

The Heart REVEALED

**MATTERS
OF THE
HEART**

Living Word Church
Sunday, September 20, 2009

Welcome to Living Word Church

Welcome Guests

Welcome! We are glad to have you here and hope you feel at home among us. Regardless of your background — whether you are just beginning to ask questions about God or you are a committed Christian wanting to deepen your faith, Living Word is a place you can call home and find spiritual help, hope, and encouragement.

Connecting

We would like to acknowledge your visit today. We hope you will feel comfortable enough to share your name and your choice of contact information (email, address, phone, however you prefer for us to acknowledge your visit).

Please fill out a connection card (available from an usher or on the welcome table in the foyer) and drop the card in the offering. We will contact you to thank you for attending today and see if there is anything we can do to serve you and your family. Again, please indicate on the card how you prefer to be contacted by us.

Nursery

When you enter our front door our nursery is on your right. If you have a child from newborn to age 2 and need a nursery, you are welcome at any time to take your child to the nursery. We also provide well-qualified nursery workers who will lovingly care for your child if you want to return to the church service.

Children's Ministry

Preschool (ages 3 to 5) meet in the classroom in the main church building (in the hallway next to the restrooms). Ages 6 to 12 meet in the fellowship hall. Our children's ministry begins at 10:30 AM and features singing, crafts, snacks and Bible stories.

RockSolid Youth

Our youth meet Sunday 4:00 to 7:30 PM in the Pebble, the youth building next door to the main church building.

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Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

FOUR CONDITIONS OF THE HEART REVEALED

- ❶ Closed Heart — birds of the air are everywhere.
A hard heart + a hard head = a hard life.

- ❷ Shallow Heart — impulsive and excited to change for awhile.

- ❸ Full Heart — filled with greed, worry, pleasure and other things.
Full but never satisfied. Always seeking more.

- ❹ Open Heart — receptive and responsive. Ready to act.

GOD'S PURPOSE, SATAN'S PLAN, YOUR RESPONSE

- ❶ God's purpose in planting seed is to make your life fruitful.
- ❷ Satan's plan is to make your life unfruitful for God.
- ❸ The condition of your heart is revealed by your response.

THREE THINGS DETERMINE YOUR RESPONSE

- ❶ The season of your life
- ❷ Your personality
- ❸ Your freedom to choose

What will you give up today in order to become the person you deserve to be?

Genesis 9:1, 7

Psalms 1:1-3

Psalms 92:12-15

Proverbs 11:30

Matthew 21:42-44

John 15:1-6

Galatians 5:22

Revelation 22:1-3

2. In the four types of soil representing four conditions of the human heart, three of the four received the seed. This reflects the desire of the human heart to receive God's Word. The real struggle comes in embracing the Word long enough to allow it to develop strong healthy roots that bear fruit and change us from the inside out. When we don't completely

surrender to God we are only cheating ourselves. Why is it so hard for us to yield to the fruit producing qualities that God desires for us and that we also desire for ourselves? Why do we insist on holding on to things that make our lives barren before God?

3. What can we do to maintain an open and tender heart before the Lord?

4. Read Luke 13:6-9. What fruit do you sense that God is trying to produce in your life? If Jesus were the gardener interceding on your behalf, what fruit might he say could be expected from your life during the next year?

LIFE AT HOME

In what area of your life do you long to draw closer to God? Identify at least one area in your life where you have been robbed because of a closed or hardened heart. What can you do this week to allow God to soften your heart and replant His Word in your heart to produce fruit in this area?

Church Service Times

Sunday

First Service	9:00 AM to 10:00 AM
Second Service	10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Children's Church	10:30 PM to 12:00 PM
RockSolid Youth	4:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Life Group Times & Locations

Life Groups meet in homes throughout the community. Our current groups are listed here. Call one today for details on their group or call our Life Group coordinators Donald & Retta Lyons (909-8076 or 908-0057). You can also email Donald at dlyons@lowcountry.com.

<u>Sunday 6:00 PM</u>	Location	Focus
Rick & Debbie Linder 562-2417	Smoaks	All ages
Ray & Josie Colson 538-2117	1789 Sidneys Road Walterboro	All ages
Donald & Retta Lyons 909-8076 or 908-0057	5672 Sniders Hwy (4 miles form I-95)	All ages
John & Barbara Steele 549-7751	30 Waverly Street (Longleaf)	All ages
Raymond & June Hiott 538-2172	225 Wells Lane (off Bells Hwy)	All ages
<u>Sunday 6:30 PM</u>		
Linda Frazier 835-2327	Cottageville	All ages
<u>Tuesday 6:30 PM</u>		
Bob & Janet Rogers 599-1011 or 599-1010	Living Word Church	All ages

Life Group Times & Locations

<u>Wednesday 6:00 PM</u>	Location	Focus
Raymond & June Hiott 538-2172	225 Wells Lane (off Bells Hwy)	All ages
<u>Wednesday 6:30 PM</u>		
Clyde & Bonnie Reid 532-1708 or 835-5249	202 Stark Drive (Woodland Terrace)	All ages
Ben Langdale Shawn Langdale 893-6859	299 Dandridge Road (Hyde Park)	Teenage Boys
Stacy Langdale 909-0758 or 893-6456	6117 Jefferies Highway (Walterboro North)	Teenage Girls
<u>Wednesday 7:00 PM</u>		
John & Pam Maxlow 217-8395 or 217-8389	21 Prestwick Place /corner Wexford Way (right on Wexford—past country club)	All ages
<u>Thursday 7:00 PM</u>		
Buddy Buchanan 908-1510	Living Word Church	Men
Andy Harrison 909-1122	Living Word Church	Men
<u>Friday 5:00 PM</u>		
Andy Harrison 909-1122	106 James Street (Forest Hills)	Boys & Girls 6th—8th grade
<u>Friday PM</u>		
Steve & Danielle Phillips 475-2140 or 860-3678	Living Word Church	20s & 30s