

"That's Just Not Fair!"

by Cliff Char, elder overseeing YAs and Music

"That's not fair! Someone has more money than me! Someone has more talent than me! Someone has a better life than me!" How many times have we heard this? But is life supposed to be fair? The Bible does address the unfairness of life. In Ecclesiastes, Solomon observes: *"I have seen something else under the sun: The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all"* (Ecclesiastes 9:11). (Just to be on the same page, "Fair" is defined by the Oxford dictionary as impartial and just treatment without favoritism or discrimination.)

This is not to be confused with equality or sameness. We are all different with different situations. If we considered sameness as a measure of fairness we would have situations like: I have brown eyes, which is unfair to those with blue eyes. Or the fact that I am short and unathletic is unfair because I cannot be an NBA star. Or that I die an early unexpected death because of bad genes vs. someone who lives a long life? We are all different because God has made us different, and has given us gifts that are unique to us. *"Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'"* (Romans 9:20, NIV). Our responsibility is to use the gifts God has given and *"be content with what we have"* (Hebrews 13:5, NIV).

In life, we are treated unfairly. We have people who treat us with unjust bias, with discrimination. This all stems from the original sin that has propagated throughout time and is present in all of us. Unfortunately, people will continue to suffer, some people will prosper, some people may live a challenging life because of unfair treatment by others. We, as Christians should treat all fairly and especially those who are disadvantaged. God commands us to treat others fairly Proverbs 21:3— *"To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."* However, even if we as believers were to treat each other fairly, there are many non believers who will not heed these words.

For eternity, eternal life will be fair. God is just and fair. Revelations 15:3 states *And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and amazing are Your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations!"*

This world we live in has been distorted by sin, and it is an impossibility to expect fairness in life. But as we pass into eternal life, we will then understand that the story is not over, and continues to where all the faults of our lives will be righted, and truth and justice and fairness prevails.

In Psalm 73, Asaph laments that life has been so unfair to him where despite keeping his heart pure, every morning brings new punishments. But he was given a different perspective when he entered the sanctuary of God and saw all those who treated him unjustly were suddenly cast down in ruin. Hang on to God's words for they are truth, live life with Jesus Christ in your heart and fairness will prevail!



Welcome to Journey!



A Covenant of Worship

Journey
EVANGELICAL CHURCH

14614 Magnolia Street, Westminster, CA 92683
JourneyEC.org

Order of Service

April 30th, 2023

Welcome & Call To WorshipDevin
 Worship.....Kyle & Congregation
 Sermon**A Covenant of Worship**..... Ewin
 Song of ResponseKyle & Congregation
 BenedictionChristian

Ways to get involved at Journey:

Thank you to all who helped make yesterday's Women's Spring Luncheon such a wonderful time of fellowship!

Today: Basketball Ministry (12-2pm, MPR). Talk to Wes or email him wesleylin91@gmail.com for details.

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

5/18: Women's Ministry Bible Study (6:45-8:30pm, online). We will begin 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@journeyc.org for details.

Email **announcements** or **photos** to bulletin@journeyc.org by Sunday, 6pm.

Want this bulletin emailed to you? Email the same address above to request.

Tithes & Offerings. Help grow Journey's ministry:

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



Praise God for a meaningful Resurrection Day celebration!

A Covenant of Worship

Nehemiah 10 • Ewin Grace

Context: "Because of all this we make a firm covenant in writing; on the sealed document are the names of our princes, our Levites, and our priests." Nehemiah 9:38

The people enter a specific, written commitment to live a life of worship

Starting with _____, 9:38–10:1-27

Setting godly _____, 10:35–37

Specifying concrete _____, 10:29–39

Sacrificing for the _____, 10:32–39

What is my response and commitment today?

- Will you commit in your heart and write down specific ways you will honor God?
- What priorities will you reorder, to put God and His purposes first in your life?
- What three concrete steps will you take to start putting God's Word into practice?
- Which of the resources and gifts God has entrusted to you, will you use for His church?
- I would like for a pastor to call or visit me.

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—Cong. Dev., Women, Pastoral Care
 Peter Leung—Children Ministry, 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 Ewin Grace—Small Group Development Pastor
 Paul Eng—Chinese Pastor Christian Lissner—Asst. Minister (Youth, Music)
 Roger Yee—Business Administrator