

## Keep Your Line In The Water!

I read the following story a few years ago. One Saturday, Eric Fellman arrived at a lake for a day of fishing with his young sons, Jason and Jon. Everyone agreed to let the boat drift with the breeze that morning and fish a shoal near the landing. As usual, Eric spent the first thirty minutes rigging their lines, baiting the hooks, and positioning the boat.

“By the time I started to fish,” Eric said, “Jon had put down his pole and started munching on donuts and playing in the water. Rather than taking time to rig my own pole, I picked up his and began casting.”

“Time passed when, suddenly, I had a strike. It was the biggest small-mouth bass I’d ever hooked! With much yelling and scrambling, we somehow managed to net the prize a few minutes later. When we all calmed down, we measured it to be twenty-one inches and five pounds, four ounces.”

“Jon blurted out, ‘Dad, how come you catch all the fish?’”

“‘Well, Jon,’ I replied, ‘I guess because I keep my line in the water. You can’t catch fish eating donuts.’”

When I read that story I thought, “That is exactly on target!” The biggest key to success or victory in the pursuit of any dream is keeping your line in the water. Don’t give up too soon!

Has your marriage been rocky lately? Don’t pull in your line and head for shore. Stay with it. Work at it. Keep casting. Does your job feel like a dead end? Don’t quit working at it. Work even harder. Be an “extra-miler” and leave your line in. Maybe you need to change your bait (attitude) and not your location (job). Opportunities to grow will come if you don’t give up too soon. Perhaps you have family pressures. Or joblessness. Or an illness that won’t quit. The easy way is to eat donuts and distract yourself with water play. But that won’t catch any fish!

When you feel like laying down your line, think about Jesus. Don’t you think He felt like quitting occasionally? When the people pressed and the Pharisees preyed, when the sick kept coming and sinners came running, when the betrayer kissed Him and the cross burdened Him I know He had to feel like pulling in His line. But He didn’t. He persevered. And you can, too. *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus...”* (Hebrews 12:1-2).

—Jeff Gardner



## Sermon Notes

### Pure Wisdom

James 3:1, 13-18

James is interested in authenticity (the pure stuff). He has taught us about *pure* joy (1:2), *pure* religion (1:27) and today he has something to say about *pure* wisdom (3:17). Notice three areas of contrast between counterfeit and pure wisdom.

- I. O \_\_\_\_\_ (3:15, 17).
  - A. Three sources of counterfeit wisdom: 1) E \_\_\_\_\_; 2) U \_\_\_\_\_; 3) D \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. In contrast, the one S \_\_\_\_\_ of pure wisdom is H \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. We are told to P \_\_\_\_\_ for it (1:5); it is only found in J \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ (Colossians 2:3); it grows through our K \_\_\_\_\_ of the S \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Timothy 3:15).
- II. O \_\_\_\_\_ (3:13-14, 17).
  - A. Four characteristics of counterfeit wisdom: 1) B \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_; 2) S \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_; 3) B \_\_\_\_\_; 4) T \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Nine characteristics of pure wisdom: 1) H \_\_\_\_\_; 2) P \_\_\_\_\_; 3) P \_\_\_\_\_-L \_\_\_\_\_; 4) C \_\_\_\_\_; 5) S \_\_\_\_\_; 6) M \_\_\_\_\_; 7) G \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_; 8) I \_\_\_\_\_; 9) S \_\_\_\_\_.
- III. O \_\_\_\_\_ (3:16, 18).
  - A. Counterfeit wisdom produces T \_\_\_\_\_ (3:16).
  - B. Pure wisdom produces P \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_ (3:18).
  - C. “Blessed are the P \_\_\_\_\_, for they shall be called S \_\_\_\_\_ of God” (Matthew 5:9).
  - D. “For H \_\_\_\_\_ H \_\_\_\_\_ is our peace who has made the two one...” (Ephesians 2:14).



THIS Wednesday!

**Blankets for Foster Children**

Meet in the FLC at 6 PM to help make blankets for foster children.

**Garden**

Meet at the garden area at 6 PM to assist with beautifying the park and preparing for our weekly giveaway!

**Mowing Yards**

We will leave from the FLC at 6 PM and go around the neighborhood and offer to mow their lawns. If you are unable to meet at that time and want to participate, contact Meco at (405) 850-1727 for instructions on where to meet the group at a later time.

**Trinity Place Apartments**

We are hosting a cookout for residents of Trinity Place Apartments. You will have the chance to interact and build relationships with families by being Jesus to them. Meet by 6:15 PM at **4324 VFW Dr., OKC**, OR if you need a ride, meet at the FLC. Van leaves at 6 PM.

**Happy Birthday This Week**

- Gerry Nixon August 3
- Bryce Robinson August 5
- Leonard Wagner August 6

**Ministry and Maintenance Statistics**

7/24 Worship Attendance.....	203
7/24 Bible Class Attendance.....	143
7/24 Contribution .....	\$17,179.15
YTD Regular Contribution .....	\$426,132.02
Weekly Average .....	\$14,204.40
Weekly Budget .....	\$14,703.58

**Dates To Remember**

- **TODAY** Baby Shower for Angelica Sanchez (Angelica Cruz) - Liz Zamudio's sister in the FLC at 2 PM. She is having a baby boy and is registered at Target and Wal-Mart
- **TONIGHT** 5th Sunday Singing (Praise Night), 5 PM
- **Aug. 5** Keenagers Game Night
- **Aug. 6** Back to School Bash
- **Aug. 10** Picnic in the Park, 6 PM
- **Aug. 14** Whiz Kids Recruitment Sunday
- **Aug. 11-13** National Hispanic Preacher's Conference
- **Sept. 13** Whiz Kids Begins
- **Sept. 24-25** 70th Anniversary Celebration Weekend

**Anniversary Updates**

On Sundays during the month of August, our staff will have a table set up in the lobby where you can drop off photos to have scanned and submitted for the celebration. You can also pick up additional invitations to share. Contact Amy Bruce, Ivan Gonzalez or Colettes Staats for more information.

**Condolences**

Please be in prayer for James Phillips, Sr. and family in the death of his mother, Patricia Ann Smith, whose memorial was Saturday, July 30, in Magnolia, AR.

Also for James Carter and family in the death of his son, James Wesley Carter, Jr., Wednesday, July 27. Services are pending at this time.

<b>Staff:</b>	<b>Shepherds:</b>
Amy Bruce	Chad Barney .....(405) 821-6794
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Welcome To Our Sunday Morning Family Worship July 31, 2022

Please fill out an attendance card and pass to the aisle for collection at the close of worship. Yellow for our Guests; White for Members.

**Order of Worship**

- Song #74, *Praise the Lord*.....Tim Holt
- Welcome .....Ivan Gonzalez
- Song #959, *Just a Little Talk with Jesus*.....Tim Holt
- Song #810, *Listen to our Hearts* .....Tim Holt
- Song, *Hosanna, You're My King*.....Tim Holt
- Prayer.....Victor Benites
- Song #18, *Faithful Love*.....Ivan Gonzalez
- Communion.....Sage Myers
- Offering.....Sage Myers
- Scripture Reading, *James 3:1; 13-18* .....Lee Camacho
- Song #844, *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*.....Ivan Gonzalez
- Message, *Pure Wisdom* .....Jeff Gardner
- Song #908, *There's A Stranger at the Door* .....Darrel Sullivan
- Closing Announcements .....Jeff Gardner
- Prayer .....Chris Dillinger
- Song, *Just Over In The Gloryland*.....Tim Holt

**Schedule of Assemblies**

<b>Sunday</b>	
Worship	10:00 AM
Classes	11:15 AM
<b>Wednesday</b>	
Summer of Service	6:00 PM
<b>Thursday</b>	
Singing Class	6:30 PM

**Attended Nursery** from birth to 2 years is available for Sunday. For transportation to Worship and other assemblies, call (405) 672-1311 M-F, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.