

Lessons From Traveling

by Jeff Way, *Deacon*

This is my first Journey Evangelical Church (JEC) article so I'd like to introduce myself and how we came to JEC. I first accepted Christ in 2nd grade at the Sunday school to which my parents had sent me and my siblings. That church was South Hollywood Presbyterian Church and my parents did not attend church at all.



Step forward many decades later, my wife, Linda, and I will be celebrating our 47th wedding anniversary this year. We have 3 sons, 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. I worked as an Electrical Engineer my entire professional career and retired last September from Northrop Grumman. I'm also a professional musician playing both trombone and keyboard. I actually prefer to play trombone and perform regularly in a 9 piece band. I am honored to serve in various worship teams at JEC.

When we moved to Orange County from Torrance in 2019, the pandemic was starting to go into full swing so we decided to remain at our former church, Anchor South Bay, a small Free Methodist church in Lomita, until churches began meeting in person again. In 2022, I performed a Google & Yelp search for nearby churches and JEC was the 2nd church that we visited on my list of 5 (we never got to 3, 4, or 5). We felt very welcomed during our first visit in July of 2022 and observed that the teaching (by Pastor Ted) was very biblical and orthodox (a key requirement). We decided to start attending and transferred our memberships at the end of 2022.

Since retiring, Linda and I have had the opportunity to travel to Japan, the Panama Canal, and Antarctica. During our many trips, the passages of Matthew 22:37-40 continued to echo in my mind (loving God and your neighbor). As you may know, traveling can be quite rewarding but also quite stressful. The worst parts of traveling for me are getting to the destination and returning home. It seems like there are infinite varieties of lines and with it, the temptation to push forward or cut ahead of someone slower. Some of my own examples include trying to move to the front of "Group X" when boarding a plane (especially if you travel Southwest); waiting in the buffet lines on a cruise ship and fighting the temptation to jump in front of the person in front of you; trying to exit a theater first, and trying to wait patiently as you check into a hotel with (40) fellow travelers. The command to "love your neighbor as yourself" conflicts with my self-centered feelings to "get my stuff done first" rather than to be patient and accommodating to my fellow travelers. Just like driving, traveling has revealed to me many areas where I can improve my walk with God. This example is but one of many lessons that God has taught me through travel.

So whether I'm in line at Costco, Sam's Club, or the airport, I try to consider my neighbors and how I can bless them. It's still a struggle but I'm developing the one aspect of the fruit of the spirit: patience.

Welcome to **Journey** EVANGELICAL CHURCH



YA Fellowship Meal



A member of EFCA • efca.org
14614 Magnolia Street, Westminster, CA 92683
(714) 893-5500 • JourneyEC.org

Order of Service

April 7th, 2024

Call To Worship Elder Victor
Worship in Music Congregation
Worship in Word **Faith Without Favoritism** Pastor Ted
Worship in Response Congregation
Benediction Pastor Phil

Ways to connect:

Today: **Training: From Guest to Member** (12-12:35, Sanctuary): Welcome Team and all who'd like to learn how to grow Journey, please join us!

4/20: Dating Couples (Tue, 7:30pm): email ted@journeyec.org for more info.

4/27: **Women's Ministry Spring Luncheon** (\$10, Sat, 11:30-1, Fellowship Hall): All women high school age and above are welcome to enjoy lunch together and listen to a special sharing from Christine Sun. Sign-up today after service.

4/28: **Baptism** (Sun, 11:30am): We will celebrate Jacob's profession of faith.

Silent auction: bid to own an original work on canvas by Wes, located by the Mission Corner. The piece *Blossoms of the Journey* (Isaiah 52:7) expresses the peace and beauty of sharing the Gospel. All proceeds will be directed to Orlando STM team expenses. For info, email roger@journeyec.org.

Bulletin Photos: we'd love to post a photo of your Bible study, prayer mtg., HUG / small group, or church ministry! Please send it to roger@journeyec.org and amy@journeyec.org.

Elders <name@journeyec.org>

Cliff Char—Young Adults, Worship Music

Hiro Kono—Women, Growth

Joshua Cain—Christian Education, Youth

Peter Leung—Children, Church Sec., Welcome

Phil Jen Kin—Personnel, Facilities & Property,

Rick Chou—Nominations, Pastoral Staff Search

Staff <name@journeyec.org>

Ted Kau—Sr. Pastor, ted@journeyec.org

Paul Eng—Chinese Pastor, pastorpaul@

Phil Yoder—Youth Pastor, philyoder@

Ron Jue—Deacons, GO Team, Legacy

Victor Wong—CFO, CIC, Vietnamese, SERVE, Hospitality

Deacons <name@journeyec.org>

Pat Leung—lead deacon, Agnes Liu, Alan Hung, Allie

Poblete, Darryl Mu, Jeff Way, Paulah Wong, Shirley

Chun, Teresa Jue, Valerie Yee, Wesley Lin

Peter Leung—Children's Dir., peter@journeyec.org

Roger Yee—Administrator, roger@journeyec.org

Amy Mu—Office Assistant, amy@journeyec.org

Notes—**Faith Without Favoritism** Pastor Ted • James 2:1-13, ESV

Overview

1:1-25: Faith produces inner stability and wisdom

In trials (1:1-18) and in conflicts (1:19-21)

1:26-2:26: Faith produces outward love in action

in Word (1:22-25), compassion (1:26-27), impartiality (2:1-13)

Moral partiality: good is rightly rewarded, and evil is rightly disincentivized

1 Cor 3:12-15, Mt. 10:41-42, Mk 10:29-30, Col 3:23-24, Rev 22:12

Why is nonmoral partiality a sin?

1. **Partiality** _____ **against God, and aligns us with enemies,** 2:1-7

It opposes faith in our glorious Lord Jesus, 2:1-4

It ignores God's sovereignty, 2:5

It favors the oppressors, 2:6-7

2. **Partiality** _____ **God's law,** 2:8-11

Royal law, 2:8-9

Whole law, 2:10-11

3. **Partiality is** _____ **of Christ's judgment seat,** 2:12-13

Christ will _____ each believer, 2:12, cf. Rm 14:10, 2 Cor. 5:10

Those who do not show grace should be concerned with judgment, 2:13

For reflection, discussion, and application:

- Do those with low self-esteem need to learn to love themselves more? Why or why not? If not, then what is their real need?
- How does living under grace fit in with living in view of Christ's judgment?
- Some think that we are not to judge (Mt. 7:1). Why is this wrong (cf. Mt. 7:6, 15)?
- What are the boundaries between godly discernment and ungodly judgment?
- Should we indiscriminately give to the poor, or should we use godly discernment? For example, Proverbs uniformly mocks the man who is poor because he is lazy or foolish.
- Sometimes the rich got rich because of wisdom and discipline, and the poor because they are foolish and undisciplined. How does this fit with James' teachings?
- Whom do I treat with partiality (not to be confused with deserved merit)?