies. California Congressman Doug LaMalfa introduced two federal bills several weeks ago to ban these drugs and surgeries for minors and to ban federal funds for these treatments for children and adults. AB 2218’s author and some senators have complained misinformation and fearmongering have caused constituents to overwhelm their legislative offices with concerns that this bill funds treatments that sterilize minors. “Nothing in this bill. Nothing, I will repeat, talks about sterilizing kids,” said Santiago while testifying in the Senate Health Committee earlier this month. He said this despite the fact that gender clinics, like the one at Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles, warn parents that treating gender dysphoric kids with puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones means these pre-pubescent children “will not develop sperm or eggs” and “they will not have biological children.” Dr. Dobson is the radio host of Family Talk, founder of Focus on the Family, and the author of 71 books dedicated to the

preservation of the traditional family, but he also was an attending staff member of Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles for 17 years. That might explain his outrage at the type of treatments the state of California plans to fund at his former employer.

Dr. Dobson provided the following statement on AB 2218 to the California Family Council:

For the sake of the children and adults victimized by our culture’s distorted sexual devolution, I’ll state exactly what this bill supports: gender mutilation and sterilization. These so-called “gender clinics” use puberty blockers on pre-pubescent children in order to prevent them from experiencing puberty. If a child doesn’t go through this natural stage of development, he or she will likely be sterile for life, a medical fact that many of these clinics expressly admit.

No rational society or compassionate individual could possibly celebrate the mutilation of adolescents or adults. And yet this bill would fund procedures including double mastectomies on adolescent girls and genital amputations and reconstructive procedures for individuals older than 18. This isn’t the fulfillment of personal autonomy—this is the celebration of acts of cruelty.

Experimenting on vulnerable children and adults is not just unethical; it is morally repugnant. It is beyond reprehensible that our government officials voted to fund this evil assault on children and adults who are made in the image of Almighty God. These hurting individuals need our compassion and care—not a cocktail of drugs and disfiguring surgeries that could well cause irreversible harm to their bodies.

Source: California Policy Alliance