

# ***LIFE LESSONS – Making it Live***

**David Welsh | “What Is That In Your Hand?” | Exodus 4:1-4 | May 14.15, 2011**

## **An Expression of Love**

**Can you share how you have confessed to God that you are a sinner and asked for Jesus Christ to come in to your life and forgive your sin?** When did you do this? What has happened in your spiritual life and your walk with Jesus Christ since making that commitment? When we accept God’s plan of salvation by confessing our sins and asking Jesus Christ to come into our life, God seals our life with the Holy Spirit. An expression of love – Jesus expressed His love for us, not just verbally but by sacrificing Himself on the cross. As God has expressed His love to us through the death, burial, and resurrection of His Son Jesus (as well as in many other ways in your life) He also wants to express His love through you (His child). Share how this is happening in your life currently. **Discuss** some other possible ways He could work in your life?

## **An Extension of Evangelism**

**How did God first come into your life?** What or who did He use to make that connection? God reaches out to penetrate our personal lives in many different ways. What is the ongoing result? An extension of evangelism – The church is the only organization that exists primarily for the benefit of nonmembers. As an extension of God’s love He would want us to be a living testimony to others. Read in Ephesians 4:22-24 and **discuss** how the Lord presently uses us to reach out to others. Share some other ways He may be calling us to share His love and His promises with others!

## **A Demonstration of Faith**

**We often might “redirect,” “share,” or maybe “contribute,” but what would a financial sacrifice really be for you?** Many of us live in an abundance of physical wealth. **Discuss:** Faith visualized would include sacrificial giving to the Lord and His ministry. Often the faith walk of a Christian can be demonstrated in our bank statements and the accounting of where the money that we are stewards of is used during our lives. A demonstration of faith - When we give sacrificially He will supply our needs. Can you share if you are at a point of responding to the Lord in a sacrificial way if He would direct in that way? What might need to change in your life for the Lord to work more fully? How are you able to pray for that to happen?

## **An Opportunity to Participate**

**Share how you can pray for God’s miracle in His provision through His people.** Part of the blessing of being a part of the local Body of Christ is to see the church seeking to live out the callings and opportunities that come before us. The ‘bout Time CCC Home Improvement Project is one of those opportunities! It is often a powerful sign of God’s Spirit at work in His people when we come together on a project that is so much larger than any one of us, or a few of us can complete! Church buildings and related structures may serve as a powerful testimony of how God influences the hearts of many to give a concentrated (and consecrated) amount of money to a specific cause or project. **Discuss** how this can be a great encouragement and provide significant spiritual growth individually and corporately as we “sacrifice together” to see a work completed! An opportunity to participate in a miracle - It’s not about equal giving; it’s about equal sacrifice.

## **First Fruits**

**Share how we can be a part of the first fruits offering on May 21-22, 2011.** The literal meaning of “first fruits” refers to the first portion of the harvest that is given to God and the first fruits ceremony is described in Deuteronomy 26:1-11. By giving God the first fruits, Israel acknowledged that all good things come from God and that everything belongs to God. Giving the first fruits, was also a way of expressing trust in God’s provision; just as He provided the first fruits, so He would also provide the rest of the crops that were needed. What would be some possible applications of these scriptures to your life and family? ...to our congregation? God gives us an opportunity as part of the Body of Christ at Central to bring a special offering to provide for a special project that God has laid upon the heart of the leadership at CCC.

*Written by Ross Lamp*