



## **Today's Service**

May 25, 2025

Worship Presider.....Elder Dave McLendon Congregational Worship...... Terri Wong Worship Through Scripture...... Pastor Ewin Grace Congregational Worship Response......Terri Wong Benediction.....Pastor Ewin Grace Long Beach/ Seal Beach HUG

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# Sermon Notes – THREE HONORABLE MENTIONS

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. John 12:26

3 SUPPORTING CHARACTERS IN THE BIBLE WHO MADE A MAJOR MARK

#### MARY OF BETHANY

She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her. Mark 14:8-9

### ANANIAS OF DAMASCUS

Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Acts 9:10-19

#### THE REPENTANT THIEF

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:39-43 by Pastor Ewin Grace

HUG Discussion Questions:

1. Do you ever feel that your life makes very little or no difference for God?

2. How have you seen God take the ordinary and turn it into the extraordinary?

3. Has God ever given you an assignment that you initially found fearful or repugnant?

4. What do you think the Lord can do with a humble and repentant heart and attitude?

5. Can you recall one moment in time when someone's simple act affected you profoundly?

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Contact Us!	Contact an Elder or Deacon at <u>elders@journeyec.org</u> or <u>deacons@journeyec.org</u> The deacons would like to support you in prayer. Please email prayer requests to <u>prayer@journeyec.org</u>
Connect through Volunteering: If you would like to provide refreshments after service, please contact Elder Dave	
McLendon at <u>dave@journeyec.org</u> .	
Or sign up using this hospitality/refreshment link:	
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fVYR43b1Uei2Gm-il0TBXGZnFx4m4yXrdJ5KPiXsdag/edit?	
<u>pli=1&amp;gid=1728724331#gid=1728724331</u>	
This week on campus:	
Tuesday 5/27	2 - 4pm Ping Pong @ MPR
Saturday 5/31	9 - 12pm ESL Meeting - Contact Moon Lee if you're interested in helping.
	( <u>moonhoanglee@gmail.com</u> )
Save the Date:	
June 1st (Sun)	All Church Survey after worship service
June 14th (Sat)	FREE Movie Day with Journey EC - "King of Kings" at 3pm at Cinemark Century, Bella Terra Huntington Beach.
June 15th (Sun)	Come and invite a friend or two! Father's Day
June 22nd (Sun)	Promotion Sunday - if you are promoting or graduating from Elementary, Middle School, High School or
	college/post college, please let Shirley Chun know at <u>shirley@journeyec.org</u>
July 12th (Sat)	All Church Potluck Dinner Fellowship - Come out for a potluck dinner and meet some of the HUG and
	prayer groups. If you're interested in joining or starting a small group or prayer group, we want to get
1.1. 12.1. (C )	you connected! - more info coming
July 13th (Sun)	"Something Rotten" Musical at 2pm at the Rose Theater. Please contact Marilyn or Tom Yee @ <u>myprayer48@yahoo.com</u>

#### Thoughts of Church Unity and Moving Ahead, Romans 15: 5 – 13, 1 Corinthians 1 by Deacon Jeff Way

Adriatic area where the Apostle Paul spread the gospel to the Gentiles and had the challenge of keeping the early church united in following Jesus Christ. In Corinth, there was division based upon the preferred leaders that the early church was seeking to follow. Paul clearly communicated that his mission was to preach the Gospel and that wisdom comes from God. It did not matter who the leader was, whether Paul, Apollos or Peter, the focus needs to be upon Christ alone.

I thought that this was especially relevant to Journey Evangelical Church (JEC) and our desire to seek a new Senior Pastor and also seek God's wisdom in the path that we are to follow to grow the church and share the good news. We have a survey coming on June 1, 2025 and it is important for all of us in the church body to express our opinions as we come together to seek unity and seek a clear path forward for our church.

It will be 3 years this July since Linda and I first attended JEC and in those few short years, we've been blessed and also seen major challenges occur within JEC. However, I see God working amongst the body and feel a great

Linda and I had the privilege of taking a recent trip to the connection with the people here. In that regard, we want to see the church grow and meet the needs of the church and community. Participating in the SERVE ministry has given us a monthly glimpse of our surrounding community and their needs. I spoke to Pastor Noah (who leads the Vietnamese church that meets at JEC), during a SERVE event. He told me that he estimated 1 to 2 percent of the Vietnamese community is Christian. I had always thought a large number was Catholic or Christian but I was very surprised and mistaken. There is a great mission field all around us to plant seeds.

> The Apostle Paul never had a home church, his mission was to spread the Gospel throughout the world and in doing so, he ended up planting many churches that became home churches to the people of their communities. Those churches met the needs of their communities and grew. Similarly, I believe that we have a wonderful opportunity to minister to our community and should seek God's wisdom and discernment in developing an approach to reaching those that are lost. Please give this survey that we have coming priority in participating and being thoughtful in your responses. I'm excited to see the course that God will be setting for us.