

## If You Go to Hell, Who Cares? by Ewin Grace, *Small Groups Pastor*

Please excuse my shock-jock, click-bait style title, but that was the caption of an unforgettable sermon preached years ago by my pastor and mentor, Dr. Ralph M. Smith. As you might guess, the sermon went on to say that Jesus cares, and also a true Christian cares that the lost around us are hell-bound, walking in darkness and in desperate need of the Savior.

Today I want to ask a similar question: If you're hurting, struggling, lonely and feeling unconnected, who cares?

For several years I attended and served on the worship team of a huge, dynamic megachurch and I along with its thousands of other attendees generally loved it. But a megachurch's greatest downside is embodied in this oft-repeated comment: "I sometimes feel anonymous, kind of lost in a vast sea of churchgoers without any personal connection." Actually, that's the chief malady of many churches, large or small, especially those lacking a strong Small Group network.

Thankfully, our senior pastor there, like our senior pastor Ted here at JEC, was a firm believer in Small Groups. He gave a plug for them nearly every Sunday. Only after I finally joined one there did I realize that this is the antidote to the unsettling sense that maybe no one really knows or cares about the life-challenges we face. Because when Small Groups are done right, the sweet fellowship, kinship, warmth, accountability, encouragement and prayer support become items you wonder how you ever previously lived without.

Here at Journey I have found that same wonderful camaraderie in my amazing Irvine HUG Group as we walk our upward pilgrimage together. I know many of you feel the same about yours. So to those not yet in a HUG Group, I want to ask you: If you're struggling, isolated, lonely or bewildered, who cares? Well let me tell you, there are bands of kindred spirits here who you can join or form up with and you'll see that question answered beautifully. Truly the fellowship, support and love of a good Spirit-led Small Group can be like a foretaste of heaven.

*"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near"* Heb 10:24-25.



# Welcome to Journey!



*God Sees Your Faithfulness*

**Journey**  
EVANGELICAL CHURCH

14614 Magnolia Street, Westminster, CA 92683  
[JourneyEC.org](http://JourneyEC.org)

## Order of Service

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Welcome & Call To Worship.....Phil  
 Worship.....Kyle & Congregation  
 Sermon .....**God Sees Your Faithfulness**..... Ted  
 Communion..... Ewin  
 Song of Response .....Kyle & Congregation  
 Benediction .....Ted

## Ways to get involved at Journey:

**Congratulations to Christian & Kat** on their wedding! They will be back in two Sundays. Please pray that they have a safe, healthy, and wonderful honeymoon.

**Today: Forest Home Payment Due** (\$514). Sign up your junior high and high school kids for Forest Home! Email [christian@journeyec.org](mailto:christian@journeyec.org) for details.

**5/14: Mother's Day:** Invite your mother to our special Mother's Day service.

**5/18: Women's Bible Study** (6:45-8:30pm, online). We will start a new series on *What the Women Saw*. Discover who Jesus is through the unique perspective of women in the Bible. Email Trudee Joe at [womensministry@journeyec.org](mailto:womensministry@journeyec.org) for details.

Email **announcements** or **photos** to [bulletin@journeyec.org](mailto:bulletin@journeyec.org) by Sunday, 6pm.

**Want this bulletin emailed to you?** Email [bulletin@journeyec.org](mailto:bulletin@journeyec.org) to request.

### Tithes & Offerings.

Help fund Journey's ministries:

- Offering box (rear sanctuary wall) or mail to the church
- Vanco App (search: Journey Evangelical Church)
- JourneyEC.org/donate



Thank you to all who helped with our Women's Luncheon!

## God Sees Your Faithfulness

Nehemiah 11 • Ted Kau

Jerusalem protected and respected, chs. 1–6

Evidence of God working in you (true revival), chs. 7–13

- Priority of corporate worship and fellowship
- Love of God's Word and eagerness to obey
- Repentance
- Separation from world
- Covenanting promises to God

### 1. We are each \_\_\_\_\_ called by God to His work

- Some expected, some sacrificed dearly, some volunteered

### 2. God is interested in \_\_\_\_\_ over fame

- 1 Peter 4:10, Hebrews 6:10

## Reflections, discussion questions, application:

- Are you grateful and thriving where God has placed you?
- Where might you be willing to volunteer? <[tinyurl.com/jec-needs](http://tinyurl.com/jec-needs)>
- Who speaks life into you? Who do you speak life into?
- How can you more fruitfully bless Journey and/or your fellowship?

## Journey's Servant Leaders:

### Deacons

Allie Wong  
 Anne Chou  
 Dave McLendon  
 Joshua Cain  
 Pat Leung  
 Paulah Wong  
 Teresa Jue  
 Wesley Lin

### Elders

Cliff Char—Young Adults, Worship Music  
 Devin Wong—GO Team, Website  
 Hiro Kono—Congregation Dev., Pastoral Care, Women  
 Peter Leung—Children, Welcome  
 Phil Jen Kin—Facilities, Chinese, Security, Personnel  
 Rick Chou—Nominations, Multimedia, Small Groups  
 Ron Jue—Growth & Legacy, Deacons Liaison, CLT Chair  
 Victor Wong—Campus, Finance, Hospitality, SERVE, Vietnamese

### Staff

Ted Kau—Senior Pastor  
 Paul Eng—Chinese Pastor  
 Roger Yee—Business Administrator  
 Ewin Grace—Small Group Development Pastor  
 Christian Lissner—Asst. Minister (Youth, Worship)