

May 31, 2026

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



Be Strong and Very Courageous

“Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go” (Joshua 1:7, NASB).

After the death of Moses, God appointed Joshua to lead the Israelites into the promised land. There were many trials to face in order to possess the land and God’s expectation and charge to Joshua was that Joshua would obey His law with strength and courage. Joshua was instructed to not “turn from it to the right or to the left,” nor let the law “depart from his mouth” and to “meditate on it day and night” (1:7-8, NASB). Through his unwavering steadfastness to God’s instructions, Joshua remained faithful to Him and was allowed to inhabit the promised land.

Throughout the book of Joshua, the Israelites lived among nations that had the ability to influence them to depart from God’s law. Today, we likewise live among influences that have the potential to ensnare us so that we depart from obedience to God’s Word. Cultural shifts, media, and even the company we keep can slowly change our mindset and diminish our resolve so that we eventually depart from God.

At the end of Joshua’s life, scripture records that “Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who survived Joshua” (24:31, NASB). So how can we remain faithful today like Joshua? I suggest that we heed the words of God given to Joshua. Even in the midst of the influences, pressures, and temptations of today’s world, we must be strong and very courageous and do not turn from God’s Word, neither to the right or to the left. We do not let God’s Word depart from our mouths. We meditate on God’s Word day and night. Everyday when we awake, we have a choice. Let’s choose to be strong and very courageous and remain faithful. ~John Seibel

Lost Shoe

I saw this little shoe in a parking lot all by itself this morning. It made me sad to think about the little toddler who got home without a shoe and for the parent who probably searched the car and bags diligently looking for a lost shoe. All the while, the shoe is here by itself, of no real use to anyone, and will sooner rather than later end up in the trash.

Upon seeing this shoe, my mind quickly went to lost souls all around us. It’s as if they are unknowingly left behind in a parking lot all by themselves. Perhaps at one time there were folks looking for them, but ultimately all hope was given up. Out there on its own, a lost soul has no real purpose, and it will, sooner rather than later, end up in an eternal hell.

Do you feel bad for lost souls, out there on their own, not knowing even that they are lost? I wish I could have taken that shoe to its proper home, but I couldn’t. Do you wish you could help a lost soul to its proper home? You can! ~David Sproule

Keep these Dates in Mind	Birthdays and Anniversaries	
05/03 Monthly Potluck 05/07 Ladies Class Luncheon 05/09 Men's Business Mtg. 05/11 Hand & Foot Get Together	Fran Henniger 6/7 Phyllis Hubbard 6/10 Craig Bolt 6/15 Jack & Wanda Danley 6/15 Debbie Sewell 6/17 Ken & Sallie Winstead 6/17	Trinity Sullins 6/20 David & Ethel Nelson 6/27 Zoe Woodward 6/28 Karen McBurney 6/30 Shannon Mendoza 6/30
5th Sunday Singings	Bible Studies	
May 31 – Pendleton Aug 30 – Hermiston Nov 29 - Kennewick	Adult Bible Classes (Fellowship Hall) Sunday am (9:30a) – 2nd Timothy Wed pm (6:00p) – Amos	Ladies Class Ladies class - Classes begin again in September

For us to remember:

- **Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Tami Pennington, Sandi Gray, Shannon Mendoza, Bill Lafferty, Linda Lafferty, Queca Woods, Paul Mays, Jonni Marcotte, Joe Marcotte, Freddie Garza** (Danny's cousin), **Lupe Mendoza, Jackson Ward** (Josh Mendoza's friend),
- **Jim Preston** has a lung infection that requires antibiotic infusions. The side effects are worse than expected. Keep Jim and Holly in your prayers.
- **Doreen Martinez** A spot was found on her spine. Keep her in your prayers as she continues to be treated for cancer
- Teens if you are interested in going to camp this year, see Shannon Mendoza or Delina Woodward
- Next Congregational meeting is June 14th keep that date in mind

Date	Opening Prayer	Song Leader	Communion Thought (Devotional)	Lord's Supper	Closing Prayer
This week	J. Danley	D. Mendoza	C. Sullins	L. Moore K. Winstead	D. McLaughlin
Next Week	J. Wilson	L. Moore	J.. Danley	G. Keever K. Winstead	B. Lafferty

Spiritual Growth: Add Self-Control

Once we know what is right, the next challenge is doing it consistently. That is why Peter says to “add...to knowledge self-control” (2 Pet. 1:6). Self-control is the ability to govern oneself—to master desires, impulses and appetites rather than be mastered by them. The Greek word carries the idea of “holding oneself in,” having power over one’s passions. It is strength that is directed inward.

This quality is essential because knowledge alone is not enough. It is possible to know what is right and still fail to do it. Without self-control, knowledge becomes little more than unused information—which is useless. Self-control is what enables us to put knowledge into practice.

Jesus made self-denial a requirement for being His disciple: “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself” (Luke 9:23). Paul recognized the same necessity, when he compared the Christian life to an athlete who disciplines his body in order to win (1 Cor. 9:24-27). Without self-control, spiritual failure is inevitable.

The struggle for self-control is real. Scripture describes the conflict between the flesh and the spirit (Gal. 5:16-17). Even Paul spoke of the internal battle between knowing what is right and struggling to do it (Rom. 7:15-19). Left to ourselves, we are often overpowered by our own desires.

But there is hope. Self-control begins with a transformed life in Christ. In baptism, we are set free from the dominion of sin and raised to walk a new life (Rom. 6:3-6, 12-14). While temptation remains, sin no longer has to rule over us.

From there, self-control grows as we are guided by the Word of God. When we fill our minds with Scripture and walk according to its truth, we are able to resist the desires of the flesh (Gal. 5:16; Psa. 119:11). God’s Word reshapes our thinking and strengthens our resolve. It also grows as we rely on God’s strength. We are not left to fight alone—God works in us and strengthens us (Phil. 2:12-13; 4:13). Through prayer and dependence on Him, we gain the strength to overcome. We cannot do it without HIM!

Self-control is demonstrated in everyday decisions—controlling the body, the tongue and even the ego. It is choosing holiness over indulgence, humility over pride, and service over selfishness. It also involves proper balance. True self-control is not based on human rules or outward restrictions that appear spiritual but lack real power (Col. 2:20-23). It is a heart-driven discipline that is rooted in God’s truth.

If we are to grow as Christians, we must learn to master ourselves. Faith begins the process. Knowledge directs it. But self-control makes it real in daily life.

~David Sproule

Wednesday Night Devotional

Date	Song leader	Devotional	Date	Song leader	Devotional
05/27	J. Mendoza	D. McLaughlin	06/24	D. Mendoza	L. Moore
06/03	D. Mendoza	B. Lafferty	07/01	C. Sullins	J. Wilson
06/10	L. Moore	C. Sullins	07/08	D. Mendoza	H. Jones
06/17	C. Sullins	J. Danley	07/15	L. Moore	D. Mendoza

