



# Willow Church Update – 3.23.20

## Psalm 91

### Willow Nursery & Wee Place

We are wanting to provide resources to help you through this time. It is important to guard your children from fear and limit their access to the uncertainty that you are feeling. We are posting Monday – Friday on the Wee Place Facebook page activities and ideas to help keep your preschool age kids active and engaged. This page is opened to anyone. Not just those registered to Wee Place. Please feel free access this resource.

Susan

**Overflow-** I miss everyone SO much, and can't wait until we can get back together again!! I hope you are all making the most of 'social distancing' and all of your new found free time. As a group, we have been watching videos/sermons and then getting on zoom to discuss what we watched. We are also spending time just talking and checking in. Our small group leaders and bible study teachers are also reaching out to their groups.

If you aren't getting these updates on how to connect, join Remind by texting the message @6a5f5 to the number 81010. You can also text me, Alissa, at 979-239-7262.

College/Young Adults-Ashley has a group text going on and has been staying connected with that group. If that is your age people, and you would like to stay connected, send her a text at 979-418-4183, or you can text Alissa at 979-239-7262 and she will pass your information on.

Alissa

**Prayer-** If you are in need of prayer, we have multiple ways our prayer team and congregation can lift you up. 1-If you email [prayer@willowchurch.com](mailto:prayer@willowchurch.com), your prayer request will be sent out for others to pray for. 2-If you would like for someone to pray with you over the phone, our prayer team members would love to help you in that way. Please email [alissa@willowchurch.com](mailto:alissa@willowchurch.com) with your name, phone number and short description of your request, and she will get your information to a member of the prayer team. 3- During this season, we are thinking about opening the Worship Center in the evening for people to come encounter the Lord through prayer and contemplation. It would be individual meditative worship not congregational. If this develops, you will be able to find the details on social media, the website and in the next letter. Contact me if you can help.

Alissa

One of the purposes of the **Willow deacons** is to help and connect our families and their needs. During this health crisis, there are people in our church who have basic needs that cannot be met. If you need help, we would like to place you on a weekly call list, please contact David Zavisch @ (713) 858-3196, so we can reach out to you.

If you would like to volunteer in helping us reach out to our senior adult families every week, please contact me @ (262) 745- 6462. In His service, **Doug Schoeneck** **Worship & Outreach Pastor**

### From April Jones

**Willow Kids-** We will be doing weekly object lessons and connecting with all the kids that we can by doing facebook live on every Wednesday that we are not meeting together. This Wednesday, March 25 will be at 3pm on the Willow Church facebook page.

I wanted to encourage you all with this trying time of living in the unknown with all kinds of fear and hysteria thrown at us. I am reminded of Shadrach, Meschach, and Abednego in the story from Daniel 6 in the Bible and the trial that they endured. These 3 Jewish boys refused to bow down to the King of Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar. When these 3 refused to bow and worship the golden statue, the king had them thrown into the fiery furnace, which was heated seven times hotter than normal. It was IN THE FIRE that Jesus was with them until the King stopped the fire. My prayer is that you find the comfort of the Father through this this trail.

During times like these, try not to isolate, but find creative ways to connect because we need each other. It's in the isolation that our fears can overwhelm us.

I recommend that you find silence and stillness to be with Father God and allow Him to comfort you and show you what you need to know. Natural fear can keep us safe. When fear becomes unhealthy is when we become obsessed with what might happen, what could happen and what is happening, and we see ourselves as victims and not victors.

How to deal with fear in a healthy way:

- Don't deny your fear
- Don't ignore your fear
- Don't avoid your fear

Instead, find stillness with the Father and have Him help you to discover where in your body you are feeling the fear. Then ask yourself how does your body feel this fear; dull, sharp, stabbing, tummy troubles, neck or back pain, etc

Then ask Father God to help you to release this fear and pain once you have acknowledged it so you can begin to replace your fear with trust. Prov 3:5-6

Remember no matter where you are in your journey, YOU ARE NOT ALONE and we all have the choice to face our fears and let God do what He does best; love us through our fears, pain and shame to experience His healing and His peace.

If you find yourself struggling and isolating, please reach out we are here for you. **Blessings, April Jones** [april@willowchurch.com](mailto:april@willowchurch.com)



## From My Heart - We are Victors not victims

In the midst of these uncertain times, we can walk in confidence as the sons and daughters of God. At the end of 2019, the Lord highlighted that this new decade is about living Psalm 8 from a Romans 8 reality. Psalm 8 says that God created us a little lower than Himself and that all things are now under our authority. Romans 8 describes how we live the Spirit filled life as the dearly loved children of God and siblings of Jesus who are heirs of all things.

Romans 8 is one of the most energizing chapters in the Bible. If it doesn't move you, then read another Bible translation and if that doesn't move you then let me pray for you! Listen to this:

***<sup>35</sup> Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? <sup>37</sup> No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.***

***<sup>38</sup> And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. <sup>39</sup> No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

Now, there is a word for you!

As His children and Jesus' siblings, we live from a place of authority (Luke 10.16; Eph.2.6). We have authority over everything this sin broken, devil inspired world throws at us. It is underneath our feet, because we are "in Christ" and everything is under His authority (Matt.28.18).

Let me encourage you saint from your position of authority to take action and dictate the environment. Don't hunker down and wait for things to pass, but be aggressive and hope-filled in the Lord. Don't be a victim and just wait for something to happen. Get up and fight in the strength of the Lord.

God says to us today, "Have faith in God...You can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours." (Mark 11.22.24)

Watch my message from Sunday to get a fuller download of this mandate – [youtube.com/willowchurch](https://www.youtube.com/willowchurch).

John 16.33,

Pastor Scott

### **For up to date information, Subscribe to:**

- Churchcast to receive text and email updates. Send Joyce – [joyce@willowchurch.com](mailto:joyce@willowchurch.com) – your phone and email address
- [www.youtube.com/willowchurch](https://www.youtube.com/willowchurch) - for worship services & Word for the Moment
- Willow's Facebook, Instagram & Twitter accounts – to received the most current info.
- Watch our website Home page – [willowchurch.com](http://willowchurch.com) – for updates
- RightNowmedia.org to experience the world largest library of **free** Biblical video resources for every age. Send Pastor Scott – [scott@willowchurch.com](mailto:scott@willowchurch.com) – your email address to be added.

### **Adult Bible Fellowships and Small Groups:**

Willow is a family and we want to make sure our family does not feel isolated or alone during this time of uncertainty. If you are not involved in an ABF or Small Group we encourage you to reach out at this time. Contact Susan Hines at [susan@willowchurch.com](mailto:susan@willowchurch.com) and she will help you find a group. If you are a part of a group and have not been contacted yet, feel free to reach out to your group leaders. We are working on setting up ways to easily be connected during this time. Also if you would like to lead a virtual small group contact Susan.