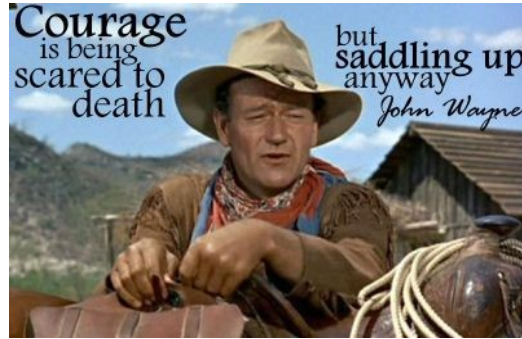




# Lewiston Church of Christ

## May 10, 2020



### Weekly Services

Sunday Morning

Bible Study 9:45 AM

Worship 10:45 AM

Sun. Day/Evening Groups

Wed Bible Study 7:00 PM

#### MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

#### ELDERS

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

Cal Groen: 208-602-8165

#### DEACONS

Education – Rick Richardson

Fellowship – Joe Bieren

Finance – Tom Hill

Outreach – Mark Whittaker

#### AREAS OF SERVICE

Building – Ken Vogtman

Custodian – Ron & Cindy Roberson

Fellowship – Joe & Carrie Bieren

Grounds – Cody & Doyle Dawes

Music Ministry – Ron Roberson

Secretary – Renee' Hill

Technology – Eric Kjorness

Technology – Cody Dawes

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Joel:  
minister@lewistonchurchofchrist.org

## Saddling Up Anyway!

Life is fragile. It must be lived with many unknowns. We can face the unknowns primarily with fear or faith. Fear keeps us focused on safety. Faith sees a bigger picture. Actually, real life forces us to make decisions that involve fear and faith swirling within us at the same time.

The fear of God is good. Fear in the face of genuine danger is healthy. But the apostle John had a bad fear in mind when he wrote, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts our fear" (1 john 4:18).

Too much fear can inhibit relationships and drive down marriage rates. Faith does not rush foolishly toward romance but it pursues love with patience and courage. The unknowns remain. Fear can diminish entrepreneurial innovation and stymie community outreach. Fear can sap our courage thereby giving free reign to thugs and evildoers. The actor John Wayne said, "Courage is being scared to death but saddling up anyway."

Just don't set wisdom aside as you ride.

Step one in raising love above fear is to take full confidence that God's purposes can never be thwarted. Isaiah spoke the word of the Lord, saying, "My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure" (Isaiah 46:10).

That leads to step two: develop a strong sense of mission, tied to God's unthwartable purpose. None of the early apostles wanted to die a martyr's death but most of them did because they had a mission that called for serious risk-taking. Their mission moved them beyond safety to pursue a higher purpose. Of course, if your mission is to raise good kids, you would never ignore safety. But raising good children also means teaching them how to face real life with courage.

If we always retreat to safety and hunker down, we will be less challenged by the unknowns. I get that. I don't like unknowns either. But when we rise in faith with a mission, we are willing to saddle up and ride, keeping a firm grip on God's hand.

Joel Solliday