

Lord of Life Council Meeting
August 18, 2016 6:30pm

In attendance: Pastor Skip, John Paul Crawford, Mark Waggoner, Randi Ladolcetta, Erica Smith

- Call to Order – John Paul
- Opening Prayer – Pastor Skip
- Devotional – Randi Ladolcetta
 - Nothing Worthwhile is Every Easy – See attachment
 - We discussed how we handle failure. Talked about how we like to be assured of success before the experiment. If we fail, it means we didn't do it right. Discussed how the church views these things the same way, need to talk through and plan things into the ground, before willing to proceed with an experiment the church likes to know it will succeed and not risk failure.
 - Our task as leaders is that we remain faithful and God will provide the increase, whether the increase is numerical, financial, or spiritual.
- Pastor Watt's Report
 - Attached
 - Discussed on the churches history and interpretations and conflict surrounding a lot of decisions.
 - We talked about how decisions were made and that there are two or three viewpoints regarding all the decisions.
 - We have decided we will hold "coffee with council" to reach out to members who may be feeling conflicted about things happening in the church. While our meetings are open we want to encourage more discussion regarding conflicts within the church.
- Closing Prayer and Adjournment – Pastor Skip

Nothing Worthwhile Is Ever Easy

BY RICK WARREN — AUGUST 18, 2016

“Let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up”(Galatians 6:9 NLT, second edition).

There are many things that work to keep us from completing our life missions. Over the years, I’ve debated whether the worst enemy is procrastination or discouragement. If Satan can’t get us to put off our life missions, then he’ll try to get us to quit altogether.

The apostle Paul teaches that we need to resist discouragement: *“Let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up”* (Galatians 6:9 NLT, second edition).

Do you ever get tired of doing what’s right? I think we all do. Sometimes it seems easier to do the wrong thing than the right thing.

When we’re discouraged, we become ineffective. When we’re discouraged, we work against our own faith.

When we’re discouraged, we’re saying, “It can’t be done.” That’s the exact opposite of saying, “I know God can do it because he said ...”

Ask yourself these questions:

- How do I handle failure?
- When things don’t go my way, do I get grumpy?
- When things don’t go my way, do I get frustrated?
- When things don’t go my way, do I start complaining?
- Do I finish what I start?
- How would I rate on persistence?

If you’re discouraged, don’t give up without a fight. Nothing worthwhile ever happens without endurance and energy.

When an artist creates a sculpture, he has to keep chipping away. He doesn’t hit the chisel with the hammer once, and suddenly all the excess stone falls away revealing a beautiful masterpiece. He keeps hitting it and hitting it, chipping away at the stone.

And that’s true of life, too. Nothing really worthwhile ever comes easy in life. You keep hitting it and going after it, and little by little your life becomes a masterpiece of God’s grace.

The fact is, great people are really just ordinary people with an extraordinary amount of determination. Great people don’t know how to quit.

Talk It Over

- What does your attitude toward a tough situation reveal about your faith?

- What have you been ready to give up on?
- How can God's Word help you endure? Who in your life can encourage you to keep going?

