



# LIVING WORD Christian Church

MARCH 2021 | LANGLEY B.C.

## HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR WEBSITE?

Stay up to date on what ministry is available for you to get involved in by checking out the ministry page on our website!

Get involve and get connected!

## Did you know?

You can give your tithes and offering online!  
Just send your tithes to [livingw@shaw.ca](mailto:livingw@shaw.ca)

## Follow us!

Facebook: Living Word Christian Church  
Instagram: LWCC\_  
Youtube: Living Word Chrstian Church Langley

## Church Events

- March 14<sup>th</sup> - Spring Forward
- March 14<sup>th</sup> – Lead team photoshoot
- Every Friday – Youth
- Every Sunday – Sunday School

# Pastor's Corner

## Do Not Throw Away Your Confidence

by Dr. Brad Crossley

Spring is just around the corner. The trees in my yard are revealing fresh buds and crocus and daffodil leaves are reaching skyward. In spite of many Covid restrictions, the outdoors, the trails and parks, are still accessible. As the weather warms I will spend even more time outdoors, walking along a seawall or by a lakeshore or through the woods, breathing in fresh, clean air, listening for singing birds or rippling creeks or skittering squirrels. We are greatly blessed in this corner of God's creation, and I can't imagine anyone spending time outdoors and complaining about the experience. And yet it happens. Just a little south of us, in the amazing Bridger Wilderness Area of Wyoming, staff members shared some of the negative comment cards they had received:

- Trails need to be reconstructed. Please avoid building trails that go uphill.
- Too many bugs and leeches and spiders and spider webs. Please spray the wilderness to rid the areas of these pests.
- Chair lifts need to be in some places so that we can get to wonderful views without having to hike to them.
- The coyotes made too much noise last night and kept me awake. Please eradicate these annoying animals.
- Escalators would help on steep uphill sections.
- A MacDonald's would be nice at the trailhead.
- Too many rocks in the mountains.
- A small deer came into my camp and stole my jar of pickles. Is there a way I can get reimbursed? Please call...

God's creation is wonderful, marvelous, beautiful (keep adding all the superlatives you can think of), but negative-minded people always seem to be able to find reasons to complain. The Christian life is wonderful, marvelous, and beautiful also, as is the Church, the radiant bride of Christ, and yet some Christians are negative-minded and always seem to be able to find reasons to complain. And by way of full disclosure, I also know how to complain. Sometimes I have negative feelings about other Christians who are only consumers of ministry and not contributors to ministry. Sometimes I get frustrated (and irritated) with people who fail to keep their commitments. Sometimes I complain about people whose expectations are too high (or too low). Sometimes I feel impatient (and annoyed) when my hopes, or dreams, or plans are being delayed. And many times I simply complain about others who complain.

But there is a better way. Christians should not be negative-minded complainers. To rise to the better way, take to heart the words found in Hebrews and do not throw away your confidence. "But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. For, 'Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.' But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls" (Hebrews 10:32-39).

The next time you are tempted to think negatively, or to complain, even though you may be facing unprecedented hardship (think Covid), recall how God has been faithful and how he has cared for you in the past and do not throw away your confidence in him. Live by faith, do not shrink back, do not complain, because God is good and can be trusted at all times in all circumstances. This is the truth worth thinking about positively. This is the better way – to be filled with much praise.