



Joshua &
the **GOD**
of **CONQUEST**
& **Change**

Living Word Church

Sunday, September 6, 2009

Welcome to Living Word Church

Welcome Guests

Welcome from Pastor Daniel & Sharon Cooper and the Living Word family. 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. We are honored to have you with us today and hope you will allow us the opportunity to get to know you as you get to know us.

Connecting

We would like to acknowledge your visit today and answer any questions you may have. 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).

One of our greeters, ushers or hosts should have provided you with a connection card (if somehow we missed you, a connection card is available on the welcome table in the foyer). Please fill out the card and drop it in the offering or return it to the welcome table in the foyer. We promise not to “bug you” with spam or ongoing unsolicited calls or visits. We will, however, thank you for attending today and contact you to 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 the right. If you have a child from newborn to age two and need a nursery, you are welcome to take your child to the nursery at any time. We also provide well-qualified nursery workers who will lovingly care for your child if you would like to return to the church service.

Children's Ministry

At Living Word we minister to children of all ages. Our nursery is available for children from newborn to age 2 (see above). 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 Pebble (the youth building next door to the main church building). Our children's ministry features singing, crafts, snacks, and Bible stories.

We begin at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning. Our children worship together as a group then go into classes based on age groups.

Snacks are served. So if your child has food allergies or food restrictions, please let us know.

RockSolid Youth

Our teenagers meet on Sunday from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. However, there will be no youth service today and next Sunday due to the holiday and our upcoming Disney World trip.

20s & 30s cookout next Sunday after church

We will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers next Sunday at the church immediately following the second service (around 12 noon). If you or your spouse are in your 20s or 30s we invite you to join us. Bring the kids too! This will be a great opportunity to meet others in your age group and station in life. We will also discuss plans and ideas for Life Groups for those of us in our 20s and 30s. Meet us in the fellowship hall after church next Sunday, September 13.

We have made the paradigm shift from adult Sunday school and Wednesday night services to Life Groups

Adult Sunday school has been a blessing to many of us at one time or another, and about one third of us on a regular basis. Only about one third of our adults attend Sunday school or Wednesday night services. Two thirds of our people are doing something else during this time.

We love you, our faithful one third, and we certainly don't want to lose you. But we also recognize the need to reach the many among us who have not been involved in Sunday school or Wednesday night services. Life Groups have been one effective solution. In our church, more people attend Life Groups than Sunday school or Wednesday night.

Pastor Daniel and Sharon Cooper are leading us into a new paradigm that embraces Life Groups over traditional Sunday school and Wednesday night services. Pastor and Sharon invite you to join them. Embrace the change. Join a Life Group today and see what God has in store for you.

Today our service times have officially changed with no adult Sunday school and no Wednesday night service. Life Groups are forming and filling the need for adult small group relationships and bible studies.

New Service Times

Beginning today our new service times are:

Sunday

First Service	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Second Service	10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Children's Church	10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
RockSolid Youth	4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Night

No Service

Sunday Night — Saturday Night

Life Groups meet in homes throughout the community.

See pages 11-12 for times and locations.

Joshua & The God of Conquest & Change

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Joshua 6

Conquest means anything acquired by conquering, such as a nation, a territory or spoils.

- ❶ The key to our success is submission to God.
- ❷ We must not allow fear to affect our faith in God's ability to deliver us.
- ❸ Just as God was with Joshua, He is with us everyday as we face tough situations, difficult people, and temptations.
- ❹ There are times when God provides no solution to our problem until we trust Him and step out in faith and obedience.
- ❺ Telling your children what God has done for you will keep memories of God's faithfulness alive in your family.
- ❻ God will reveal His power in our lives if we will follow His instructions. Obedience releases miracles.
- ❼ There are times when we may feel like a failure, but we can rise above our situation through our trust in God.

Life Groups — Homework & Discussion

MY LIFE — Getting to know one another.

LIFE IN THE WORD — Exploring God's Word together.

LIFE AT HOME — Applying God's Word to our daily lives.

MY LIFE

1. Imagine trying to fill the sandals of a legend like Moses. Joshua faithfully served Moses and observed how he led God's people with God's blessings. Now it was Joshua's turn to lead and he needed to know if the people would follow him as they had followed Moses. Joshua also needed to know if God would be with him as he had been with Moses.

Sometimes God asks us to do things that seem beyond our abilities. He might ask us to become a leader, begin a Life Group with our friends, take a more active role in church, or go on a mission trip. At such times it is easy to feel under qualified and overwhelmed. How do you react when faced with something you feel totally unqualified to do?

2. Money for sex. Movies and television can make it appear glamorous and adventurous, but the reality is more like disease and death. Rahab was living the life of a prostitute until one day she responded to God in faith and her life was forever changed. How can faith help someone like Rahab overcome the sins of their past? How has faith changed your life and the lives of your family?

LIFE AT HOME

Jericho was more like a fortress than a city—built on a hilltop in an oblong shape about 1200' by 400'. Jericho was fortified with substantial double walls that could easily be defended against invaders.

Jericho was shut up tight but the people had plenty of water flowing from a spring within the walls of the city. The Israelites arrived just after harvest when the people of Jericho had plenty of food too. Archaeological digs have discovered many large jars full of grain.

Jericho represents the strongholds in our lives. Old ways of thinking, bad habits, philosophies, traditions, and false assumptions we make about life are like well defended fortresses in our minds. Like a fortified city they stand in the path of our Christian growth. Jericho is the impossible situation that stands between us and the fulfillment of a God-given promise.

So what is the best way to conquer a well defended and heavily fortified stronghold?

Surely the people of Israel had better ideas and plans of invading than just marching around the city for a week.

What about building battering rams and attacking the city gates? Or scaling the walls? Or shooting arrows over the walls?

But that is the hardest part of conquering the strongholds in our life. We insist on taking matters into our own hands and doing something about it—now! We want answers. We want God to solve our problem immediately. We want deliverance from the habit the moment we pray, instant healing for our body, and instant relief from anything that troubles us.

But God often has a process that he requires us to “march” through for his own purposes. We may not understand the why, the when, or even the way. But it must be God’s way and we must wait patiently. To everyone, but God, our “march” may appear to be foolishness and nonsense. But God has a plan and a process that usually involves a promise, obedience, and victory.

Life Groups

What is a Life Group?

A Life Group is made up of a small group of people who meet weekly to study, to share, and to support one another in their Christian lives. Each group is led by a trained leader. A typical meeting lasts for an hour and a half, and includes light refreshments. Some groups choose to also spend some time in singing and worship.

How important are Life Groups?

We consider Life Groups to be the heart of our ministry. They are the place where the real ministry of the church takes place as we encourage, support, and challenge one another. God doesn't want any of us to be left to walk alone--we need each other.

How long does a group last?

Each Life Group session lasts about 10 weeks. Basically, we break the year into 4 quarters or sessions. At the end of each quarter, you have the choice of staying in the same group, trying a new group, or even taking a break. Most groups stay together throughout the entire year.

Which group should I join?

We suggest you join a group based on your "station in life" rather than on geography or the most convenient night of the week. We've found that a group works best when you share common interests, backgrounds, marital status or similar aged children. Frankly, it may take two or three groups before you find the perfect fit. But don't worry, you'll find it!

What is the required commitment?

Joining a Life Group requires a 10-week commitment to attend the weekly meetings and to do the homework ahead of time. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts, and other special events...but not much more! We believe this commitment is the key to strong relationships and healthy groups.

What will we study?

The studies are based on the previous Sunday's sermon. Imagine the sermon as a message on Christian living and the group meeting as a place where you get to discuss how the sermon works out in real life.

Each week there will be a series of Bible passages and questions to study and complete before your meeting. The homework is included in this Life Group booklet. It will usually take 20 to 30 minutes to complete the homework.

When and where do these groups meet?

Our Life Groups meet on various days and nights of the week in homes throughout the community. A few of them actually meet at the church. Below is a list of our current Life Groups. Call one today for details on their group or call our Life Group coordinators Donald & Retta Lyons (909-8076 or 908-0057) for all other questions about Life Groups, or for hosting or leading a group. You can also email Donald at dlyons@lowcountry.com.

<u>Sunday 6:00 PM</u>	Location	Focus
Rick and 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 and Janet Rogers 599-1011 or 5991010	Living Word Church	All ages
<u>Wednesday 6:00 PM</u>		
Raymond & June Hiott 538-2172	225 Wells Lane (off Bells Hwy)	All ages

Wednesday 6:30 PM

Clyde & Bonnie Reid
532-1708 or 835-5249

Location

202 Stark Drive
(Woodland Terrace)

Focus

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

Wednesday 7:00 PM

John and Pam Maxlow
217-8395 or 217-8389

21 Prestwick Place
/corner Wexford Way
(right on Wexford—past country club)

All ages

Thursday 7:00 PM

Buddy Buchanan
908-1510

Living Word Church

Men

Andy Harrison
909-1122

Living Word Church

Men

Friday 5:00 PM

Andy Harrison
909-1122

106 James Street
(Forest Hills)

Boys & Girls
6th—8th grade

Friday PM

Steve & Danielle Phillips
475-2140 or 860-3678

Living Word Church

20s & 30s

Life Group Meeting

Day & Time: _____

Location: _____

Directions: _____

