



Turning to Jesus When You Feel Devastated

Every one of us knows what it feels like to be devastated. Maybe it was a phone call that changed everything. Maybe it was a betrayal you never saw coming. Maybe it was a loss that left a hole you still don't know how to fill. Maybe it was the slow, grinding weight of disappointment that finally broke something inside you. Devastation doesn't ask permission. It doesn't knock. It just walks in, sits down, and refuses to leave. And when it does, we often don't know what to do with ourselves. Some shut down. Some lash out. Some numb the pain. Some pretend they're fine. But Scripture gives us a better way—not a quick fix, not a cliché, but a Person. When you feel devastated, **turn to Jesus**.

When you feel devastated, turn to Jesus because he understands your pain. The writer of the book of Hebrews tells us that Jesus understands when we are distressed. He said, ***“We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses...” (Hebrews 4.15)***. Jesus experienced many things in His life that could have affected Him in the same way. He was betrayed by a friend. He was abandoned by His closest followers. He wept at a graveside. He cried out in agony in Gethsemane. He suffered injustice, cruelty, and rejection. When you come to Jesus with your devastation, you're not talking to someone who says, “I can't imagine what you are going through.” You're talking to Someone who says, “I've been there. I know. I understand.” What do I do when I feel totally devastated? You do not have to hide your hurt from Him. You do not have to pretend. You do not have to be strong first. You can come devastated, and He receives you with compassion.

When you feel devastated, turn to Jesus because he invites the brokenhearted. In **Matthew 11:28**, Jesus says, **“Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”** Jesus doesn't say, *“Come to Me when you've pulled yourself together.” “Come to Me when you've figured it out.” “Come to Me when you're strong again.”* He says, *“Come to Me when you're exhausted. Come to Me when you're overwhelmed. Come to Me when you're carrying more than you can bear.”*



When you feel devastated, turn to Jesus because he speaks truth into the darkness. David said, ***“The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those crushed in spirit” (Psalm 34.18)***. David sensed the nearness of God. When I am suffering, I need to turn to God and feel His presence. Often, we suffer alone because devastation lies to us. It whispers: *“You're alone.” “This is the end.” “God doesn't care.” “You'll never recover.” “Nothing good can come from this.”* But Jesus says *“You are not alone.” “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” “My grace is sufficient for you.” “I am with you always.” “I am making all things new.”* When devastation fills your mind with darkness, Jesus fills it with truth. Do not try to fight devastation with willpower. You fight it with the comfort that comes from the mouth of God.

Maybe today you feel like your life is in pieces. Maybe you're holding on by a thread. Maybe you're smiling on the outside but falling apart on the inside. Maybe you're devastated and don't know what to do next. Turn to Jesus. Not because you're strong but because He is. Not because you have answers but because He does. Not because you're okay but because He welcomes the devastated. Bring Him your tears. Bring Him your questions. Bring Him your fears. Bring Him your broken heart. He will meet you there. He will hold you there. And He will lead you through.

Gary

Who Will Lead Us?

I Timothy 3.1-7

<p style="text-align: center;">I Timothy 3.1-7</p> <p><i>“The saying is trustworthy: If anyone desires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore, an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, soberminded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God’s church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.”</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Titus 1.5-9</p> <p><i>“This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you—if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. For an overseer, as God’s steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.”</i></p>
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The Qualifications Of An Elder Include His...

I) _____.

- A) His coworkers, neighbors, and extended family respect him.
- B) His name brings honor, not suspicion, in the community.

II) _____ **Relations.**

- A) Faithful to his wife emotionally, mentally, and physically.
- B) His children are submissive and believers.

III) _____.

- A) He has a track record of faithfulness over time.
- B) He has been tested by trials and remained steady.
- C) He’s not puffed up by attention or responsibility.

IV) _____.

- A) He can explain Scripture clearly and accurately.
- B) He can correct error gently without being combative.

V) _____.

- A) Additional qualifications.
- B) It may seem overbearing to think that any one man could meet all these qualifications, but, if you will look closely....

Conclusion: *Do you need Jesus in your life today?*

CONNECTION

O

Good morning church family!

R

Have you ever been told you look like someone famous? Sometimes it's flattering. Sometimes it's... not. And yet, people say, "*You remind me of...*" or "*Has anyone ever told you that you look like...?*" This has happened to me several times recently and from complete strangers. And it wasn't someone that I really wanted to be "*connected*" to.

N

Most of us, at some point in our lives wish that we look like someone famous. Perhaps it is their striking good looks, their talent, their popularity, or something else like that. I know I did. I was often wearing a jersey (like someone would really take me for that elite athlete), styling my hair like someone I thought was really popular, dressing like a really cool star. I wanted to have people see in me certain attributes that I thought were highly desirable.

E

But. . ., those same famous people I thought were so cool also had other attributes, human flaws and frailty, that I *didn't* want to have associated with me. Maybe it's an actor known for wild living. A celebrity whose reputation makes you cringe. A public figure you'd rather not be associated with at all. This is where the real-life lesson begins.

R

A **doppelganger** is someone who looks so much like another person that they could be mistaken for them. *Physically*, it's accidental. *Spiritually*, it should be intentional.



The Bible teaches that we are meant to be spiritual doppelgangers—not of celebrities, athletes, influencers, or public figures—but of **Jesus Christ**. Romans 8:29 says we are called "*to be conformed to the image of His Son.*" 2 Corinthians 3:18 says we are "*being transformed into the same image from glory to glory.*" In Acts 4:13, when people saw Peter and John, they realized something unmistakable: "*They had been with Jesus.*" They didn't say, "They talk like Jesus" or "They quote Jesus." They said, in essence, "**They look like Jesus.**" Not in appearance. In spirit. In conduct. In character.

Imagine if people said that about us. Not, "*You remind me of that celebrity...*" But, "*You remind me of Jesus.*" Our world is full of "look-alikes." People who resemble whatever culture, media, or influence they spend the most time around. We begin to mirror what we admire. We reflect what we focus on. We start to resemble what we repeatedly behold.

That's why Paul says in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "*Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*" He was saying, "*If you want to know what Jesus looks like in everyday life, watch me.*" That should be the goal of every Christian. When people see our patience, they should see Jesus. When they see our kindness, they should see Jesus. When they hear our words, they should hear Jesus. When they watch how we handle stress, conflict, disappointment, and success, they should see Jesus.

Galatians 2:20 says, "*It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.*" This week let's all focus on being connected with and looking like Jesus – You'll be blessed!

-- Les Keele

SHEPHERDS

*Greg Ball	214-801-7375
Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
Dan Kille	817-793-7493
Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

*Shepherd of the month

MINISTERS

Gary Williams	662-321-3208
Pulpit Minister	
Les Keele	817-808-0566
Associate Minister	
James Bowie	817-944-4492

THAI-LAOTIAN MINISTERS

Jeffery Lertboonpadong	206-819-9109
John Boudtaro	817-891-2132

DEACONS

Jonathan Bartee	817-889-2686
David Birdow	970-310-1143
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Zach Brookshire	817-296-9918
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

Welcome - Steve Taylor

Song Leader - Matthew Sloan

Song - You're Worthy of My Praise

Song - I Will Sing The Wondrous Story

Song - Fairest Lord Jesus

Opening Prayer - Jeff Swan

Scripture - I Timothy 3:1-7

Song - Remind Me, Dear Lord

Lord's Supper - Milt Birmingham

Prayer For Contribution - Milt Birmingham

Song - You Are The Song That I Sing

Song - He Lives

Who Will Lead Us? - Gary Williams

Song - Come Unto Me

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer and Dismissal - Greg Ball

Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years and a mother's nursing room.

Single-side in-ear mono earbuds with personal receivers are available for those with hearing difficulties. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for assistance.

Our Code For Tithley Giving



Our Code For Attendance



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, February 16

Exodus 35-36; 2 Corinthians 4

Tuesday, February 17

Exodus 37-38; 2 Corinthians 5

Wednesday, February 18

Exodus 39-40; 2 Corinthians 6

Thursday, February 19

Leviticus 1-3; 2 Corinthians 7

Friday, February 20

Leviticus 4-5; 2 Corinthians 8

Saturday, February 21

Leviticus 6-7; 2 Corinthians 9

LAST WEEK

Bible Class	114	On-Line	5
Worship	224	Wednesday	77
Thai-Lao	35	Contribution	\$10,794.06
On-Line Sunday	37	Budget	\$15,372.28

TIMES OF ASSEMBLIES

Bible Class	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening	7:00 PM

FRIENDS AND FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS, continued

NAME	REQUESTED BY	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Dave Slaughter, friend of	Jonny and Amy Bartee	Has been diagnosed with Stage 4 colon cancer and is undergoing chemo treatments.	Success from treatments to live healthy life
Paula Hamrick, sister of	Patti Musselman	Is on chemo for her recurrent cancer. Her port became infected and she has a blood clot.	Doctors' skill and knowledge; new drug works and will eradicate the cancer
Shane Grantham	Michael and Kitti Davis	Suffers from cancer.	Healing
Jeff Holland, nephew of	Judy Birmingham	Bladder cancer has returned.	Doctors to determine best course of treatment
Becky Stark, cousin's wife of	Adam Powers	Emergency surgery to remove brain aneurysm.	Healing

FRIENDS AND FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS

NAME	REQUESTED BY	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Nicole Donahue-Isom, sister of	Rob Donahue	Has been diagnosed with breast cancer.	The doctors' skill and knowledge for her treatment and recovery
Fredda Gentry, mother of	Joe Gentry	Fell and fractured tibia in left leg. Admitted to Methodist Charlton Medical Center. May possibly have surgery.	Doctor's wisdom and healing
Jane Wilson, mother of	Mindy Markum	At Harris Southwest. Hoping to be moved to Encompass for rehab.	Rehab to strengthen
Jean Saba, husband of	Dana Saba	Had successful triple bypass surgery January 30,2026.	Continued recovery
Teres Robinson, friend of	Susan Dufrene	Killed in car accident.	Comfort for her 2 children
Rob, son-in-law of	Sharon Pippin	Will have surgery 2/12/2026.	He is not a Christian and needs prayers for his soul and his health
Jennifer Randles, niece of	Gail Willmington	Her ex-husband had his rights taken away awhile back. Lately he has been posting very threatening and disturbing posts. The posts have been seen by judges and taken to the DA. Also for her 2 boys.	For safety and that his heart will be calmed
Leeneh McLellea, friend of	Mindy Markham	Her lung collapsed and she is in the hospital.	Comfort for my friend
Hazel Birdow, mother of	David Birdow	Has been informed that her tests returned positive for cancer.	Her respiratory issues to be resolved and for the treatments to eradicate the cancer

MEMBERS PRAYER LIST (continued)

NAME	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Patricia Emerson	Cancer has returned. 6536 Wooddale, Fort Worth, Texas 76148.	Remission and healing
Wayne Gary	Had surgery on his right eye Thursday, January 29. 9912 Edmund Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76126.	Healing
Rob Donahue	Needs a job. 4529 Starlight Drive, Benbrook, Texas 76126.	God to provide the perfect situation for him
Mary East	On hospice at Mark and Karen's home. 101 Rambling Trail, Weatherford, Texas 76087.	Strength for Mary and guidance for Mark and Karen

MEMBERS PRAYER LIST

NAME	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Nancy Wright	Passed away 02/09/2026. Services are pending.	Comfort for family
Emilio Fernandez	Passed away 02/06/2026. Services were Saturday, 02/14/2026.	Comfort for family
Jonathan Price	Was killed in a motorcycle accident on 02/02/2026. Grandparents Michael & Kitti Davis - 812 Ala Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108.	Comfort for family
Mary Helen Bowie	Has suffered a stroke. She is in rehab.	Healing and strength
Karen Haas	Had successful knee surgery 02/06/2026. She is recovering at home.	Healing
Auna Walton	Has Type A Flu.	Healing
Susan Dufrene	I home from the hospital.	Healing
Lucille Patterson	Has moved to Willow Park Rehab, 300 Crown Pointe Boulevard, Room 307, Willow Park, Texas 76087.	Healing
Dwight Blair	Fell last week and has a concussion.	Healing
John Wright	Was taken to Harris Hospital last week with cellulitis.	Healing
Brenda Kelley	Husband had knee surgery and has never fully recovered. Hasn't been doing well at all.	Encouragement
Shirley Bennett	Has COVID. 4018 Ridglea Country Club, #508, Fort Worth, Texas 76126.	Recovery
Bob Willyerd	Has returned home on palliative care. 3704 Guadalupe Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76133.	Comfort
Jazelle Manry	Is undergoing treatment for her eyes. 1112 Meadow Park Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108.	Successful treatment

YOUTH EVENTS

LTC

Study Joshua, Judges, and Ruth

www.ntlc.org

TODAY

2 pm Bible Bowl (Joshua 10, 11, 14, 20)

3:15 pm Drama

4:15 pm Chorus

Study For **February 15**

Joshua 21-24

Please check your **BAND APP** for the latest information.

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

New Study began on February 3

Subject: The Holy Spirit

Teacher: Ellen Bartee

PILLOW MINISTRY

The Pillow Ministry will meet next Tuesday, February 17, 2026, after Ladies' Bible Class. Bring a sack lunch and join us for lunch. If you can stay to work on pillows, that would be great!

LADIES FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

On Thursday, February 19th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. All ladies middle school age and older are invited to join us for a night of crafts, fellowship, and fun! Bring a "Comfort Food" dish to share with the group. Please let Jennifer Scott or Deborah Rollins know if you are coming so that we can make sure we have enough art supplies. Kindly leave little ones at home.

WELCOME BABY

Welcome Baby Christopher Johnston. If you would like to bring a gift for baby Christopher, you may leave it on the table in the West Foyer.

Proud Grandparents: Steven & Rene' Johnston
Proud Great Grandparents: Dwight & Judy Blair

They are registered on Amazon, also.

PRAISE AND HARMONY

Matt Sloan is ordering a subscription in the name of Western Hills Church of Christ. If you would like a discounted subscription, please see Matt.

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

If you need more names for the WBS mailing program, please see David Birdow.

NEW MEMBERS

Randy & Brianna Carroll
P.O. Box 16208
Fort Worth, Texas 76162
817-832-5671
Welcome to Western Hills

SMALL GROUPS

**Small Groups will begin on 2/15/2026.
CALL LES TO SIGN UP -**

- 1) Immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall.
- 2) Greg & Janelle Ball's Home -
11:30 a.m.
- 3) Les and Deatra Keele's Home -
1:00 p.m.