

Crossroads Church

a ministry of the Christian Reformed Church

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Christians passionately dedicated to impacting our world with God's love, one person at a time.

Fight or flight is a common life choice. It is the situation in which we must either run from or become confrontational in conflict. Examples of fight or flight situations are numerous and include relationships, work environments, and emotional growth experiences. Choices to run rather than fight are in many of our histories as most of us have come from immigrant stock. Our mothers and/or fathers (or their fathers or mothers, etc.) chose to leave hard times rather than confront issues.

I lived many years of my life in a neighborhood most other Dutch Christian Reformed members chose to flee, leaving decimated property, values and abandoned friends. More recently a common story told is the decision to flee a school system.

Some of us have even fled family with its dysfunction and conflict.

Fight or flight often seems to leave us with no good option – especially for those of us who dislike conflict and do not have a good grasp on how to deal with conflict in a healthy way.

David, in Psalm 11, is in a fight or flight situation. The reality that seems to complicate David's situation is that humanly speaking he doesn't appear to have the resources to fight. He is left, so it appears, with only one option – to *"flee like a bird to your mountain."* (vs. 1). Yet, David will not. Instead he states, *"In the LORD I take refuge."* (vs 1).

David is clear on a number of realities – first and foremost is that God is on the throne. He has not abdicated nor is His position as King of Kings in danger of being lost or successfully challenged. *"The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD is on his heavenly throne."* (vs. 4).

The second reality for David is when God has called him and given him a responsibility or calling it is not primarily his (David's) responsibility to defend himself. Rather, when God calls, God defends. Therefore, David could remain confident that in the midst of danger and threats he could rest securely in God's promises and work.

The question with which I am left after reading Psalm 11 is, "To what has God called me that I find myself wanting to flee because of hardship, adversaries or difficult situations?" If God has called you God will defend. If God has called, God will equip.

Some of God's greatest gifts come in the midst of the temptation to flee, to go for the easier option. David reminds us that we can live confidently because God continues on His throne.

So, live confidently, even when the physical situation appears hopeless!

Sunday Service

Please join us for Worship at 9:30 a.m. We continue our stroll through the Psalms as we look at Psalm 11. I look forward to seeing you! **Make worship a priority this week – someone is depending on you to share this worship time with them!**

Our Offering: Habitat for Humanity is an organization committed to bringing families and communities in need together with volunteers and resources to help build decent, affordable housing. A decent home provides the strength, stability and independence that families need, and Habitat for Humanity's vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Coming Up

From The Social Justice Committee

"We are sure that you have been praying about the Forced Separation Immigration Policy. Thanking the Lord, children will now be reunited with their parents. The immigration policy surely concerns all of us and thankfully the Christian Reformed Church denomination has issued a statement concerning this issue. We encourage you to read this statement and continue to persevere in prayer regarding this issue. You can find the statement at crcna.org. Thank you for your commitment to prayer and action.

In Concert at Crossroads on July 21:

Coming off appearances at Bratfest this past Memorial Day and the up-coming LifeFest stage, singer/songwriter Holly Starr will be presenting testimony of God' love and faithfulness in song Saturday evening, July 21st. at 6:30 p.m. More information will follow. Holly will also be leading our Singing on the following morning, Sunday, July 22nd. Your Council praises God for yet another opportunity to share with our community artists who are dedicated to God. **Please take this opportunity to invite friends and family to both of these times of celebration and praise.**

Join women of Crossroads Church on July 26th, 9:00 am, in the Crossroads Council Room for a review and discussion of the book *Transforming Prayer* by Daniel Henderson. You don't have to read it, but if you would like to, it is available online at Amazon and Barnes & Noble. The prayer session at the RENEW 2 CRC workshop in April was based on this book. Please R.S.V.P to Shirley.

Get Added to the List

If someone forwarded you this e-mail, and you are not currently on our church's "e-mail list" but would like to be included in future mailings please send a return e-mail requesting this.

Have a wonderful Weekend! Enjoy the gifts God has given you. Honor Him in all you do, and I look forward to seeing you Sunday!!

May Jesus' love be your strength.

Pastor Doug