Lessons Learned Through Preparing For James

by Hiro Kono, Elder of Women's Ministries and Congregational Growth

Our Huntington Beach HUG Group has been together for a long time. We have been getting older together and hopefully, wiser while walking through life's joys and trials together; being there for one another. What a blessing it is to fellowship and connect with a smaller community of believers within our congregation!

For our HUG Group, several of us have been alternating being the facilitator for our Bible studies. Our study is currently based on the sermon(s) prior to our meeting. This past week I was the facilitator for our study based on James 1:9-12, which Pastor Ted spoke on January 28th. Since I knew it was my turn to facilitate, I attentively listened and took careful notes, but like my college days, my note taking is not the best. Thank goodness I was able to review the sermon in detail on YouTube to get a much better understanding of the message Pastor Ted was conveying regarding James' instructions to each of us.

I am grateful that I was able to lead our HUG Bible study last week, because I now understand James much more deeply than if I heard someone just share the same words. Preparing for our study as a facilitator is a bit stressful because you want to share God's word well to those attending, however, I do understand that this is a minor trial compared to the persecuted tribes that were James' audience. God teaches us His love and the relationship that He wants with us, regardless of how small or minor the trial or circumstance is. God likes to get us out of our comfort zone to do things we normally don't do, but we have faith that He equips us with what we need to be successful. I find it wonderfully amazing how God places the sermon series of James to me at this time.

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."—James 1:2-3.





13 Youth Members welcoming the New Year



Order of Service	February 11 th , 2024
Welcome & Call To Worship	Elder Phil
Worship	Pastor Ted & Congregation
SermonGenuine Love	Guest Speaker Sunroot Liu
Song of Response	Pastor Ted & Congregation
Benediction	Pastor Phil
Sermon Outline	Sunroot Liu • Romans 12:9-13
Genuine Love for Self 9 Let love be genuine	
Abhor what is evil. Eliminate evil like it is a	
Genuine Love for Neighbor	
10 Love one another with brotherly affecti	on
Outdo one another in showing honor. Be	e deferential
11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in Serve with	•
12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation Serve with	n, be constant in prayer
13 Contribute to the needs of the saints ar service opportunition	
The Model of Genuine Love	
We love because	

Questions for discussion and reflection:

- 1. What are some evil things in your life that you've allowed to remain?
- 2. What are some good practices/habits you can pursue?
 - When have you found it hard to continue loving your community?
 - What are some needs in your community that you have the means to address?
 - How have you experienced the love of God?

Ways to connect:

Today: Lunar NY Lunch: thank you Moon and crew for preparing an onolicious lunch!

Super Bowl of Love & Listening (12:15-1:15, Sanctuary, ages 9 to 99):

Learn how to minimize misunderstandings, practice active listening skills.

2/15: Women's Ministry Bible Study (*Heart of God*, Francis Chan, 6:46-8:30pm, 1st & 3rd Thurs.): Contact Trudee Joe, womensministry@journeyec.org for details.

2/16 & 17: SERVE Ministry (Fri & Sat). Help serve those who are in need. To see how you can volunteer, go to our online sign-up at https://signup.com/go/dMBLcbk or contact Diane Yee by texting or calling (714) 801-3096.

2/18: Help Journey guests feel loved (12-12:45): everyone is encouraged to join us (mandatory for officers) for an enjoyable training, different from last year.

3/3: Baptism & Membership Class (12:00-2:30): if you are interested in professing your faith or joining Journey's mission on Easter, email amy@journeyec.org.



Deacons

Agnes Liu C
Alan Hung H
Allie Wong J
Darryl Mu Pe
Jeff Way Pl
Pat Leung R
Paulah Wong R
Shirley Chun V
Teresa Jue
Valerie Yee
Wesley Lin

Elders

Cliff Char—Young Adults, Worship Music

Hiro Kono-Women, Growth

Joshua Cain—Christian Education, Youth

Peter Leung—Children, Church Secretary, Welcome

Phil Jen Kin—Personnel, Facilities & Property, Cantonese., Security

Rick Chou—Nominations, Pastoral Staff Search

Ron Jue—Deacons, GO Team, Legacy

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

Staff <name@journeyec.org>

Ted Kau-Sr. Pastor, <u>ted@journeyec.org</u> Paul Eng-Chinese, <u>pastorpaul@...</u>

Ewin Grace-Connections, ewin@...

Phil Yoder—Youth, phil.yoder@journeyec.org

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