



Life Point Church International  
Sermon Journal 2022

**Ephesians 4:4-6**

*“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.”*

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*God's Grace to become...ONE!*

- - Monthly Theme and Direction - -

January Ephesians 4:4a  
**ONE BODY** – The Fierceness of the Church.

January 2<sup>nd</sup> Series Launch.

January 9<sup>th</sup> Rattling Chains.

January 16<sup>th</sup> Growth in Changing Times.

January 23<sup>rd</sup> The Center for Miracles.

January 30<sup>th</sup> One Body Complete.

February Ephesians 4:4b  
**ONE Spirit** – Linked Together.

February 6<sup>th</sup> Walking and Thinking.

February 13<sup>th</sup> Alive and Resurrected.

February 20<sup>th</sup> Adopted In.

February 27<sup>th</sup> The Praying Christ.

March

Ephesians 4:4c

ONE Hope of Calling – The Greatest Yodel.

March 6<sup>th</sup> Hearing the Call.

March 13<sup>th</sup> Releasing to the Call.

March 20<sup>th</sup> Being Active in the Call.

March 27<sup>th</sup> Provision in the Call.

April

Ephesians 4:5a

ONE Lord – Jesus My Jesus: Jesus' Choosing.

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Zacchaeus.

April 10<sup>th</sup> Criminal #2.

April 17<sup>th</sup> Thomas. Easter Sunday.

April 24<sup>th</sup> Nathanael.

May

Ephesians 4:5a

ONE Lord – Jesus My Jesus: King of Purest Emotion.

May 1<sup>st</sup> Emotional Compassion, Pt. 1

May 8<sup>th</sup> Emotional Compassion, Pt. 2

May 15<sup>th</sup> The Purest Anger.

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Longing.

May 29<sup>th</sup> Joy.

June

Ephesians 4:5a

ONE Lord – Jesus My Jesus: Our Placement of Jesus.

June 5<sup>th</sup>

Lord Over Our Disappointments.

June 12<sup>th</sup>

Lord Over Our Wants.

June 19<sup>th</sup>

Lord Over the Frustrations of Our Home -Father's Day.

June 26<sup>th</sup>

Lord Over Our Workplace.

July

Ephesians 4:5a

ONE Lord – Jesus My Jesus: Soon Coming Attraction.

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

Is Jesus Really Coming Back?

July 10<sup>th</sup>

The Signs of the Times.

July 17<sup>th</sup>

A One World System.

July 24<sup>th</sup>

Living Prepared.

July 31<sup>st</sup>

Our Involvement in His Return.

August

Ephesians 4:5b

ONE Faith – The Measure of Faith.

August 7<sup>th</sup>

Faith to Please God.

August 14<sup>th</sup>

Faith in Development.

August 21<sup>st</sup>

Faith in BODY Benefit, Pt. 1

August 28<sup>th</sup>

Faith in BODY Benefit, Pt. 2

September

Ephesians 4:5c

ONE Baptism – Dying to Live.

September 4<sup>th</sup>

CHURCH PICNIC

September 11<sup>th</sup>

Our Public Association.

September 18<sup>th</sup>

Our New Wardrobe, Pt. 1

September 25<sup>th</sup>

Our New Wardrobe, Pt. 2

October

Ephesians 4:6

ONE God and Father – The Perfect Balance.

October 2<sup>nd</sup>

The Glory of God.

October 9<sup>th</sup>

The Ways of God.

October 16<sup>th</sup>

The Desire of God.

October 23<sup>rd</sup>

The Richness of God.

October 30<sup>th</sup>

Our Adoption.

November

Ephesians 4:6

ONE God and Father – The Perfect Balance.

November 6<sup>th</sup> Desiring to do His Will.

November 13<sup>th</sup> Changing Our Purpose.

November 20<sup>th</sup> Approaching in Boldness.

November 27<sup>th</sup> Hearing the Father.

December

Ephesians 4:7

Grace According to Christ's Gift.

December 4<sup>th</sup> Different Gifts, Same Giver,  
Part 1

December 11<sup>th</sup> Different Gifts, Same Giver,  
Part 2

December 18<sup>th</sup> Different Gifts, Same Giver,  
Part 3

December 25<sup>th</sup> Different Gifts, Same Giver,  
Part 4 – Christmas Day!

“Those who LEAVE

EVERYTHING in God’s HAND

will eventually SEE

God’s HAND in

Everything...”

On to the next chapter:





## Monthly Message Direction:

January 2<sup>nd</sup>

Series Launch

January 9<sup>th</sup>

Rattling Chains

January 16<sup>th</sup>

Growth in Changing Times

January 23<sup>rd</sup>

The Center for Miracles

January 30<sup>th</sup>

One Body Complete



Date: January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti

Title: Series Launch



Text: Ephesians 4:3-7, 15b-16

*“When we move from adding Jesus to our life, to making our life about Jesus, we develop wholeness.”*

If He *only* becomes an addition, we will always strive to make sense of our life. But when life is all about Christ, we live through the experience of Jesus. Galatians 2:20

**1 – We are to grow up in all aspects into Christ who is the control of our life. Verse 15b**

- The command is given: *we are* to grow up in *all aspects*.

The growth that we are to possess for the completeness and wholeness of our life is not separate from the *oneness* that we experience through Christ and through the Body of Christ.

**2 – As individuals we have a specific fitting-together-aspect that magnifies wholeness.**

**Verse 16a**

- There is an effective and affective aspect of each individual Believer when together with the Body.

**Effective:** in that we produce **support, health,** and especially **magnify** the Presence of Jesus in the needs of the congregation.

**Affective:** in that our very emotions and life become deeply and undeniably **touched** by the Presence and **satisfaction** of Jesus in the midst of the congregation.

**3 – As we recognize the part we play in the oneness of our walk, we experience growth and completion of love, which in it possesses all assurance.** **Verse 16b**

- The more love we possess in our walk with Christ, the more our lives become completely full.

In his book, *The 5 Love Languages*, Gary Chapman theorizes that for a spouse to experience complete fulness out of relationship, their specific love tank must be filled by the other spouse.

1. Words of affirmation; 2. Quality time; 3. Receiving gifts;
4. Acts of service; and 5. Physical touch.

If these bring stability in emotion and experience with a spouse, how much more when we experience the fulness of the Love of Christ expressed out of a multitude of different people as they individually give themselves to Christ.



1 – We must change our thinking and dwell on the fact that Christ desires to, in redemption, give us the freest experience in emotions in whatever we face. And that comes through our experience of oneness through the manifestations in and through the Body of Christ.

Date: January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Rattling Chains!

Text: Ephesians 4:3-7, Acts 4:1-4, 13

## **The Fierceness of the Church Outwardly.**

*“We, as the Church are called to rattle the chains of society, to disagree with the prevalence of sin. and to evidently offer hope in Jesus alone. Those that do not rattle the chains of society do not do so for their very own chains are being rattled.”*

**1 – We must be determined to recognize in the midst of opposition, that the opposition is not the highlight of what is happening in the situation.** **Verse 3**

- So often we see verse 3 as the truth of our situation, when the truth is actually verse 4.

We must highlight what God is doing rather than place the focus on what man is attempting to do.

What is God doing?

**2 – The nature of the Church will always disrupt that which is in darkness.** **Verse 2**

- “...being greatly disturbed...”

Light always functions in 2 ways.

**1. It dispels darkness.**

- Are we dispelling deeds of darkness which are trying to take hold over our life?

## **2. It attracts to itself.**

- Are we desiring and acting on that desire to place Jesus in the priority of our life. Beginning with the time we spend with Him?

Verse 2a is one portion of the action of light.

Verse 4 is the other aspect of the action of light.

To which aspect do we place our hope, trust, and encouragement?

- If we look continually towards the frustration and disruption of what our Light causes, we will be overcome by the same.
- But when we look towards the benefit of the Light, we are empowered. Verse 8a

## **3 – As we live determined, the confidence of Christ overshadows our every lack in this life.**

**Verse 13**

- Our confidence of rattling chains for Christ, associates us as people who belong to Him.

Our association with Jesus is the template for happiness and power despite the gloominess of this life.

- Verses 32-34 are in the context of being warned to no longer speak about Jesus.

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**WHAT NEXT?**

1- You cannot rattle any chains in there is not the discipline to seek God as the priority of your life. Make the time, in the morning this week, to call upon God for strength for your day!

Date: January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Growth in Changing Times!

Text: Ephesians 4:3-7, Acts 8:1-3; 9:31

## **The Fierceness of the Church Outwardly.**

*“Even though the Church was forced to scatter, the scattering did not disrupt Gods plans. It may disrupt our plans. But for God, it only extends His plans.”*

Acts 8:1a – One event initiated a terrible season of persecution for the Church. Their stability of societal life shifted overnight.

Acts 9:1-30 – During these terrible transitions, we must pray for the salvation of those who are actively against the Church. God will do it.

*“Salvation will make our enemies become our greatest advocates.”*

**1 – Only through the connection of “One Body” can we enjoy peace, growth, comfort, and Presence. Verse 31a**

- *“So the Church.”*
- It was the connection of the Church that enjoyed the best of what people were searching for.

Peace – To handle the situations life.

Growth – Actually advancing considering the world system.

Fear of the Lord – God’s Presence was daily active.

Comfort of the Holy Spirit – His grace made sense of each trying situation.

**2 – It is through the *Oneness* of the body of Christ that we are overshadowed with the awe of God and the personal and active Presence of the Holy Spirit.** **Verse 31c**

- They were “*going on in.*”
- The Church provided the institution of endurance.

The fear of the Lord and Comfort of the Holy Spirit were avenues of movement for the progression of the Church.

If we *are* the Church, we are in line with the movement of His Presence. His presence will move us and provide for us as long as we remain in His vessel.

- The Church is the E.A.C.
- EAC Illustration.

**3 – Through *One Body* we are destined for increase.** **Verse 31d**

- Have we become deeper.



We must make Church relationship key in the progression of our life. Without it we struggle. Reach out to the body this week just to be together.

Date: January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Growth in Changing  
Times!

## ILLUSTRATION.

The EAC East Australian Current.

The EAC also acts to transport tropical marine fauna and marine life to habitats in sub-tropical regions along the south east Australian coast. The current also warms up the eastern coastline of the country

The EAC transfers heat from the tropics to the mid-latitude water and atmosphere. It does this by producing warm core eddies, which allow the Tasman Sea to have a large biodiversity.

The EAC causes upwelling along the coastline. The eddies produced cause an increase in vertical mixing within the Tasman Sea. The process of producing, moving, and destroying eddies causes the thermocline layer to mix with the surface layer, bringing some nutrients up to the surface.

Eddies are not the only way the EAC brings nutrients to the surface. Features along the coast push the current further offshore. If there is a strong northerly wind, it will push the current even further offshore, allowing deep water to rise up the coast, bringing nutrients up to the surface.

Date: January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: The Center for Miracles!

Text: Ephesians 4:3-7, Acts 19:11, 18-20

## **The Fierceness of the Church Inwardly.**

4.66 Billion people are connected to the internet.

2.89 Billion people are connected monthly to Facebook.

33% of adults worldwide are lonely.

The loneliness of the world is evident in their connection to the *wrong* thing!

**1 – Extraordinary miracles in verse 11 and growth of the Word in might and its prevailing nature in verse 20 all happened as the Church kept coming. Verse 18a**

- The connection within the Church fostered an atmosphere of expectation and of exercised faith.

**Expectation** in regards to:

1. Change of behavior – Inward sin was convicted; and conviction was eagerly received.
2. Reception of the supernatural – The Church was anticipating God moving in their midst the more they gathered.

**Exercised Faith** in regards to:

1. Total community transparency.
2. Public displays of faith – Expressions of faith became vivid and visible through the life of Believers.



**2 – The nature of our participation allows for our experience of freedom to become evident towards our inwardly binding vices.**

**Verse 18b**

- Their continual *coming* brought about conviction.

Conviction seems to be the primary reason many people stay away from coming together.

- Yet, conviction is the backbone of the church. We are convicted because the Spirit of Jesus is actively working in our midst.

*“Responding to conviction is the bridge across which we walk from natural display to supernatural experience.”*

We must respond to conviction.

**3 – Our transparency in behavior connects us to the power of *oneness* in the Body. Verse 18c**

*“As we eagerly and expectantly anticipate the power of Jesus manifested inwardly through the Church, we see that we become a part of that very manifestation.”*

- 1 Corinthians 12:7

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**WHAT NEXT?**

Corporate Church connection is the way for the breakthrough in your life. Make it a strong point to meet with the Body of Jesus and confess sin and receive the power that God has for you.

Date: January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: One Body Complete!

Text: Ephesians 4:3-7, 1 Corinthians 12:21-31

## **The Fierceness of the Church Inwardly!**

*“We so often believe the lie that we are alone. That couldn’t be farther from the truth. We are so connected to Christ that He is in us and expresses His touch through the Body of Christ. We never have to live a lonely experience on our own.”*

### **1 – As we share experience, we impart our gifting.**

**Verse 26**

- Our gifting becomes evident when we move out to help the body.

It is not about knowing what part you play first. It is about the connectivity that shows the part that you play.

### **2 – We are individually the Body of Christ which is for the benefit of completeness in our life.**

**Verse 27-28**

- What God has established in the Church is that our every emptiness finds its fulfillment because God has equipped the members of the church for this reason.

To experience this level of fulfillment, we must get to the place of vulnerability.

- Vulnerable to say before God that we are desperately in need.
- Vulnerable to say before the Body of Christ that we are desperately in need.

We are so often too consumed with our own sense of dependence that we will not yield to Christ and to those He has placed in our paths.

**3 – We must not believe that the weakness we possess is a limitation. Verses 22-23**

- Weakness before Christ is never a limitation.

Our weakness should allow us to see how much we need the work of Jesus in our life.

Once we realize our desperate need for Jesus in the weakness of our life, His power is perfected in the midst of that weakness. 2 Corinthians 12:9

**4 – Our life is never measured by the gifting we have been given. Verses 29-31**

- Paul makes it very clear that not each person has the same gifting from God.

Yet, the standard for our life is our desire for the greater gifts. Verse 4-6

- We must realize that desiring greater gifting is not about desiring specifics.
- It is about desiring the gift Giver.

It is about desiring to have Jesus fill every aspect of our lives. Brokenness and all.



1 – Allow the vulnerability that you are trying to suppress, come out and find strength through the Body of Jesus. Talk to someone right now about what you are going through and receive the prayer to be healed.



## Monthly Message Direction:

February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Walking and Thinking
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	Alive and Resurrected
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Adopted In
February 27 <sup>th</sup>	The Praying Christ

Date: February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Walking and Thinking!

Text: Ephesians 4:4b, Romans 8:1-7

*“We have been given UNITY with the Spirit of Christ. O the power. O the magnitude of display when we realize that we are His and He is ours. Not just in person, but in possession, power, and purpose.”*

## **1 – We bypass condemnation and judgment because of our walking in the Spirit.**

**Verse 4**

What does it mean to *walk in the Spirit*?

Galatians 5:16-25

It must encompass our:

1. Desire,
2. Deeds, and a
3. Character renewal.

### **Desire**

**Galatians 5:16-17**

- We must challenge our desire and feed that which is truth.
- We may ask, “*How do I desire something that I have no desire for?*”
- This comes by spending time with the truth.

FBI anti-counterfeit program 1917. (Illustration)

- The FBI held a 6 week intensive course to study the problem of counterfeit money.
- Pieces of counterfeit money handled by those FBI agents in 6 weeks: 0

*“Those agents never saw one piece of counterfeit money. These six weeks of study were for intensive training to know every grain, every thread, every picture, every number that was inherent in an authentic printed bill. In this way, they would recognize good money immediately. The FBI knew that if these trainees were absolutely acquainted with the genuine article, they could immediately detect the unauthentic one.”*

– **They Called Me Mama, pg. 44, Margaret Nicholl Laird**

We must spend time with the authentic. Once we do, we desire what is real as opposed to that which is counterfeit.

### **Deeds**

### **Galatians 5:19-21**

- Paul is not just listing “*wrong deeds*” but he is implying the action of participating in these deeds.
- Therefore to walk in the spirit is to participate in the deeds which bring life.

The more we study the authentic, the more we will participate in the deeds which bring life.

### **Character Renewal**

### **Galatians 5:22-23**

- The fruit of the Spirit comes automatically as we change our desires and deeds.
- They are benefits to our life, not just convictions.

**2 – Our connectivity to “One Spirit” has to do with the affection of our mind. Verses 5-7**

- As we allow our mind to become softened by every pressing move of God’s Spirit, we

find that we are connected to the Spirit of God.

- Connection to the Spirit of God, is the connection of life and peace (vs.6b) in attitudes and actions that flow from and through us.
- The mind set on the flesh is *hostile towards God*. Therefore, the mind set on the Spirit is friendship with God.

## **Friendship with God.**

**John 15:15-16**

*“Jesus’ friends are those to whom He has opened up His deepest purposes. Jesus says that He does not channel over to His disciples some of what the Father has told Him; He tells them everything.”*

– Gentle and Lowly pg. 117; Dane Ortlund

Setting the affection of our mind is all about subjecting our lives to the law of God. Vs. 7

- We must subject ourselves to that which we know our Spirit is yearning for.

We must Reboot. Reprogram. Delete all cookies. Restart with a new browser. And we find that all our suggestions will begin to change.



Subject yourself to God and His ways. Go against all the flesh which is screaming loud in your heart. All the voices which are telling you how foolish it is. SPEND TIME WITH GOD! Let Him change you and link you to One Spirit with Him through your walking and thinking. Newness over you this week in Jesus’ Name!

Date: February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Alive and Resurrected!

Text: Ephesians 4:4b, Romans 8:10-11

*“The One who calls you to a life of righteousness is the One who by our consent lives that life of righteousness through you.”* Major Ian Thomas

What benefit is there to having a Spirit that is alive because of righteousness?

## **1 – Being *One Spirit* imparts the power of righteousness. Verse 10**

- *If Christ is in you!!!*
- We are not only righteous and accepted by the righteousness of Jesus, but we are deeply affected by the power that righteousness produces.

This is the primary attack on Christianity. It has to do with the world's struggle for power and the fact that what is *in us is far greater than that which is in the world* (1 John 4:4).

### **The power of righteousness produces:**

1 – It delivers from the onslaught of temptation and the desire for it.

- Lot – 2 Peter 2:7-9

2 – God testifies about our gifts/sacrifice.

- Abel – Hebrews 11:4



- *The testifying of God towards us is His boast of His power in us!*

3 – It prepares the right message at the right time. It is our expectation of Christ and His expectation that we rely on His timeliness.

- Cornelius – Acts 10:22

4 – God redeems and grants the desires of our heart.

- Zacharias & Elizabeth – Luke 1:5-19

5 – God reveals the secrets of the times.

- Simeon – Luke 2:25-26
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**2 – Being *One in Spirit* allows for the Spirit of God in resurrection to manifest in our mortal bodies.** **Verse 11**

- We would be foolish to think that our Christianity *only* affects our spirit. It affects our bodies as well.

The Spirit of God working within our spirit brings a balance to our lives which is only activated because of His righteousness. 3 John 1:2

ILLUSTRATION: Dr. Carl Peterson MD

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In light of what we know about the righteousness of Jesus, we should spend 1 hour this week only in worship and thankful praise to God. During which, we also receive His touch and our healing!

Date: February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti

Title: Alive and Resurrected!



## ILLUSTRATION

### **“The Physical Benefit of Speaking in Tongues”**

God has made provision for you and I to be whole, to be well and to have access to His healing process. There is a study that has been done by Dr. Carl Peterson, M.D. This Study revealed that there is an available healing power that can be released from our own bodies for our own benefit. Dr. Carl Peterson, M.D. worked on this study at ORU in Tulsa, Oklahoma a few years ago.

Being a brain specialist he was doing research on what the relationship was between the brain and praying or speaking in tongues. Some amazing things were discovered. Through research and testing he found out that as we pray in the Spirit, or worship in the Spirit, (our heavenly language) there is activity that begins to take place in our brain.

As we engage in our heavenly language the brain releases 2 chemical secretions that are directed into our immune systems giving a 35 to 40 percent boost to the immune system. This promotes healing within our bodies. Amazingly this secretion is triggered from a part of the brain that has no other apparent activity in humans and is only activated by our Spirit led prayer and worship.

As we exercise our life in the “Spirit” by speaking in our heavenly language that He has put within us, we are touching the supernatural power of God and we are letting Him restore part of what was lost.

Now science has proved the process and you and I can turn this healing process on by our relationship with our Heavenly Father. Just one more great reason to be filled with the Holy Spirit and commune with the Father in your “Heavenly Language.” According to the Holy Spirit, speaking through the apostle Paul: “**He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself**” (1 Corinthians 14:4). We always thought of the edification as only spiritual edification, which is great and always needed, but Christian psychiatrist Carl R. Peterson, M.D. describes physical edification also! Isn’t God amazing?

As a matter of reference, Dr. Peterson is highly respected, as a psychiatrist and as a Christian.

**This excerpt is extracted in verbatim:**

**The Physical Benefit of Speaking in Tongues  
EFFECTS OF EXTENDED VERBAL  
PRAYER**

I have had a number of inquiries concerning the efficacy of praying in the spirit (speaking in tongues) and its benefit to the human immune system, i.e., immunity enhanced by chemicals released from a part of the brain.

This is information that may be deduced from what we know about the way the brain functions.

We do know the part of the brain affected most noticeably by extended prayer represents a significant portion of the brain and its metabolic activity.

Therefore, voluntary speech during extended vocal prayer causes a major stimulation in these parts of the brain (mainly the hypothalamus).

The hypothalamus has direct regulation of four major systems of the body, mainly:

- a) the pituitary gland and all target endocrine glands;
- b) the total immune system;
- c) the entire autonomic system; and
- d) the production of brain hormones called endorphins and enkephalins, which are chemicals the body produces and are 1200 times more powerful than morphine.

In summary, a very significant percentage of the central nervous system is directly and indirectly activated in the process of extended verbal and musical prayer over a period of time.

This results in a significant release of brain hormones which, in turn, increases the body's general immunity. It is further enhanced through joyful laughter with increased respiration and oxygen intake to the brain, diaphragm and other muscles.

We know from the Word of God that there is a true joy that builds and sustains. Nehemiah tells us the *joy of the Lord is our strength*. There is joy in the presence of Jehovah. We, as believers having entered into that wonderful presence of our Lord, know this to be true.

What we must continue to remember is that the joy of the Lord spoken of in the Word is so much more than any manifestation. We can truly have that unspeakable joy in the face of any trials we may encounter, if our joy is grounded in a knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Truly, we all benefit — body, soul, and spirit — from obedience and yielding to the Spirit of God in every area of our lives.

Carl R. Peterson, M.D.”

Date: February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Adopted In!

Text: Ephesians 4:4b, Romans 8:14-17

*“We are people who have received a new name through adoption. Furthermore, the adoption, no matter how much it makes us feel good, was not intended primarily for that purpose. In the New Testament, adoptions brought glory to the person who adopts, not the one who is adopted. Adoption brings glory to God.” -Edward Welch*

**1 – Allowing to be led by the Spirit denotes Sonship. Verse 14**

➤ Sonship always implies inheritance.

Adoption in the NT does not mean what it typically means today, the taking of a child into a family to be a legal member of the family. The literal meaning of the Greek word is “**son-placing**” —the taking of a minor (whether in the family or outside) and making him or her the rightful heir.

**In this inheritance, we are:**

**1. Bound to His Name.**

The name of the Lord becomes our strength and source of protection. (Proverbs 18:10)

**2. Receive His authority.**

Power to live fully. (Ephesians 1:18-23)

**3. Receive His purpose.**

Jeremiah 29:11; Proverbs 19:21; Mark 11:24; Ephesians 5:15-16

#### **4. Possess what belongs to Him.**

Hebrews 1:2; John 17:22; Galatians 4:7;  
Romans 8:17

#### **5. Ultimately enter into His dwelling, eternal life.**

John 14:3

*“Not merely subjects to their King, or servants to their Master, but as Children to their Father. – Benson Commentary*

### **2 – As we cry *Abba Father* we invoke the passion of God who is hinged on hearing our cry. Verse 15**

In this, Paul is using the Syro-Chaldaic and Greek words for father.

- *Abba* – Syro-Chaldaic
- *Pater* – Greek

Paul’s use of a double emphasis in two languages denoted the adoption of both Hebrew and Gentile.

- John 1:12
- Philippians 2:15
- 1 John 3:1-2

We are adopted no matter the area of life in which we struggle. All we must do is live a life of acceptance to God’s desire to adopt us.



5 Minutes a day (Mon-Fri)! Spend five minutes each morning thanking God for your adoption. Each day dwelling on one of the aspects of inheritance.

Date: February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: The Praying Christ!

Text: Ephesians 4:4b, Romans 8:26-28;  
Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1

If there is power in our prayers, what can we then say about the prayers of Jesus on our behalf?

**1 – Jesus is our advocate. 1 John 2:1**

- *Advocate* is the Greek word *Parakletos* and is used 5x in the N.T. 4xs it refers to the work of the Holy Spirit. In 1 John it is in reference to the work of Jesus.

*“The idea is that of someone who appears on behalf of another because of an invested interest.”*

His advocacy is not only because He desires to fight on our behalf, it is that Jesus shares with us in our actual experience. He feels what we feel.

The advocacy of Jesus is for *anyone!*

- The only qualification needed is desire.
- And it is not waiting for future redemption from our current trial.

The text does not say *we will have an advocate*; it says, *we have an advocate*.

Satan must be speechless after a plea of our advocate.



*“We are called to mature into deeper levels of personal holiness as we walk with the Lord, truer consecration, new vistas of obedience. But when we don’t – when we choose to sin – though we forsake our true identity, our Savior does not forsake us. These are the moments when His heart erupts on our behalf in renewed advocacy in heaven with a resounding defense that silences all accusations, astonishes the angels, and celebrates the Father’s embrace of us in spite of all our messiness.”*

*-Dane Ortlund*

## **2 – Jesus is our Intercessor. Hebrews 7:25**

The Spirit knows how to help our weakness – our sin.  
Romans 8:26a

Our words can never justify our sin, therefore the Spirit does, not with words but groans.

Romans 8:26b

- Give up the natural inclination to justify.

Because we are hidden with Christ through the Spirit, the Spirit brings our case continually before Christ who shows the devil the blood that was paid for that very sin.

- The praying of Jesus for us, is so we can endure and break in this life the stronghold and the consequence that sin in our earthly bodies continually produce.

John Bunyan (1628-1688) – The Works of Jesus Christ as an Advocate.



We need desperately to sit and contemplate the incredible tribunal that is displayed on our behalf continually through Jesus Christ. We have nothing to fear! The trial is on. Jesus has already won. He is praying for you!

Date: February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



ILLUSTRATION!

John Bunyan (1628-1688) – The Works of Jesus Christ as an Advocate.

“Christ gave for us the price of blood; but that is not all; Christ as a Captain has conquered death and the grave for us; but that is not all; Christ as Priest inter cedes for us in heaven; but that is not all. Sin is still in us, and with us, and mixes itself with whatever we do, whether what we do be religious or civil; for not only our prayer and our sermons, our hearings and preaching; but our houses, our shops, our trades, and our beds, are all polluted with sin.

Nor does the devil, our night and day adversary, forbear to tell our bad deeds to our Father, urging that we might forever be disinherited for this.

But what should we now do, if we had not an Advocate; yes, if we had not one who would plead; yes, if we had not one that could prevail, and that would faithfully execute that office for us? Why, we must die.

But since we are rescued by him, let us, as to ourselves, lay our hand upon our mouth, and be silent.”

“Do not minimize your sin or excuse it away. Raise no defense. Simply take it to the one who is already at the right hand of the Father, advocating for you on the basis of His own wounds. Let your own unrighteousness, in all your darkness and despair, drive you to Jesus Christ, the righteous, in all his brightness and sufficiency.”

- Dane Ortlund



## Monthly Message Direction:

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| March 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Hearing the Call         |
| March 13 <sup>th</sup> | Releasing to the Call    |
| March 20 <sup>th</sup> | Being Active in the Call |
| March 27 <sup>th</sup> | Provision in the Call    |

Date: March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Hearing the Call!

Opening Illustration:

## **THE GREATEST YODEL**

The purpose of the yodel was, in the Central Alps, to be used by herders calling their stock or to communicate between Alpine Villages.

It was a mighty echo to be heard across mountain ranges.

**Play Recording of an Alpine Yodel...**  
**Amande' Perrig**

Date: March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Hearing the Call!

Text: Ephesians 4:4c, John 10:27-30

*“Only through our calling, do we celebrate hope.”*

We are called by Christ to live for Him.

➤ The sheep live for the shepherd.

**Psalm 23 is about the:**

1. Will of the Shepherd.
2. The benefit for the Sheep.

<b><u>His Will</u></b>	<b>vss. 1-3</b>	<b><u>My Benefit</u></b>
He makes.		Green pastures.
He leads.		Quiet waters.
He restores.		Inner life.
He guides.		Paths of righteousness.
<b>Vss. 4-5</b>		
You are with.		No fear.
Your rod/staff comfort.		Comfort.
You prepare.		Protection/provision.
You anoint.		Healing/abundance.
<b>Vs. 6</b>		
House of the Lord.		My reward.

**1 – We must intently listen to His voice.**

**Verse 27a**

**Listening always entails following.**

- We cannot listen to hear His voice if we are not following. The more we follow, the more we are able to clearly hear His voice.

## **Following entails being led.**

- This is where we give up our own direction to be led to His greater purpose.

## **Being led entails living life according to His purpose.**

- It is being called out from where and what we are in, to a higher purpose and call.

How do we hear His calling? (See Insert)

## **2 – In this calling, we benefit from Christ’s authority. Verse 28**

- Notice that Jesus is declaring this in the midst of those against Him.

### **Our benefit:**

1. Eternal Life.
2. No loss. Anything that we lose in this world is not a loss. Whatever we lose here, is always to our greater gain in the life we were actually created to live – eternity.
3. Divine protection. We become untouchable to the enemy of our soul.

## **We are One in the Hope of our Calling!**

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Take the insert and spend some devotional time on Monday morning. Ask God to reveal to you exactly what you are to do next using the insert as a guide. Pray. Step out in the newness of your calling!

Date: March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## How to Hear the Call

- 1 – Look and evaluate your desire for Jesus.**
- 2 – Look at the needs of those immediately around you?**
- 3 – Pray for those needs, asking Jesus to use you through His calling, for their calling.**
- 4 – Act out in and through faith to present to them what Jesus would present to them.**
- 5 – Your calling becomes all the clearer.**

**Romans 1:6**

“Among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ.”

**Romans 8:28**

“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.”

**2 Corinthians 5:17-20**

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”

**Colossians 3:17**

“Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.”



Date: March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Releasing to the Call!

Text: Ephesians 4:4c, Judges 6:11-22

*“We are called by Christ to live life: **for** / **through** / **by** / **with** / **and** **only** for Him.”*

- Hesitations we may have in response to His call:**
- 1. Why are we going through this difficulty? – Verse 13a**
    - If God is with us, then why?
  - 2. Can God really do what we heard He did? – Verse 13b**
    - This is where heard experience must become personal experience.
  - 3. God has abandoned me! – Verse 13c**
    - God did it for others *except* for me.
  - 4. I don’t know how to? – Verse 15a**
    - Clearly God must intend to use anyone else except me...
  - 5. I am in a weak family. Everyone else’s experience in life is better than mine. – Verse 15b**
    - Depression here must be generational.
  - 6. I am insignificant. – Verse 15c**

---

Hesitation must give way to submission.  
Submission to His call yields progression.

## **1 – Our hesitation blocks us from seeing and hearing God actively moving in our midst.**

### **Verses 11a, 12a, 14a**

- Gideon was extremely hesitant before God because of his situation. Yet, his situation was not in the way of God communicating with him.

Our difficult situation does not equate to difficulty of experience with God and accomplishment through God. Yet, this is what we decide.

- A. *My situation is hard therefore God is not with me.*
- B. *My situation is hard therefore God can do nothing in my life.*

*“Not only is the presence of God active in the midst of our current situation; He is calling us to do something while going through it.”*

## **2 – We receive strength in our calling by our active response to the call.**

### **Verse 14**

- *“Go in this your strength...”* Not strength in Gideon...Gideon made it clear he had none.
- This is strength that comes because God has called us.

## **3 – His presence is what we must be after.**

### **Verse 16**

- *“Surely, I will be with you.”* This is the response given by God after each hesitation.
- WE ARE NOT TO DO THIS LIFE ALONE

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## **WHAT NEXT?**

We must allow the Holy Spirit to convict us this week. Set apart some time, and settle the fact that God is calling for you.

Date: March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Being Active in the Call!

Text: Ephesians 4:4c, Judges 6:34-35; 7:1-13

*“Countless icebergs float in the frigid waters around Greenland. Some are tiny; others tower skyward. At times the small ones move in one direction while their gigantic counterparts go in another. The small ones are subject to surface winds, but the huge ice masses are carried along by deep ocean currents.”*

**1 – When we walk in the Spirit of the Lord, it does not mean that every situation becomes *our* ideal. Judges 6:34-35**

- Many followed Gideon. That was *ideal* for *him*.
- Gideon’s ideal was 32,000 men (7:3b)

Too often we confuse our ideal with God’s plan for our lives. When we do this, we are certain of:

1. Continuous episodes of fear...

Which lead to:

2. Continuous struggles with trusting God...

Which lead to:

3. Trying to squeeze God into human expectations...

Which lead to:

4. A continuous experience of feeling “let down.”

God’s ideal for Gideon’s situation was the removal of 31,700 men. 7:3-8

- God removed 99.06% of Gideon’s ideal.
- God only kept less than 1% of Gideon’s ideal which was only people with the

availability and belief that God could do what He had promised.

God's ideal is to bring us to the place where we can completely receive what He has in store for us as being *from Him, through Him, and to Him.*

➤ Romans 11:36; Judges 7:2

## **2 – The activity of our call is in our obedience before the experience of victory. Judges 7:8**

➤ Can we be obedient to God before we have the experience of victory in our life?

It is OK to not understand the complete plan. But we must still follow obediently.

What does this look like?

1. I will stay away from things that bring me pleasure but that mar the image of Christ in me.
2. I will continue to seek God for the benefit I am lacking even though my need becomes greater during the seeking process.

## **3 – God will always provide a voice of help through our fear of doing what He instructs us to do by faith. Judges 7:9-10**

- God will send us people to help us through like Purah.
- While we want signs of victory, God is sending us voices of encouragement.

*“It will be as He said it will be!”*

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**WHAT NEXT?**

Step out in obedience to God this week. Prove it with drastic measures. Increase time with God.

Date: March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Provision in the Call!

Text: Judges 7:16, 22; 8:23-24. 26-27

*“God’s provision for our life is according to His vision for our life.”*  
- Olagunju

## **1 – God will always provide victory when the purpose is for His calling. Judges 7:21-22**

- This was a true victory in that, those with Gideon only had to be obedient while God moved the situation for them.

A life yielded to the plan that God has for it produces victories in which:

1. God will confuse the work of the enemy over us. Verse 22
2. God will send us support. Verse 23  
When God brings victory, He surrounds us with those who will participate.
3. Opportunity will be revealed. Judges 8:22

Our goal must be THE LORD! Without Him at the forefront of what we do, we open our lives up to dangerous strongholds.

## **2 – Gideon confessed God’s authority with his mouth while his heart was subdued with profit. Judges 8:23-24**

- “...*the Lord shall rule over you...*”
- “*Yet...give me gold from the spoil...*”

*“God will provide provision for our every need when we are committed to His call. Yet, if we are consumed with the provision and not the Provider, we invite unwanted strongholds which continually ensnare us.”*

God brought the victory! Entirely with 300!

Yet Gideon became blindsided by:

- Personal offense, and by Judges 8:4-7
- Greed. Judges 8:26-27

**Personal Offense** – Gideon and his 300 were weary of pursuing, but not doing anything else.

- Do not grow weary of pursuing. When we become weary, we allow room to become offended.

**Greedy** – Gideon did not want to be *leader*, but he wanted to be every persons *go to man*! Judges 8:27

- False humility.
- Judges 8:31 – Abimelech – Father is King!

1700 shekels = 47.5 lbs = 760 oz = \$ 1, 495,953.60

- Not a leader to have to report to God.
- But a leader with an Ephod.

**3 – God’s provision outside of His calling becomes a snare.** **Judges 8:27**

- Life will begin to “cave in”.
- Deuteronomy 28:20: Curses, confusion, and rebuke in all we undertake to do.



Confess your heart for God and only Him. Spend some time in prayer asking for nothing else but Him. Sit at the feet of Jesus and just take Him in.



## Monthly Message Direction:

- |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| April 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Zaccheus!        |
| April 10 <sup>th</sup> | Criminal #2      |
| April 17 <sup>th</sup> | Easter – Thomas! |
| April 24 <sup>th</sup> | Nathanael!       |

Date: April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Zaccheus!

## Opening Illustration

Victor Lustig tried to sell the Eiffel Tower, twice!

The Eiffel Tower was constructed for the 1889 World's Fair, coinciding with the 100-year anniversary of the French Revolution.

At the time, it was the tallest structure built by humans and kept that title for 41 years (until the Chrysler Building in New York surpassed it). In 1925, when Victor Lustig was 35 years old, he learned how expensive the tower had become to maintain.

He subsequently came up with the idea to sell the Eiffel Tower to a scrap metal dealer.

Lustig presumably found the most gullible scrap metal dealer in France to give a quote and even managed to have a sizable bribe added in. He got away with it, too; the scrap metal dealer was so ashamed of being tricked that he didn't go to the police.

After the scam, Lustig moved to Vienna in a train with suitcases full of cash. He considered the fraud so successful that he moved back to Paris the next month to do it again with a different scrap metal dealer. Although he did not succeed a second time, he was still able to evade arrest.



In the United States, George C. Parker carried out a similar con around the same time when he sold the Brooklyn Bridge. Several times. “Buyers” attempted to set up toll booths, which had to be removed by police.

Date: April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Zaccheus!

Text: Ephesians 4:5a; Luke 19:1-10

*“Eiffel Tower and Brooklyn Bridge for sale...”*

Jesus chose Zaccheus a fraudster. Yet he saw something! Jesus chooses us with our deep heart deception. Yet He sees:

**1 – His/Our Influence.**

**Verse 2**

- Chief tax collector.

Not influence of high society but influence to the broken. (Luke 15:1)

We are ultimate channels of influence to our specific world.

**2 – His/Our desire to see Jesus.**

**Verse 3**

- There is something to be said about having a desire to see Jesus.
- John 12:20-26

The Greeks desired to see Jesus. Jesus responds by saying, *“If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me.”*

Our desire for Jesus will always be challenged by a conviction to go against the societal norm. We must hold on when this happens.

**3 – His/Our action upon his desire. Verse 4**

So often many of us have desire but not the action to allow that desire to develop.

Zaccheus could have desired to see Jesus, be met with difficulty in seeing Him, and went home without the experience.

Yet, action towards knowing Christ, uses the difficulty into the very device that Jesus converses with us through.

#### **4 – His/Our eager reception to the convicting presence of Jesus. Verse 6**

- Zaccheus could have asked, “*Why?*” Yet, he moved quickly and was glad that conviction was coming to his house.

We must be afraid when there is no conviction against the vices of sin in our life.

- 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

#### **5 – His/Our quick release to the former attachments that defined who he was. Verse 8**

- Zaccheus did a quick but powerful assessment of true value.
- Jesus became more important than possessions and people (poor) became more valuable than status.

#### **6 – His/Our willingness to make right, wrongs that had been committed. Verse 8b**

- Zaccheus was acting on a new principle of life. The ways of the world no longer had hold on him. He was free.

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**WHAT NEXT?**



Spend some time thanking God that of all people, He chose you!

Date: April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Criminal # 2

Text: Ephesians 4:5a; Luke 23:33-46

*“God chooses splendid sinners, lovable losers, miserable misfits, and fantastic failures.”* Ray Prichard

This was the very last person *chosen* before Jesus’ death. Jesus chose a thief receiving punishment.

It is powerful to note that Jesus was still choosing in the midst of ridicule and suffering.

- Verses 35, 36, 39
- Our situation does not determine His choosing. His situation determined His choosing.

The suffering of Jesus, was His own choice so that we could be called. Hebrews 4:14-16

### **1 – The criminal recognized the righteous dying for the unrighteous. Verse 40**

- What makes this calling so amazing is that he saw his need for Jesus while Jesus was suffering.
- Jesus wasn’t displayed as a conqueror in that moment, yet he saw Him as such.

Criminal # 2 recognized his need for Jesus. He made the connection even though it did not make situational sense.

Having Jesus choose us and us responding to Him, has to do with the deep heart connection of what we know is right.

- Criminal # 2 was being punished justly, yet his conscience became drawn to what was truth. And that was hanging next to him.

*“If I find in myself desires which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for another world.”* C.S. Lewis

*“O God, you made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.”* Augustine

His **situation** was bad. His **consequence** to sin was bad. His **instinct** and **influence** was urging him to mock truth even while suffering. Yet, he could not escape the fact that Jesus was still the answer.

- The quicker we realize this, the more heartache we spare ourselves from in choosing the wrong thing that brings us punishment.

## **2 – The criminal cried out to Jesus as the source of his hope.**

**Verse 42**

- He was the first person to enter heaven redeemed by the blood of Jesus.

Realization of Jesus is highly transformative.

- Situation ended in death.
- Situation ended in life.

Death and life is the contrast of our experience with Jesus daily.

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**WHAT NEXT?**



Use the suffering, questions, consequences and mistakes you are in the midst of, to realize that Jesus is still calling and choosing you.

Date: April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Thomas

Text: Ephesians 4:5a; John 20:19-29

*“Doubt discovers difficulties which it never solves; it creates hesitancy, despondency, despair. Its progress is the decay of comfort, the death of peace. “Believe!” is the word which speaks life into a man, but doubt nails down his coffin.”*

Charles Spurgeon

Thomas had a history of cynical thinking when it came to seeing the power of God in his own life.

➤ John 11:12-16; John 14:3-6

**1 – Thomas’ bold defiance and sharp disbelief did not shy Jesus away from displaying His love or calling Thomas. Verses 25, 27**

➤ Jesus met Thomas right where he was in the confusion and doubt of his life.

Doubt naturally produces: Separation, Defiance, and a Contradictory spirit.

Yet, Jesus cared enough to continue with Thomas.

**2 – Thomas’ doubt was not only about the moment; he was questioning the reliability of Jesus’ claims. Verse 25b**

➤ *“Unless I see...I will not believe.”*

➤ Thomas *knew* in his own interpretation that Jesus was wrong. Yet, the problem was clearly that! Thomas’ interpretation was wrong.

Our defiance against total receptivity and submission to God is simply that our interpretation of life events, circumstances, injustices, and expectations are usually wrong.

- We interpret God's reliability based on our personal fallen and vindictive nature.
- God bases His reliability beginning with the greater purpose – Eternity.

Once eternity is in view, temporal life in this world takes on a different purpose.

- Acts 1:6-8
- Disciples still thought the purpose of Jesus was resetting Israel's kingdom.
- Jesus redefines their purpose to global witness of His sacrifice.

We must allow our misdirected feelings to finally submit to the Lordship of Jesus.

1. We may feel as if we have missed experiences that everyone else had. (v.24)
2. We may feel cynical. (v.25)
3. But we can still call out to Him out of hurt, "*my Lord and my God,*" and Jesus will receive us!

Jesus doesn't rebuke Thomas. He gives him personal encounter with His sacrifice. (v.27)

India - 3000 miles from Jerusalem – 29 yrs as a missionary  
– death: July 3<sup>rd</sup> 72 AD – Mount in Chennai – Martyred by priests of Kali

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**WHAT NEXT?**

Take your doubts today and begin to doubt *them!*  
Yield to Christ's interpretation for your story.  
Eternity first!

Date: April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Nathanael

Text: Ephesians 4:5a; John 1:43-51

*“We were chosen and wanted even before we had a need of being wanted. “ Ephesians 1:4-5*

Jesus chooses a “let-down” man. Verse 46

- Many believe he was prejudiced. Yet, we see his rash statement as frustration of seeking God and having to wait.

**1 – Jesus chooses us while we are in the midst of our struggle and feel alone! Verse 47**

- Jesus’ reference makes connection to the deceit found in Jacob.
- Literally, “A true Israelite in who there is no Jacob (deceit).

Jesus specifically addresses the Old testament account of Jacob wrestling with God and having his name changed from Deceiver to Israel.

- Genesis 32:24-28

One notable difference between Nathanael and Jacob is that Jacob wrestled in the moment with God. Nathanael wrestled alone and waited.

- So often we go to God in prayer and feel that we are alone.
- Yet, while we struggle with the *alone* moment, Jesus is in the very garden with us.

**2 – In Jesus’ choosing is the assurance of His omnipresence. Verse 48**



Nathanael's question is so apt. He is seeking God but still struggles with the *How do you know* aspect.

1. While we are waiting for people connection to bring us meaning, Jesus has already called us. (*before Philip called you*) Verse 48b
2. He defines our moments of loneliness and struggle as intimate connection. (*when you were under the fig tree*) Verse 48c
3. The One who controls the world is deeply interested in the renewal of our heart. (*I saw you*) Verse 48d

### **3 – His choosing of us is solidified through our struggle of pouring our heart out before God.**

**Verse 50-51**

- Jesus is referencing Genesis 28:12-13.  
Nathanael's devotion time.

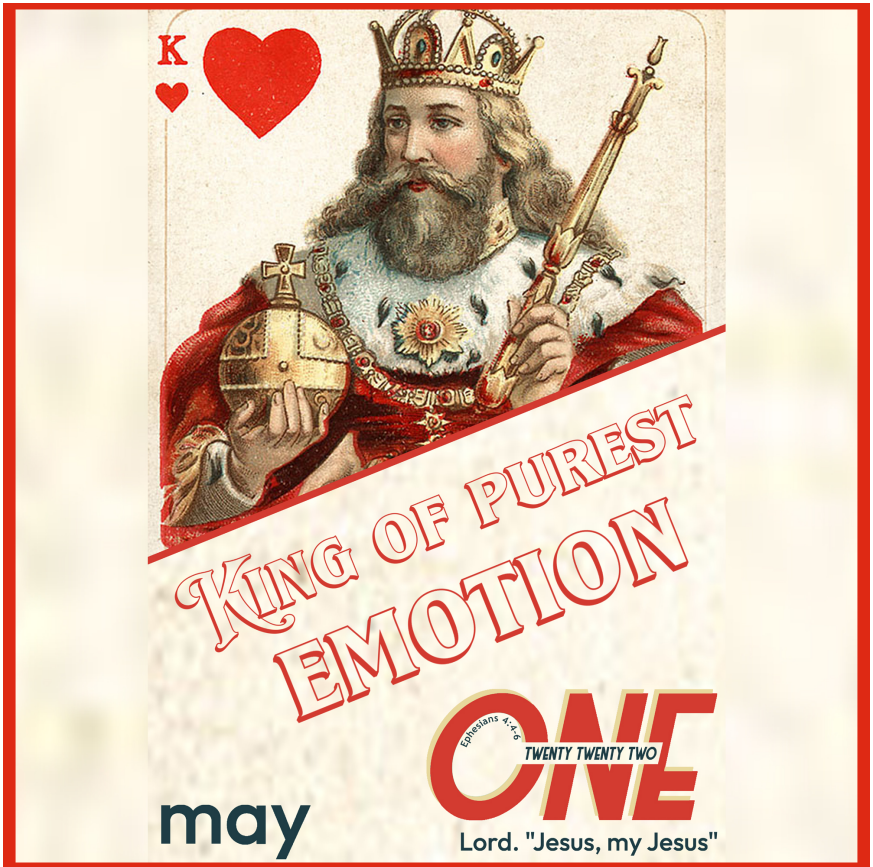
The solidification of His choosing us lets us know that: not only do we receive from God what we really want – *to know that He is really with us*; but also that He has greater moments of experience we are to have with Him. Verse 50b

- *You will see greater things than these.*
- Greater than just *knowing* that Jesus is with us. But following Him through the perils of life.

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## **WHAT NEXT?**

1 – Spend a moment in prayer knowing that it is not your need that makes God desire you. He wanted you before the need ever existed. Before you existed!



## Monthly Message Direction:

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| May 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Emotional Compassion Part 1!                   |
| May 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Emotional Compassion Part 2!<br>(Mother's Day) |
| May 15 <sup>th</sup> | The Purest Anger!                              |
| May 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Longing!                                       |
| May 29 <sup>th</sup> | Joy!   |

Date: May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022  
Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Emotional Compassion  
Part 1

Text: Matthew 14:13-21; 15:32-39

*“I am spellbound by the intensity of Jesus’ emotions: not a twinge of pity, but heartbroken compassion; not a passing irritation, but a terrifying anger; not a silent tear, but groans of anguish; not a weak smile, but ecstatic celebration. Jesus’ emotions are like a mountain river cascading with clear water. My emotions are more like a muddy foam or a feeble trickle.”*  
G. Walter Hansen

The Greek word for *compassion* is *splanchnizo* and denotes more than passing feeling. It refers to *the depth of feeling in which the very feelings and longings churn within.*

### **1 – Jesus, in his own grief, was moved at people’s bodily suffering.**

**Matthew 14:14, 36; 15:28, 30**

- John the Baptist. Matt. 14:10-11, 13
- Jesus was moved by grief (verse 13), yet His desire for the restoration of sinful and suffering man was greater than His personal grief.

Jesus’ emotions *churn* for what we are going through. He longs for our restoration!

### **2 – Jesus was moved at the momentary lack of people’s basic necessities.**

**Matthew 14:15-16; 15:32**

- Jesus saw this need and made provision to meet it even before the people cried out to Him.

Jesus is not sitting waiting for us to beg Him to meet our need. He is forcibly moved by compassion toward us. He is arranging the situations of our life to meet that which we are struggling with.

The only *momentary hindrance* in Jesus meeting the crowds need, was the test of faith in the disciples to meet the need.

- Maybe, as we ask God to meet our need, we should also incorporate praying that those through whom God will use to meet our need, will grow in their faith and be obedient to the cause of Jesus!

Jesus longs for the two issues of our journey in this world.

1. He cares deeply for our physical and bodily frustrations. Our sickness moves His compassion.
2. He cares deeply for the necessities needed for our daily living. Our life's necessities moves His providing nature.

Mark 5:43; Matthew 6:25-32

*“Jesus’ pure emotions, move Him to be compassionate towards the struggles of our sinfully tainted emotions.”*

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### WHAT NEXT?

Spend a moment thanking Jesus that He is more emotional than you are! His emotions move Him to love you and care for you even before you recognize your need!

Date: May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



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Title: Emotional Compassion  
Part 2

## OPENING ILLUSTRATION

One night while conducting an evangelistic meeting in the Salvation Army Citadel in Chicago, Booth Tucker preached on the sympathy of Jesus.

After his message a man approached him and said, "If your wife had just died, like mine has, and your babies were crying for their mother, who would never come back, you wouldn't be saying what you're saying."

Tragically, a few days later, Tucker's wife was killed in a train wreck. Her body was brought to Chicago and carried to the same Citadel for the funeral. After the service the bereaved preacher looked down into the silent face of his wife and then turned to those attending.

"The other day a man told me I wouldn't speak of the sympathy of Jesus if my wife had just died. If that man is here, I want to tell him that **Christ is sufficient. My heart is broken, but it has a song put there by Jesus. I want that man to know that Jesus Christ speaks comfort to me today.**"

*Today in the Word*, MBI, October, 1991, p. 10.

Date: May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Emotional Compassion  
Part 2

Text: 2 Kings 4:18-37; Luke 7:11-15

*“Jesus speaks comfort to me today...”* Booth Tucker

\*Elisha raised the boy in the city of Shunem which is the same vicinity as the N.T. city of Nain.

- There are 800 years in between these two miracles.

### **The Great Contrasts:**

**1 – While the Shunammite woman raced to get help from Elisha, Jesus’ emotions pushed Him to race towards the grieving widow.**

**2 Kings 4:22; Luke 7:13-14**

- We often associate ourselves with this woman’s desperate plea.
- We see ourselves as hopeless and God being so distanced and disconnected from our problems.

Yet, Jesus teaches otherwise. He is desperately moved towards us in the midst of suffering.

- “Do not weep...”
- The compassion of Jesus moves Him towards us before we even think of coming to Him.

**2 – While Elisha only speaks to Gehazi to speak to the Shunammite, Jesus breaks the barriers of Jewish taboo.**

**2 Kings 4:26a; Luke 7:13b, 14a**

- Jesus approaches a woman.
- Jesus desecrates Himself in the view of the public by touching a corpse.

There is nothing in our life and situation that hinders Jesus from drawing near to us.

*“We have often heard it said that our sin pushes God away. This statement is absolutely false. Our sin causes God to come closer to us in the time and filth of need.”*

While Elisha looks initially through the power of his staff through Gehazi to avoid being defiled by a corpse, Jesus touches the coffin.

2 Kings 4:29; Luke 7:14a

Our life screams, “DEFILED!” Jesus declares, “REDEEMED!”

- What is redeemed is never abandoned.

**3 – The raising of the widows son emphasizes for us the depth of emotion contained in Jesus.**

**Luke 7:15**

- This is also the depth contained in God the Father, for He too raises an only Son from the dead!

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**WHAT NEXT?**

Nothing in our life pushes God away. Realize that our struggling emotions are a broken reflection of Christ’s perfect emotions, which are intent on our restoration and happiness.

Go to God now in prayer with *that* in mind!

Date: May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: The Purest Anger!

Text: John 2:13-17; John 11:30-44

*“A morally perfect human such as Christ would be a contradiction if He didn’t get angry.”* Ortland

**1 – It is Jesus heart of love that rises up from His soul to elicit such a fearsome pronouncement of woe.**

**John 2:17**

- Jesus’ anger was holy and justified because of His zeal for God and His love for humanity.
- He was not only defending God’s house...He was defending and caring for those He chased away.

Honoring God brings an experience with God that is highly transformative.

*“Because His deepest heart is tender compassion, He is the quickest to get angry and feels anger most furiously – and all without a hint of sin tainting that anger.”* – Dane Ortland

The greatest example of the fury of Jesus is in the account of Lazarus. Here we see the untethered emotions of a perfect God.

Lazarus. The weeping of Jesus was not limited to a soft and compassion filled heart. It was a heart of anger.



Jesus approached the grave of Lazarus in a state, not of uncontrollable grief, but of irrepressible anger.

*Deeply moved* is the Greek word *embrimaomai* and means *to be moved with anger, to admonish sternly. It is to snort like an angry horse in rage.*

Why was Jesus so angry?

## **2 – Jesus’ anger was rightfully directed considering He is the Resurrection and the Life.**

**John 11:25**

- As the resurrection and Life, His anger will manifest against all things that hurt His creation.

*“Inextinguishable fury seizes upon Him...it is death that is the object of His wrath, and behind death him who has the power of death, and whom he has come into the world to destroy. Tears of sympathy may fill His eyes, but this is incidental. His soul is held by rage...The raising of Lazarus thus becomes, not an isolated marvel, but...a decisive instance and open symbol of Jesus’ conquest of death and hell.” – B. B. Warfield*

Jesus’ eyes locked with the devil and with his ultimate weapon – death.

Jesus must have SCREAMED “**O Death where is your sting!**”

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**WHAT NEXT?**

“Jesus hates with righteous hatred all that plagues you.” His anger is *for* you! What peace of mind!

Date: May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Longing!

Text: Matthew 23:37-39; Luke 13:34-35

*“The sympathies of Jesus are not those of disconnected consolation. His sympathies are ones that have been felt, endured, and conquered; and thereby all the more effective for our own comfort.”*

**1 – As Jesus was preparing for His death, He was facing the suffering of rejection by the people of Jerusalem.**

**Verses: Matthew 23:37c; Luke 13:34c**

- The Jesus (Messiah) in Him at his moment was feeling the suffering of rejection.
- The Triune God in Him at this moment was reflecting over the past 4 thousand years of Israel rejecting Him.

God reveals in this that although people have rejected Him, His emotion is that of longing towards them.

God’s longing is not self-satisfying. God’s longing is extreme in its benefit towards the object of His longing.

God reveals the extent of His longing. It is in this passage highly maternal in instinct.

**(Meditate on the following words. God is particular in what He says.)**

1. **Gather** – For the purpose of a plan.
2. **Together** – The unity of children in His Presence.
3. **Hen** – The Master Instructor for life’s necessities. He shows us the *how* of life.
4. **Chicks** – Rambunctious and scattered. In severe need of care.
5. **Under** – Our real need is not to be out in the world, but to remain under His care.
6. **Wings** – The barrier against the forces of the world.

**2 – The longing of Jesus offers us a glimpse into the plan of God for us. Psalm 91:1-4**

- Because of His longing and covering, we can experience the benefits of responding to His emotion.

**Our Benefits: Psalm 91:5-16**

1. You will not **fear** human events. V.5
2. You will experience **justification**. V. 8
3. Enemies **plan** thwarted. V. 10
4. **Angelic intervention**. V. 11-12
5. More **strength** than adversaries. V. 13
6. Responding to His longing brings **deliverance**. V. 14
7. **Responsive** communication. V. 15
8. **Satisfaction** in life. V. 16

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**WHAT NEXT?**

We are not the only ones with emotional desires. Spend some time in prayer and dwelling on the emotion of Jesus for you. Meditate on the verses in this message.

Date: May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Joy!

Opening Illustration for Quote:

A.G.B. was born to a prosperous, well-educated father and a stern and loving mother. Tragedy struck when at 8 yrs old her father died and his partner in business took the business and all the money.

The Bojaxhiu family of four was now broke and destitute.

Agnes spent much time in the church with her sister praying and asking God for help. At 12 years old she felt called by God and at 18 she decided to give herself to God to help people who were struggling just as her family was.

She ended up in Darjeeling India helping teach young girls about their worth to God. While there, she heard God speak to her and tell her to give up EVERYTHING she had, move to the slums and reach the untouchable of the world. That is exactly what she did. She moved to Calcutta on December 9, 1948 and dedicated her life to reaching the poor.

She started a charity called, “Missionaries of Charity” which eventually had thousands of personnel and was active in 133 countries. The charity managed homes for people who are dying of HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis.

She is better known today as: Mother Theresa.

Date: May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Joy!

Text: John 15:10-11; Hebrews 12:2

*“The joy of Jesus will be my strength – it will be in my heart. Every person I meet will see it in my work; my walk, y prayer – in everything.”*

-Agnes Gonxha Bojaxiu

## **1 – Keeping the commands of Jesus, produce in us divine joy and fills up our natural level of joy.**

**Verse 11**

There are two types of joys described in this passage:

1. The joy that belongs to Jesus.
2. Our joy.

Jesus promises to us not only an experience of each, but full capacity of each.

The joy of Jesus is eternal joy which makes it undiluted and untouched by sin for it existed before sin.

- Therefore, its expression within us causes us to have an experience that is pure, sacred, and real.

Our joy is momentary and natural joy based upon the events of our life.

- Jesus does not disregard our broken expressions of joy.
- He promises to fill them to capacity.

When we talk about the joy of Jesus, we are not talking about removing ourselves from the human

condition. It is the fulfilling of joy within the parameters of our life. We can have joy in this world.

As a caveat, we must notice that our joy (natural) will never be made full (be at capacity) until we receive in us the joy of Jesus.

## **2 – The joy of Jesus and our joy being made full in hinged upon obedience. Verse 10**

- Jesus was obedient to God’s plan. Therefore He was abiding in His love. And God’s love does not *produce* joy, but *is* joy in our life.
- If we have not joy...are we rebelling in an aspect of obedience to Him?

*If we keep His commandments and abide in His love...*

## **3 – Accomplishing our God given task (calling) produces a carrying-through type of joy.**

**Hebrews 12:2**

- This carrying-through joy is the expression of the joy of Jesus, blended with our full measure of joy.

As we yield to Jesus and His way, we find that the fulness of joy allows endurance to look different.

- It is joy through difficulty because we see the purpose.
- We must stop thinking that joy is the absence of our difficulty.
- It is joy through, because of, and in spite of our difficulty.

**WHAT NEXT?**

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Make that step and yield to Jesus through your words...tell Him, “I yield to you.” Now ask Him to fill you with His joy and to fulfill our own joy.



## Monthly Message Direction:

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|-----------------------|--|
| June 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Lord Over Our Disappointments!                         |
| June 12 <sup>th</sup> | Lord Over Our Wants!                                   |
| June 19 <sup>th</sup> | Lord Over the Frustrations of Our Home! (Father's Day) |
| June 26 <sup>th</sup> | Lord Over Our Workplace!                               |

Date: June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Lord Over Our  
Disappointments!

Text: Ephesians 4:5a; John 4:5-30, 39-42

*“Placement of silverware, lined up outside to inside, reflects the correct utensil matched to the course being served!”*

## **1 – Jesus targets the seat of her attachments.**

**Verse 16**

- Our disappointments become a snare that fight for placement in our lives.
- The woman had been fighting to be fulfilled.

Her struggle for fulfilment took her to have 5 husbands and one live-in.

Outside of Jesus being first-place, our striving for fulfilment will cause us to take on more expressions of sin.

## **2 – She shifts the attention, but is really pointing out her desperate plea for acceptance from God.**

**Verses 19-20**

- She felt that there were too many hoops to jump through to have access to God.

Because God was perceived as, *“too difficult to access,”* she filled herself with what came easily and natural...struggle with sin.



### **3 – Jesus offers her *The way to God through Himself.* Verse 24-26**

- The Light of Truth was shining over her situation.
- It always comes in conviction. Conviction is the beginning process.

### **4 – The woman’s response is all about placement. Verses 28-29**

- Her response was both words and action.
  - 1. She left her waterpot. Verse 28a**  
Her initial focus was drawing water for the continuance of her lifestyle. Now she has a new motive.
  - 2. She confronted the men. Verse 28b**  
She went right to the source of her struggles and brought Jesus there.
  - 3. She confessed that He revealed sin in her life. Verse 29a**  
Jesus became greater than the hold of sin. She finally spoke out against it. Brought it out in the open. Ephesians 5:11

### **5 – She became a herald because of the placement of Jesus. Verses 39, 42**

- The sinful hold was broken because she accepted Jesus as the answer to the years and partners of her struggle.

*“If Jesus does not become first in our relationships, He will never be the first thing to come out of our mouth when people are looking for answers.”*

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#### **WHAT NEXT?**

Take the screaming struggle in your life and let Jesus thoroughly convict you. Now, expose your sin out loud. Let Jesus become first place.

Date: June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Lord Over Our Wants!

Text: Psalm 37:4; Philippians 2:13

*“Desire left undisciplined turns sinful and empty. But, godly manifested desire turns beneficial and powerful.”*

Psalm 37:4 becomes a verse of heartbroken frustration when God does not grant the *desire* of our heart as promised here.

We must not translate *desire of our heart* with *whatever I want*.

**1 – God will grant the desires of our heart when they are His desires in our heart.**

**Psalm 37:4**

- Only when He becomes our delight.

There is a distinction here with what we desire and what we delight.

- Our wants are often in conflict with wanting Him.
- We must evaluate our biggest desire right now. Is Jesus at the center of it?

We often see this verse as our wishes God will command.

Yet, if we delight ourselves only in God, It is He that will place in us desires – and His desires do not fail.

**2 – His desires go far beyond what we are even able to think or ask. Ephesians 3:20**

The desires of God, placed in the heart that delights in Him, cause there to be:

1. Abundance.
2. Completeness in all aspects involved.
3. Power in and through us.

How are we to *want Him* and His *wants*?

- Ephesians 3:14-19

**1 – Bow my knees before the father. Verse 14**

- It takes the first and ultimate ack of surrender. His way is right no matter what I feel.

**2 – Be strengthened with the power of His Spirit in the inner man. Verse 16**

- Purposefully grow the inner man.

**3 – Christ takes His seat in our heart.**

**Verse 17**

**4 – The effect of being grounded and rooted brings comprehension.**

**Verses 17b-18**

- We come to understand our place and His plan.



Pray, asking God to reveal His desires in your life. Begin to ask God to fulfill His desires and watch the miraculous process begin!

Date: June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



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## ILLUSTRATION

### Opening Quote:

*“The final note is always God’s to play. Without it, we live frustrated.”*

It is said of one of the famous composers that he had a rebellious son who used to come in late at night after his father and mother had gone to bed. And before going to his own room, he would go to his father's piano and slowly, as well as loudly, play a simple scale, all but the final note. Then leaving the scale uncompleted, he would retire to his room. Meanwhile the father, hearing the scale minus the final note, would writhe on his bed, his mind unable to relax because the scale was unresolved. Finally, in consternation, he would stumble down the stairs and hit the previously unstruck note. Only then would his mind surrender to sleep once again.

### **Play Scale on IPHONE with the missing note**

From: George MacDonald, Restoring Your Spiritual Passion.

Date: June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Lord Over The  
Frustrations of Our Home!

Text: Matthew 1:18-25

*“The final note is always God’s to play. Without it, we live frustrated.”*

Joseph’s situation was very far from ideal! He was a righteous man that was feeling disgraced (v.19), and his difficulty was in how he should divorce his wife.

This situation plagued Joseph. He spent considerable time contemplating what to do.

➤ Verse 20a

**1 – Joseph was gentle in heart to listen to God before becoming rash in his decision making process.**

**Verse 24**

➤ Joseph had a dream in which God spoke to him clearly about the conditions that were fighting for a place in his heart.

The issues of Joseph’s situation addressed by God:

1. Fear of people’s response to his situation (v.20b).
2. Frustration of possible infidelity (v.20c). Remember this is the only time this has happened in history. This is hard to believe and trust.
3. Belief that God can command a very personal situation (v.20d). Child conceived, is from God!
4. Life is bigger than Josephs situation (v.20e).

The gentleness in listening to God for Joseph, was in direct proportion to how he dealt with Mary.

- He accepted her and took her as his wife.

## **2 – Joseph contemplated and questioned the situation, but not the Word of God. Verse 24**

- He didn't think about what God told him to do...he just did it.
- What an admirable quality.

Situations demand contemplation and caution. But not so action towards the Word of God.

- This is where we are able to act and respond quickly.
- The swiftness of our response to the Word of God brings growth.

## **3 – Joseph managed his sensual nature so as to not mess up what God was doing. Verse 25a**

- The principle of God first and me later, solidifies the work of God, which elevates me higher than I could have reached on my own.

*“Joseph’s self-restraint of sleeping with Mary before the birth of Christ, was significant in that this would have given the critics the ammunition to declare that Jesus was not born of divine conception.”*

His self-restraint shows us that we can put the plan of God ahead of our frustrations, let-downs, and temptations, so His plan can be firmly established in our home.

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**WHAT NEXT?**

Take a moment to STOP and listen for the voice of God in your current frustration. Once you have that Word from the Bible, act on it very quickly!

Date: June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Jose Gavidia



Title: Lord Over Our  
Workplace!

Text: Colossians 3:22-25

*“The devil visits idle men with his temptations.  
God visits industrious men with His favors.”*

Matthew Henry

**1 – Placing Christ first at work has to do with  
the sincerity of our heart. Verse 22**

- It has to do with “fearing the Lord”.

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**2 – Fulfillment at work can only come when we  
change the priority of the purpose of work.**

**Verse 23**

- Working heartily for the Lord.

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**3 – When we make the change to work for Christ, not only does the situation gain purpose, but God commands our provision – not man!**

**Verse 24**

- Eternal provision always supplies earthly provision. It is never the other way around.

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If God is to become Lord over our workplace and also in the needs we have at work, our focus must change of whom we are working for.

If we strive to work for God, our eyes begin to change. Pray that God will open your eyes to see Him at work!





## Monthly Message Direction:

- |                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| July 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Is Jesus Really Coming Back?   |
| July 10 <sup>th</sup> | The Signs of the Times!        |
| July 17 <sup>th</sup> | A One-World System!            |
| July 24 <sup>th</sup> | Living Prepared!               |
| July 31 <sup>st</sup> | Our Involvement in His Return! |

Date: July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022  
Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Is Jesus Really Coming Back?

Text: Revelation 1:7; John 14:1-3

*“Where have all the people gone?”* Anne Graham Lotz

### **1 – Jesus’ death and resurrection is proof of His returning. Verse 3a**

- *“If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again.”*
- The heart of God is always for closeness to us.

*“If I go...I will come again.”*

- History proves His going. We cannot argue that!
- His future coming is based on the fact of His past leaving.

### **The reliability of the New Testament Claims and Jesus’ Claims:**

1. Luke did not have the first-hand experience so he went about his letter logically and intellectually.
2. John did have first-hand experience so he went about his letter relationally and experientially.
3. Jesus’ probability is untouchable!
  - 1:1,125,000,000,000,000.

His redemption is not limited to save us in this world only. It is for eternity.

We must **anticipate** His coming.

- His words are so clear: *“If I go, I will come again and receive you.”*
- He did not say, *“I will go and you will join me there.”*

Acts 1:10-11; 1 Corinthians 11:26

**Let us share communion...until He comes!**

**2 – Jesus’ return is sure because His salvation is also for our bodies. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

- The redemption of Jesus is in totality: Body, Soul, and Spirit.
- This is what becomes our Blessed Hope.

The physical, which is the catalyst of feeling for the joy of soul and spirit, is also redeemed.

- Jesus IS Coming Back!

Anticipating His return causes there to be movement in heaven. Our anticipation:

1. Causes us to **participate** in global evangelization. Global evangelization is the only thing remaining before the coming of Christ.
2. Causes us to live **separate**. Separation IS holiness living.
3. Causes us to live **ready**. Our readiness is life endowed with power.

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**WHAT NEXT?**

The anticipation of His coming should produce in us a conviction of where we are in our standing with Christ. If you are fearful, take it as God prodding you home!

Date: July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Is Jesus Really Coming Back?

## ILLUSTRATION.

### **Opening:**

On March 8, 2014 a Malaysia Airlines Boeing 777, on its way from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing, vanished over the South China Sea. Without a trace. And with 239 people on board. It's being described as an "unprecedented mystery." Where is it? Where have all the people gone?

The pictures of grieving friends and family members of those who are missing are heart-wrenching. I have prayed for God's peace and comfort for them, as well as God's direction of the search and rescue teams who are desperately looking for clues that will solve the mystery. But the unanswered questions seem to intensify the horror...

How could a modern airliner drop out of sight so quickly and completely? What happened to the plane itself? Was it hijacked? Was it blown out of the sky? Did something happen to the pilots so that without guidance the plane plunged intact into the depths of the sea?

**Bottom line:** *Where are all the people?*

The answers don't seem to be forthcoming as I write this. But as I have prayerfully pondered all

of the above, I can't help but wonder...Is this worldwide sense of shock and helplessness, of questions and confusion, of fear and grief, a glimpse of things to come? Is this a small snapshot of what the entire world will experience the day *after* the rapture of the church? Because the Bible is clear. There is coming a moment in time when Jesus will come back to gather to Himself all those—dead and alive—who have put their trust in Him. And on that day, the world will be asking, *Where have all the people gone?* Not just 239 of us, but millions of us.

On that day, with millions of people directly impacted by their own missing friends and family members...in the midst of overwhelming shock and helplessness, of questions and confusion, of fear and grief...when the world searches for clues, how easily will they find The Answer in what I leave behind? Instead of an oil slick, will there be traces of His grace and glory and truth? This is a thought I can't seem to shake, so I share it with you. Will your life, and mine, be a light to the world (Matthew 5:14) that points people to Jesus...*after the rapture?*

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## **The reliability of the New Testament Claims:**

**There are logical questions to ask about an authors' meaning and how to come to a decision. The following questions apply not only to the Bible but to all manner of texts needing confirmation of intended meaning.**

1 – Is it possible that the author has genuine motives but has been DECEIVED and is passing on mistaken information?

2 – Is it possible that the author knows the information they are writing down is FALSE and they are intentionally trying to DECEIVE the reader?

3 – Is it possible that the author has GENUINE motives and that, by and large, he has recorded what actually happened.

How is it that we decide among these three possibilities?

## INDUCTIVE REASONING

Observing patterns and using those specific observations to make generalizations, drawing inferences from the information you have.

**We must ask *inductive* (or external) questions:**

1. Does the text of a Gospel MAKE SENSE of the world external to it?
2. Do the HISTORICAL and ARCHAEOLOGICAL references fit with the data available to us from the period?
3. Does the text DIAGNOSE and adequately speak to the human condition?
4. Does the text have the “RING of TRUTH?”

## DEDUCTIVE REASONING

Drawing specific conclusions that logically follow from established premises and known facts.

### **We must ask *deductive* (or internal) questions about the Bible's internal workings:**

1. Does the text we are reading     HOLD      
    TOGETHER    ?
  2. Is it internally     COHERENT      
    ?
  3. Does it     CONTRADICT      
itself?
  4. When we do step inside the reality of the text does it make     SENSE     as a whole?
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### **Probability of Jesus Being Messiah:**

Biblical scholars have identified 456 messianic passages. And of those, about     109     are distinct messianic prophecies that the Messiah would have to fulfill.

- Jesus fulfilled them all!
- They could not have been written after the event because the Old Testament was completed two to three hundred years before Jesus' birth.

The probability that one individual could fulfill only 20 of these prophecies is:

- 1: 1,125,000,000,000,000 (one in one quadrillion, one hundred twenty-five trillion.)

Date: July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: The Signs of the Times!

Text: Daniel 12:1-4; Matthew 24:3

*In 2020, we are only 100 seconds away...*

There are seven major signs that determine the season of His return.

### **1 – Dramatic advance in travel and increase in knowledge. Daniel 12:4**

- The reason this one feature is so important in the return of Christ is that it shows the connectivity of the world.
- In Bible times, this could not have seemed possible.

UN reports that 3.7 billion (half of world population) is connected with internet. By 2030, the entire world should be connected online.

Global connectivity expedites the Gospel's initiative of global gospel responsibility.

- Each person responsible for the message of the Gospel is the last remaining block to the return of Christ.

### **2 – False Christs and deceptive religious leaders. Matthew 24:5, 11, 12b**

- Since the beginning there have been many cults and false teaching. Yet, this one is specific to the Church. Specifically, the Word of God will be twisted and mismanaged to make light the issue of sin.
- Love of many will grow cold.



### **3 – There will be wars and rumors of war.**

**Matthew 24:6-7**

- This is in consideration that we have the ability to see what is happening all across the world at the click of our phones.
- There are 23 countries at war in 2022.
- 5 of our 7 continents have war.

### **4 – The increase of famines and earthquakes.**

**Matthew 24:7-8**

- It is interesting to note that the increase of famine in the end is a result of the wars taking place.
- U.S. statistical analysts predict that we are headed into a deep famine because of the war in the Ukraine.

UN states: *“Lack of grain exports driving global hunger to famine levels. When war is waged, people go hungry.”*

### **5 – There will be global pestilence and disease.**

**Luke 21:11**

- Covid-19.
- The outcome of these things, from a sin standpoint, is to bring fear – Matthew 24:6

*“The strategy is simple yet effective: the best way to control a populace is through fear and discord. National crises, reported terrorist attacks, and sporadic shootings leave us in a constant state of fear. Fear prevents us from thinking. The emotional panic that accompanies fear actually shuts down the prefrontal cortex, or the rational thinking part, of our brains. In other words, when we are consumed by fear, we stop thinking. A populace that stops thinking for itself is a populace that is easily led, easily manipulated and easily controlled.”*

– John Whitehead

**6 – The Church will be targeted and persecuted as an act of relief for the terrors the world is facing. Matthew 24:9-12**

- Truth and righteousness will always be targeted when it exposes the world's deviation.
- Tribulation, murder, hatred, compromise, betrayal, and conditioning become evident in the fight against Christianity.

The system of the world will always fight against truth when truth's very nature is to expose sin and convict the world towards salvation.

**7 – The Gospel will be preached to the entire world. Matthew 24:14**

- “...and then the end will come.”
- In our information age, how long could this possibly take? UN says probably by 2030.

Luke 21:28

1. Straighten up.
2. Lift up your heads.
3. Redemption is drawing near.



What we need is readiness. Straighten up your life. Commit your ways and sins before Jesus and receive His forgiveness. Lift up your head and stop looking at the events of the day but make Jesus the highlight of your day and passion.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: The Signs of the Times!

Opening Illustration:

The Doomsday clock.

## **The Doomsday Clock depicts how close humanity is to Armageddon**

Every January the scientists responsible for the Doomsday Clock at the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists will publish their annual judgement of how close its hands sit to midnight, for the 75th time.

Every year, the announcement highlights the complex web of catastrophic risks facing humanity, including weapons of mass destruction, environmental breakdown and disruptive technologies.

**And in 2020, the Bulletin's president, Rachel Bronson, solemnly announced that its hands had moved closer to Armageddon than ever before – only 100 seconds.**

In 1939, world-renowned scientists Albert Einstein and Leo Szilard wrote to the US president about a breakthrough in nuclear technology that was so powerful, and could have such tremendous battlefield consequences, that a single nuclear bomb, "carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port". It was a

possibility too significant to ignore. This letter led to the establishment of an enormous scientific, military, and industrial collaboration, the Manhattan Project, that a mere six years later produced a bomb much more powerful than the one imagined by Einstein and Szilard, capable of destroying an entire city and its population. Only a few years after that, nuclear arsenals were capable of destroying civilization as we know it.

In 1949, the USSR tested its first nuclear weapons, and in reaction to this the Bulletin's editor moved the hands of the Clock from seven to three minutes to midnight. In doing so, he activated the Clock, turning it from a static to a dynamic metaphor. The Clock would evolve into a symbol that, according to Kennette Benedict, former executive director of the Bulletin, is a warning to "the public about how close we are to destroying our world with dangerous technologies of our own making.

In 1953, the Clock moved forward yet again, to two minutes to midnight, after the US and Soviet Union detonated the first thermonuclear weapons. This was the closest to midnight the Clock was ever set in the 20th Century.

In 2020 we are 100 seconds away.

Date: July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: A One-World System!

Text: Daniel 7:7-8, 25

Be ready – not fearful!

*“Federal world government...would have the power to override national and local governments...this power would reduce the zones of corruption for national governments.” Arvind Ashta*

### **The characteristics of the anti-Christ:**

(anti in GK meaning against or in place of)

- Whatever we see that is *against* Christ or *in place* of Christ is the “spirit of the anti-Christ.)
- Acceptance of any experience outside of Christ, will produce the elements of loss, emptiness, and situational destruction.

### **1 – A charismatic and cunning leader.**

**Verses 7-8, 25**

- The great boasting of a solution for the world human condition outside of Jesus Christ, is a wicked spiritual ploy.

He will: Verse 25

1. Speak out against moral absolute (God).
2. Wear down Christians.
3. Make laws which are against law-making policy.

*“There is no need for a constitution regulating the conduct of the affairs of state. One thing suffices...a fanatical will based on faith in the leader (Fuhrer)” Dr. Hans Lammers 1934*

It is not individuals that we see which are the problem, it is the spirit of this world at work because the time is drawing near.

- Ephesians 6:12

## **2 – A leader boastful about his advancements.**

### **Verse 8**

- Boastful advancements which are not time proven. Empty promises.
- Its boast was against God (verses 9-11).

The boast that takes the initiative for life and the power to hold life is a clear indication of the spirit of the anti-Christ.

## **3 – He will become a cruel leader.**

### **Daniel 8:23-25**

- His intent will simply be destruction, depopulation, and disaster for it is the greatest attempt at God's image.

## **The world conditions:**

- 1 – World-wide chaos. Matthew 24:6-7
- 2 – Financial collapse requiring absolute control. Revelation 13:16-17.
- 3 – The promise of peace. 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

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## **WHAT NEXT?**

Ephesians 6:10-11

\* Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

\*Put on the full armor of God. – Be covered.

Make provision that every aspect of your life has the influence of Jesus!

- This provision of Christ's influence causes our life to be aware and ready against the schemes of the devil.

Date: July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



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## ILLUSTRATION

### **Opening Illustration**

Arvind Ashta is a Senior Professor in the Burgundy School of Business, Dijon, France.

*“If a federal world government were elected democratically, this government would be as legitimate as a national government. It would have the power to negotiate with and override national and local governments in areas within its competency. This power would reduce the zones of possible corruption for national governments.*

*If there were a federal world government and a federal monetary authority, it would be possible to have one currency, thus eliminating currency risk. This would therefore make the movement of capital freer. This single currency could be a cryptocurrency...”*

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### **Illustration for Laws Antiquated.**

Recently, proponents for one-world systems stated that current US governmental systems, laws, and amendments were antiquated.

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## **Illustration for Depopulation** By [Reuters Fact Check](#)

“Crucially, one of the factors pushing carbon emissions to an unsustainable level is population growth.

“First, we’ve got population,” he said during the talk organized by TED, a non-profit organization devoted to spreading ideas. “The world today has 6.8 billion people. That’s headed up to about nine billion. Now, if we do a really great job on new vaccines, health care, reproductive health services, we could lower that by, perhaps, 10 or 15 percent. But there, we see an increase of about 1.3.”

When he later saw data suggesting that when mortality rates fall, so, too, do birth rates, Gates shifted his focus from preventing births to saving people already alive.

“We moved pretty heavily into vaccines once we understood that,” he told Forbes.

**In opposition:** **National Library of Medicine**  
(a .gov organization)

“Decreased mortality is the primary explanation for the profound increase in population over the past several decades. “

“Moreover, reduced *child* mortality plays a huge role. Deaths to children under 5 typically account for at least half of all deaths in pre-transition societies, and child mortality declines have been dramatic. In addition, child survival contributes to population “momentum” because most of those surviving children will eventually have children themselves. Thus, not only does reducing mortality contribute to rapid population growth, it is the *predominant* cause...”

Date: July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Living Prepared!

Text: Matthew 24:42; Titus 2:11-13

*“The era of salvation is drawing to an end...”*

Living on the alert:

Titus 2:11-13

**1 – We are instructed to deny ungodliness and worldly desires. Verse 12a**

- The denial of ungodliness and worldly desires is not a push to deny *any* desire we may have. It is a push to deny *the* desires that bring bondage, addiction, and separation from life.

*“The word ungodliness here means all that would be included under the word impiety; that is, all failure in the performance of our proper duties towards God.”* Barnes

- Romans 1:18

It is easy then, through this understanding to *know* what it is that is meant by *ungodliness*:

- That which stands in the way of the truth of Jesus Christ.

We must deny current world attempts at the suppression of the truth of God.

This marks us! This isolates us! This separates us!

- From this world.

This empowers us! This exalts us! This prospers us!

- From the throne of God.

## **2 – We are instructed to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age.**

### **Verse 12b**

Live Sensibly. Sensibly is the Gk. word *sophronos* and implies *reflecting the radical-balance birthed within by faith from the Lord.*

- Living yielded to our activated conscience.

Live righteously. Righteously is the Gk. word *dikaios* and means *approved by God.*

Live godly. Godly is the Gk. word *eusebos* and means *devout.*

- Our Christian walk must become priority.

## **3 – We are instructed to look for the blessed hope and appearing of Jesus.**

### **Verse 13**

- *Looking for* implies expectant waiting where a person is ready and willing to receive all that is hope for.
- *What is done when we are ready to receive a special guest into our home?*

Cleaning. Spending. Organizing. Sacrificing.

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Without a drastic change of preparedness, we fall prone to complacency. Today I will change my preparedness in:\_\_\_\_\_.

Date: July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Living Prepared!

Opening Illustration:

***“The era of salvation is drawing to an end...”***

In Warren Wiersbe's book, Meet Yourself in the Psalms, he tells about a frontier town where a horse bolted and ran away with a wagon carrying a little boy. Seeing the child in danger, a young man risked his life to catch the horse and stop the wagon.

The child who was saved grew up to become a lawless man, and one day he stood before a judge to be sentenced for a serious crime. The prisoner recognized the judge as the man who, years before had saved his life; so he pled for mercy on the basis of that experience. But the words from the bench silenced his plea:

"Young man, then I was your savior; today I am your judge, and I must sentence you to be hanged."

***“The era of salvation is drawing to an end...”***

Date: July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Our Involvement in His Return!

Text: Revelation 22:10-21

*“Our involvement determines what we do and what we take in. Break indifference!”*

### **1 – Our involvement is highlighted by the attention we give to God’s Word. Verse 10**

- We must not suppress God’s Word no matter our limitation in understanding it.
- God’s Word brings our heart transformation, therefore its content is truth.

The time is drawing near!

- Our participation is literally that – To participate in His coming back, we must participate with His Word.

### **How do we participate with His Word?**

1. Stand for the truth of His Word no matter what happens and no matter the pressure we feel from the world around us. Verse 11
2. Stand for the truth of His Word without trying to be the conviction of the Holy Spirit. Verse 11

### **2 – Our involvement in His return causes us to live expressively clean. Verse 14**

We must show the world our separation.

We must show the world why we are separate.

We must show the world how to be separate.

**3 – Our involvement includes working to bring others to Christ. Verse 17**

- As God is calling the world to turn to Him, so is the Church echoing His call to *come!*

As we involve ourselves with the spread of the Gospel, we are actually hastening the return of Christ.

- 2 Peter 3:11-12

Each person being used to reach someone for Jesus Christ is actually being used by God to bring the day of His return nearer.

- We can either be bothered by this...
- Frightened by this...
- Or excited by this...

Our excitement and involvement will always contain the power and presence of Jesus since it is accomplishing His purpose.

We hasten the return of Christ through:

1. Our prayers – 1 Corinthians 16:22;  
Revelation 22:17
2. Our Spreading the Gospel – Matthew 24:14

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**WHAT NEXT?**

Live this week in complete separation from the distress of this world.

Make it a point to become personally involved in His return and experience His power in and through your life. Situation by situation!



# The Measure of Faith

## Monthly Message Direction:

August 7 <sup>th</sup>	Faith to Please God.
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	Faith in Development.
August 21 <sup>st</sup>	Faith in Body (Church) Benefit – Part 1.
August 28 <sup>th</sup>	Faith in Body (Church) Benefit – Part 2.

Date: August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Faith to Please God!

Text: Ephesians 4:5; Hebrews 11:3-11

*“Have you been asking God what He is going to do? He will never tell you. God does not tell you what He is going to do; He reveals to you who He is. Do you believe in a miracle working God? And will you “go out” in complete surrender to Him until you are not surprised one iota by anything He does?”*  
Oswald Chambers

**1 – Believing that God is. Verse 6b**

- What is it that we need to believe that God is?

**We must believe that God is the Great Organizer of this world. Verse 3**

- When we come to this realization, we come to know that He can and does manage our life.

When we know this, we become firm no matter the tragedy.  
2 Kings 5:2-3

**We must believe that He is worthy of what we have to offer Him. Verse 4**

- God testified about Abel’s gifts even though God had no need for them.
- What we have is exactly what God desires from us. It is never, “not-good-enough.” It is worthy of Him.
- God’s pleasure in us is when we use the brokenness of our life for His purpose.



- What is in our hands that we can give to Him?

**We must believe that He is so personable as to build relationship with Him. Verse 5**

- God took Enoch from death because of their relationship.

**2 – Believing that God is a rewarder of those that seek Him. Verse 6c**

- If we seek Him, our experience will always produce fulfillment in the lack of our life.

**It will produce strength to stand against the grain of this world. Verse 7**

- Hearing God's warning.
- Preparing for salvation.
- Condemning sin.
- Becoming an heir of righteousness.

**It will produce the direction when all else is uncertain. Verse 8**

- Going with not knowing!

**It will produce contentment and expectation in present situations that are not ideal. Verse 9-10**

**It will produce restoration and life from that which is broken. Verse 11**

- God opened a barren womb when it was necessary for His plan.

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### WHAT NEXT?

The greatest of experiences with God will come through our seeking Him. Spend time in prayer each day seeking God for a deeper relationship with Him. Everything else will follow. Read Oswald's quote again!!

Date: August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Faith in Development!

Text: Matthew 17:14-21

Mustard seed faith is not a one-time catch-all type of faith. It is a deep process of development.

Mark 4:30-32

- The nature of faith is that it must be sown and it must be cultivated for growth.
- It cannot stay a mustard seed. It must become a tree.

**1 – The nature of our faith is more than enough to move our most impending trial or obstacle.**

**Verse 20b**

- We must first come to realize that our faith in and through God is enough for life changing circumstances.

Healing through faith. Restoration through faith. Provision through faith. Advancement through faith. Peace through faith.

The mountain that Jesus was referring to in this situation was a physical healing for the boy, a demonic presence over the sickness, and the restoration of stolen childhood.

Faith is more than only “belief” in God. Faith is the source of life for everything we encounter. Physically as well as spiritually.

## **2 – Jesus was not emphasizing the smallness of the disciples’ faith. Verse 20a**

- The issue here is not that their faith was small and therefore they could not accomplish anything.
- This mindset brings depression, anxiety, and frustration of spirituality.

There is more to what Jesus was saying to them. If their faith was only small, they would have had the “mustard seed” faith to move mountains.

We must not look to the smallness of our faith, but to the cultivation of it.

## **3 – Jesus was emphasizing the cultivation of relationship, which then becomes the greatness of faith. Verse 21**

- As we develop relationship through circumstance, we possess power through faith!

This is how the faith to move mountains is grown. It is not that we have this faith automatically that will move our mountains.

- We will have circumstance with the opportunity to press in to relationship with Jesus.
- This relationship produces the faith that changes the circumstance.

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### **WHAT NEXT?**

The circumstance you are currently in, is the growing ground of your faith. As you develop relationship, your faith will move your current mountain. Spend time growing purposefully with Christ. Read more Bible... Pray more time...

Date: August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Faith in Body (Church)  
Benefit! – Part 1

Text: Mark 10:28-30

*“Nothing that you have not given away will ever be really yours.”* C.S. Lewis

**1 – By faith, as we release to Jesus our material possession, we inherit from the possession of His world-wide body. Verse 30a**

- As I give to God in the here and now, I receive from Him in a greater capacity.

There are moments of need that cannot be filled by our own doing. We need the body of Christ.

- Acts 2:45-47

Their act of giving produced:

1. Needs being met. (Acts 2:45)
2. Connectivity to genuine people. (Acts 2:46a)
3. Gladness. (Acts 2:46b)
4. Open and honest relationships. (Acts 2:46c)
5. Situational favor. (Acts 2:47a)
6. Growth. (Acts 2:47b)

We must remember that giving without an upward (with Christ) relationship is only charity. With our upward relationship, it is purposeful sowing into fertile ground.

**2 – By faith, as we release to Jesus our most dearest relationships, we inherit from the body of Christ what we lack in relationships.**

**Verse 30b**

- What we lack in relationships is provided for through Jesus Christ through His Church.

*Illustration through mothers: Stella (home), V.T. (missional comfort), Sita (faith in the middle of the night).*

The conditions with both of these points is actually verse 21.

- Give up to follow Jesus!
- Gain from the benefit of His house.

We must see following Jesus as more than enough for all of our needs.

In His house and under His condition is the fulfillment of all we need on and through this world.

- 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11, 12, 14



What is it that we are so clenching in our hands that we experiencing frustration on our daily life. It is that very thing that you must give to God. Release it but speaking it out and sharing with someone what you are giving to God.



## Monthly Message Direction:

September 4<sup>th</sup>

Church Picnic

September 11<sup>th</sup>

Our Public Association

September 18<sup>th</sup>

Our New Wardrobe  
Part 1

September 25<sup>th</sup>

Our New Wardrobe  
Part 2

Date: September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Our Public Association

Text: Romans 5:20-6:4

*“Burial does not cause death, it declares the finality of death.”* Thomas Bevers

**1 – Baptism portrays our death through the death of Jesus Christ. Verses 3-4a**

- As Christians we have died!!

We are not the same as we once were – our old self has died.

Our future death will not have the same meaning for us if Christ had not died.

*“Baptism expresses the faith in which we experience union with Christ. This is presumably why God designed the mode of baptism to portray a burial. It represents the death that we experience when we are united to Christ. This is why we are immersed: it is a symbolic burial.”* John Piper

This image of death is actually the image of freedom: Death produces a release from the hold of this life. What are some things we are released from through death?

- Sickness, taxes, debts, effort, disappointments, fear, etc.
- Romans 6:7

## 2 – Baptism portrays our newness of life through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### Verse 4

- We are now living this life in the resurrection from the dead from our former life.

Colossians 2:12 makes explicit what Romans 6:4 leaves implicit. Baptism portrays what happened to us when we became Christians.

1. We were united to Christ. This is a linking together not only of life, but of the power to live life.
2. His death became our death. And that: Once for all. Romans 6:10 - ἐφάπαξ - ephapax  
We are able to remind sin that we have died to it already, 2000 yrs. ago!
3. We died with Him. We can confess that we are now, “dead to sin.” **I am dead to sin!**
4. His life became our life. All of the exploits we read through the life of the early Christians is only them living life through the life of Jesus. We often think we are living life through our broken world and asking Jesus to come in. The opposite is true. We are living life through Jesus in our broken world. Viewpoint changes actions!
5. All of this is experienced through faith in the working of God (Colossians 2:12b).

If we truly believe in our baptism into Christ, we can experience the life of Jesus in the now!

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### WHAT NEXT?

1 – Live this very week through the lens of your baptism. The results will shock you. Approach sin through the death of Jesus!



Date: September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Our New Wardrobe, Part 1

Text: Galatians 3:26-29, Colossians 3:9-17

*“Our new wardrobe is not the type of outfit that makes us look good in our own mirror. It is the type of clothing that is intended to make us look like Christ in the sight of someone else.”*

The driving force behind being clothed with Christ, is understanding the starting point.

- \* We have been chosen by God. Col. 3:12a
- \* We have been made holy. Col. 3:12b
- \* We are continually beloved. Col. 3:12c

**1 – Our new wardrobe consists of putting on a heart of compassion. Verse 12d**

- If we are to wear Christ and live a life truly transformed, we are, as our first effort, to take the emphasis off of ourselves.

There is something that happens when for a moment we look to the needs of others.

Often times, if we seek to meet the very need we have, in someone else, we prepare ourselves to hear with clarity the heart of God.

- We can see this aspect through the emptiness of Jesus when He came to die for us.
- Jesus was in need of: food, friends, support, encouragement...etc. yet, He met these needs in everyone else.

**2 – Our new wardrobe consists of putting on the action of kindness. Verse 12e**

- Kindness refers to meeting *real needs, in God's way, in His timing.*
- With the Believer, kindness is the Spirit-produced goodness which meets the need and avoids human harshness.

Avoiding our harshness even though we think it is merited.

**3 – Our new wardrobe consists of putting on humility. Verse 12f**

- In Scripture, humility is an inside-out virtue produced by comparing ourselves to the Lord rather than to others.
- This brings behavior into alignment with this inner revelation to keep one from being self-exalting.

For the Believer, humility means living in complete dependence on the Lord with no reliance on self.

**4 – Our new wardrobe consists of putting on gentleness. Verse 12g**

For the Believer, gentleness/meekness, (gentle-force) begins with the Lord's inspiration and finishes by His direction and empowerment.

Gentleness is a mix of power and restraint all at the same time.

It is a divinely-balanced virtue that can only operate through faith:

- 1 Timothy 6:11-12a
- 2 Timothy 2:22-25

**5 – Our new wardrobe consists of putting on the attitude of patience. Verse 12h**

- Patience is not just limited to endurance. Too often we endure, but for no good or godly reason.

Patience is expressed in verse 13.

- Bearing with one another.
- Forgiving each other.
- Releasing the hold of someone's complaint against you.



It's time to change clothes for the season we are in. If we feel defeated, broken, empty, and frustrated, our clothing needs to change.

Take inventory of your life. How much has life been revolving around you lately? (Circle one)

some                      more than some                      a lot

What need can you meet in someone's life around you? \_\_\_\_\_

Go ahead...do it.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Our New Wardrobe, Part 2

Text: Colossians 3:9-17

*“Studies show that clothing can influence your posture, body language, motivation, and even mood. The right outfit can enhance creativity, focus and negotiation skills.”*

Dr. Samantha Boardman

## **1 – Our new wardrobe consists of putting on the actions stemming from love. Verse 14a**

- The actions involved in love bring a solidification in church relationships.
- Church relationships provide the emotional, social, physical, and spiritual support we all need in and through the events of our lives.

\*Actions of love set the relationships of Christ.

\*Actions of love cause there to be the mind of Christ in and through the situations we face.

\*Actions of love bring resolve in our purpose.

## **2 – Our new wardrobe consists of letting the peace of God rule. Verse 15a**

- Rule literally means *to let umpire*.
- The peace of Christ must become the deciding voice in our frustrating events.

How do we let His peace rule our situations?

1. Remove the platform for other voices.
2. Establish the disciple of godly priority.

3. Take His Word and meditate on it. Hold it in high value. (Hebrews 1:3; Psalm 107:20)

### **3 – Our new wardrobe consists of letting the Word of Christ richly dwell in our hearts.**

#### **Verse 16**

- There are perks that we receive from living in a home.
- There are perks that we release to those who live in our home.

The word of Christ dwelling in us:

1. Becomes the source and say of our provision.
2. Becomes the source and say of our time.
3. Becomes the source and say of our attitude.

Does the word of God live in us or do we only allow it to visit?

If it is only allowed to visit, we quickly go back to our hidden lifestyle once it leaves.

Yet, if it lives with us, it causes us to change because of its presence.



The key word here is action. Actually DO something out of love towards someone around you to whom you would not have done anything before. Do so, through the love of Jesus desiring to be more like Him!

Date: September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Our New Wardrobe, Part 2

## ILLUSTRATION

### **Super clothes with special powers (Nature.com)**

Superheroes can also inspire real-world science. The Flash, created in 1940, possessed the power of super speed, as symbolized by his sleek scarlet bodysuit. Several outfits on display may increase the speed of the wearer. The outer texture of **Speedo's Fastskin FS-Pro swimsuit** mimics shark skin, which the company claims reduces drag by around 4%.

More impressive is Dava Newman's body-hugging, flexible **BioSuit**, a space suit that relies on the mechanical counter-pressure provided by tight layers of material to protect the wearer from the vacuum of space. Newman, a professor of aeronautics and astronautics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, intends the BioSuit to replace bulkier, gas-pressurized space suits.

Most impressive are the **wing suits** developed by **Atair Aerospace**. A pilot strapped to the rigid wing suit — two polyethylene wings filled with jet fuel, powering turbines that provide almost 500 newtons of thrust — can fly at speeds of up to 350 kilometers (217 Miles) per hour. Because the wing suit's wearer cannot be detected by radar, the company is now developing a military model with which spies could jump out of an airplane in one

country and fly to another. Inventor Daniel Preston, the founder of Atair, says he has sky-dived hundreds of times in either the rigid wing suit or a non-fuelled soft suit, which has fabric webbing between the legs and arms. No other experience so exactly captures life as a superhero, Preston says. “It's as close as you can get to being a bird.”



# THE PERFECT BALANCE



## Monthly Message Direction:

October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Glory of God.
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	The Ways of God.
October 16 <sup>th</sup>	The Desire of God.
October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	The Richness of God.
October 30 <sup>th</sup>	Our Adoption.

Date: October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: The Glory of God.

Text: Exodus 33:18-34:8

*“When we speak of God’s glory, we are speaking of who God is, what He is like...what makes God, God.”*  
- Ortlund

## **1 – The glory of God is His Compassion and His Grace!** **Verse 6b**

- These are the first words God uses to describe Himself after declaring His Name.

The glory of God is His goodness!

The glory of God is His lowliness!

- Psalm 138:5-6

The only two words Jesus uses to describe Himself are Gentle and Humble.

- Matthew 11:29

## **2 – The glory of God moves Him to be slow to anger.** **Verse 6c**

- The Old Testament speaks of God being *provoked to anger*.
- But not once are we told that God is provoked towards love or provoked towards mercy.

*“His anger requires provocation; His mercy is pent up, ready to gush forth.”* Ortlund

For us as fallen humans, the New Testament reverses this for us.

- We are told to provoke one another towards love. (Hebrews 10:24)

### **3 – The glory of God abounds in lovingkindness and truth.**

**Verse 6d**

- This is extreme covenant language.
- Steadfast love is the Hebrew word *hesed* and refers to God's special commitment to the people with whom He has gladly bound Himself in an unbreakable covenant bond.

*“He will never throw His hands up in the air, despite all the reasons His people give Him to do so. He refuses to entertain the notion of forsaking us who deserve to be, or of withdrawing His heart from us the way we do toward others who hurt us.”*

He is not simply *existing* in lovingkindness; He is *abounding* in it.

### **4 – The glory of God keeps lovingkindness for thousands.**

**Verse 7a**

- There is no expiration on the love of God.
- There is nothing we can do in our entire lifetime that can remove His love towards us.

### **5 – The glory of God visits the iniquity of fathers.**

**Verse 7b**

- God will punish sin. Yet His mercy and love last longer than His punishment towards His children.

Moses could not see God's face and live.  
John says that *we have seen His glory...full of grace and truth.* John 1:14

### **The glory of Jesus displayed! Mark 6:45-51**

4 times in exodus 33-34 the Lord says He will *pass by* Moses.

Jesus is about to *pass by* the disciples in their need.

- The Septuagint (Greek Old Testament uses the same word that Mark uses for *passing by*.

Jesus was not *passing* them by to go beyond them. He was *passing by* them to show them His glory. What Moses only dreamed of.

*“The Lord passed by Moses and revealed that His deepest glory is seen in His mercy and grace. Jesus came to do in flesh and blood what God had done only in wind and voice in the Old Testament. When we see the Lord revealing His truest character to Moses in Exodus 34, we are seeing the shadow that will one day yield to the shadow caster, Jesus Christ, in the Gospels...We are being told of God's deepest heart in Exodus 34. But we are shown that heart in the Galilean carpenter...when He went to a Roman cross...”* D.O.

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**WHAT NEXT?**

Draw near to God...can't you see His love for you. Nothing you have done is calling down His judgement right now. You are under the period of His grace. Turn to Him while there is time!

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: The Ways of God.

Text: Isaiah 55:6-13

*“When left to our own ways, there is only dread, white rocks, and ovens.”*

Verses 6-7 tell us *what* to do. God calls us to:

1. Seek Him. Verse 6a
2. Call upon Him. Verse 6b
3. He invites the wicked to return. Verse 7

Verses 8-9 tell us *why*.

**1 – The height of God’s thoughts and ways are not mentioned to magnify the distance between us and Him; it is listed to close the gap.**

**Verse 9**

- This phrase of “separation” is only used one other time in Scripture.
- Psalm 103:11

The two verses together, mutually illumine one another.

- We can never speak about the ways of God in separation from the Love of God.
- If God loves us, verses in Scripture cannot push God farther away from us.

**2 – He is the future restorer of the undeserving.**

**Verses 12-13**

- Undeserving is a category in which we can all place ourselves in.

Verse 9 *must* be about How close God is.

- We can glimpse into verse 9 through verses 12-13. God is giving a glimpse of what His restoration looks like.
- His restoration is so mighty that nature itself joins in the celebration.

Romans 8:19, 20, 21. Even creation rejoices when we make steps towards God. Because creation's glory is wrapped up in our glory.

**3 – The ways of God which are not our ways, exclaim His closeness. Isaiah 57:15**

- God uses the word revive twice.
- It is His heart!

*“Because although His ways are higher than our ways, the way in which His thoughts are higher than ours is that we do not realize **just how low** He delights to come.”* Dane Ortlund

The heart of God, the unspeakably exalted One, is naturally drawn to the lowly. His ways could never be our ways.

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**WHAT NEXT?**



In tomorrow's devotions, take a few moments to dwell on Isaiah 55:8-9. Thank God that He desires you and made a way for you to come close to Him.

Date: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti

Title: The Ways of God.



## **Introduction Illustration:**

Many years ago, when the Fiji Islands were first civilized, there was great interest in bringing commerce to this primitive society. This was a daunting prospect, considering that the natives had a particularly harrowing reputation for brutality. Yet seeking to take advantage of the opportunity, a young merchant visited the Islands in the hopes of getting in on the ground floor. It just so happened, as he visited the home of a certain chief, that he noticed a Bible prominently displayed, which he took to be evidence of missionary influence. This prompted the young man to comment, *“What a shame that you have listened to the foolish nonsense of the missionaries.”*

The chief, taken aback by this remark, responded saying, *“Do you see the large white stone over there? That is a stone that just a few years ago we used to smash the heads of our victims.”* Then, pointing toward the center of the village, he asked, *“Do you see that large oven over there? That is the oven where just a few years ago we used to bake the bodies of our victims before we feasted on them.”* The chief then leaned into the face of the young man and added, *“Had we not listened to what you call the nonsense of the missionaries, I assure you that your head would have already been smashed on that rock and your body would already be baking in that oven.”*



Date: October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: The Desire of God.

Text: Jeremiah 31:20, 31-34

*“The high point of Jeremiah’s prophecy is chapters 30-33. Scholars call this, “the book of consolation” because God reveals to His people in these chapters His final response to their sinfulness, and it is not what they deserve.”*

For 29 chapters, God makes explicit the sins of Israel.  
Jeremiah 1:16; 2:13; 3:2; 4:14; 5:23; 6:7; 7:19; 8:12; 9:6;  
10:21; 11:10; 12:10; 13:10; 14:20; 15:6; 16:12; 17:5;  
18:15; 19:4; 20:18; 21:14; 22:9; 23:10; 24:8; 25:8; 26:8;  
27:9; 28:15; 29:8

- In consideration, what do we deserve?

## **1 – The desire of God is always to remember us.**

### **Verse 20b**

- *Remembering* is not the alternative to *forgetting* in this verse. God cannot forget.
- *Remembering* is the alternative to *forsaking*.
- The preparative verse for chapters 30-33 is Jeremiah 29:11

God *knows* the plans He has prepared. We do not!

- Our lack of knowing the plans of God drives us deeper into entangling sin.
- God’s knowledge of our lives drives Him deeper into compassion towards us.

God cannot and will not ever forsake us.

*Remembering* is covenant language.

- God will not forget Israel (Ephraim) because He has made a covenant to never forsake them.

## **2 – The desire of God is manifested through His yearning for us. Verse 20c**

- *Therefore my heart yearns for him...*
- Yearning always cleanses offense.

*“It is not that the offense did not happen. It is that love, desire, and purpose reflect in a greater way than retribution.”*

- God would rather save, heal, and deliver us than punish us!
- Luke 15:20

## **3 – The desire of God is that we know Him through the experience of receiving His forgiveness. Verses 33b-34**

- We must release our self-abasement and selfish pride and *let* God love us!

*“If Jeremiah 31:20 – “My heart yearns for him” – If those words were to get dressed in flesh, what might those words look like?...But at the height of human history, justice was fully satisfied and mercy was fully poured out at the same time, when the Father sent His eternally “dear Son” and “darling child” to a Roman cross, where God truly did “speak against Him,” where Jesus Christ poured out His blood, the innocent for the guilty, so that God could say of us, “I remember him still.” Even as He forsook Jesus himself. On the cross, we see what God did to satisfy His yearning for us. He went that far. He went all the way. The blushing of heaven’s bowels funneled down into the crucifixion of Christ.” Dane Ortlund*

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**WHAT NEXT?**



Repent of your small thoughts of God’s heart.  
Repent and let Him love you!

Date: October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: The Richness of God.

Text: Ephesians 2:1-6

Verses 1-3 are the problem; Verses 5-6 are the solution; Verse 4 is the reason God actually went about fixing the problem rather than leaving us where we were.

### **1 – God is abundantly rich in mercy.**

#### **Verse 4**

- Nowhere else in the Bible is God described as rich in anything.
- The only thing He is called is *rich* in mercy.

*But God...* No matter our frustrating hopelessness; there is always a *but God*.

*Because of His great love...* Remember God not only loves, God is love.

- The eternal *apage* love of God, the love which pre-existed with Him, because of Him is always directed towards us, His creation.

If His pre-existing eternal love is directed for us, we can bask in the fact that His expression towards us will be one of mercy.

### **God, being rich in mercy...not “becoming” rich in mercy.**

- When God shows mercy, it is not out of something He exerts or attains. It is out of His whole heart.

This is why:

1. He delights in mercy. Micah 7:18
2. It never ends. Lamentations 3:22-23
3. It was built in to creation. Psalm 145:9
4. It produces washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:5
5. It is eternal, forward. Psalm 23:6
6. It is God's reflex. Psalm 40:11

*“Divine love is not forbearance or longsuffering or patience. Though God does forbear with us, His love is something deeper, something more active. His love is great because it surges forwards all the more when the beloved is threatened, even if threatened as a result of its own folly.”* Ortlund

## **2 – God is mercy.**

**Verse 4**

- Mercy is who He is.

*“If mercy was something He simply had...there would be a limit on how much mercy He could dole out.”* (D.O.)

## **3 – We are in need of mercy. Verses 1-3**

- Paul is not speaking of sin the way we allude to it: *“I messed up,” “I made a mistake,” “I’m struggling with.”*

Our sins are less like an otherwise healthy man occasionally tripping up and more like a man who is disease-ridden from head to foot – or as Ephesians declares: dead.

**The statement of our death: Gentle & Lowly  
pgs. 175-176**

#### 4 – Mercy in the flesh.

Titus 2:11

- Grace has appeared.
- Once we realize how in need we are of mercy, we can come to realize and accept the embodiment of mercy which is only through Jesus Christ.

Our acceptance and desire for Jesus produces for us the solutions of Ephesians 2:6

- This means we are seated with Christ.
- If we are in Christ, we are as eternally invincible as He is.

*“Whatever Christ is freed from, I am freed from it. It can no more hurt me than it can hurt Him now in heaven.”*

-Sibbes

*“For God to de-resurrect you, to bring His rich mercy to an end, Jesus Christ Himself would have to be sucked down out of heaven and put back in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. You’re that safe!” – D.O.*

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WHAT NEXT?



Can you receive His mercy which He is daily targeting you with? Respond to Him and focus for a moment on His life...not your own.

**The evidence of His mercy: Gentle and Lowly,  
pgs. 178-179**

Date: October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: The Richness of God.

BOOK QUOTE:

**The statement of our death: Gentle & Lowly  
pgs. 175-176**

“We were following Satan (“the prince of the power of the air”), even if we didn’t know it. The power of hell was not only something we yielded to, it was something inside of us – “the spirit that is now at work *in* the sons of disobedience.” We were “by nature children of wrath. Divine wrath was something so deserving, so attendant, that we were its very children. We didn’t just occasionally slip into the passion of our flesh; we “lived in” those passions. It was the air we breathed. What water is to fish, inordinate ugliness of desire was to us. We inhaled rejection of God, and we exhaled self-destruction and well-deserved judgment. Beneath our smiles at the grocery store and cheerful greetings to the mailman we were quietly enthroning Self and eviscerating our souls of the beauty and dignity and worship for which they were made. Sin was not something we lapsed into; it defined our moment-by-moment existence at the level of deed, word, thought, and yes, even desire – “carrying out the desires of the body and mind.”...In short, we were dead. Utterly helpless. That’s what mercy healed.”



## **The evidence of His mercy: Gentle and Lowly, pgs. 178-179**

“Perhaps, looking at the evidence of your life, you do not know what to conclude except that this mercy of God in Christ has passed you up. Maybe you have been deeply mistreated. Misunderstood. Betrayed by the one person you should have been able to trust. Abandoned. Taken advantage of. Perhaps you carry a pain that will never heal till you are dead. *If my life is any evidence of the mercy of God in Christ, you might think, I’m not impressed.*

To you I say, the evidence of Christ’s mercy toward you is not your life. The evidence of His mercy towards you is His (*life*) – mistreated, misunderstood, betrayed, abandoned. Eternally. In your place.

If God sent His own Son to walk through the valley of condemnation, rejection, and hell, you can trust Him as you walk through your own valleys on your way to heaven.”

Date: October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Our Adoption.

Text: Ephesians 1:3-6

*The Yates Way Pool – Multi-billionaire in Poverty*

**1 – As Christians, we are blessed with every spiritual blessing. Verse 3b**

- “Spiritual” not meaning that they are not physically or earthly tangible; but that they originate in heaven and manifest in our situations.
- We are given through Christ, everything we need to live a growing and fruitful life.

Growth and fruit are inevitable in the life of a Believer.

- John 15:5
- Psalm 1:3

These spiritual blessings produce: Psalm 1:3

1. Fruit in season. This is what we need when we need it.
2. Leaf does not wither. This is the stability of Jesus no matter the outside condition.
3. He prospers. Favor in blessings and favor in hardships.

**2 – As Christians, we were chosen even before the formation of the world. Verse 4**

- We are able to write in before Genesis 1:1, that we were chosen by God.



His eternal past desire was to demonstrate to us His love through Jesus Christ.

If we were chosen before the foundation of the world, His provision for us is also outside of the limitations of this world.

- If we look to God for fulfilment rather than what this world can offer, we receive from our bank of spiritual blessing.

### **3 – As Christians, God’s will lies in His adoption of us as His children. Verse 5**

- We learn the will of God as we learn to be His children.

There is no will, purpose, provision, or happiness outside of being a child of God.

Luke 15:20-24, No matter our condition, as adopted children we receive:

- |                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| 1. Affection.             | Verse 20 |
| 2. Acceptance.            | Verse 20 |
| 3. Covering.              | Verse 22 |
| 4. Aid of His messengers. | Verse 22 |
| 5. Authority.             | Verse 22 |
| 6. Protection.            | Verse 22 |
| 7. Sustenance.            | Verse 23 |
| 8. Provision.             | Verse 23 |
| 9. Celebration.           | Verse 23 |
| 10. Resurrection.         | Verse 24 |

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## **WHAT NEXT?**

Be consumed with God and His ways for your life. Once consumed with Him, provision is an automatic byproduct of relationship. Trust and love. Read and spend time.

Date: October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Our Adoption.

## Opening Illustration

Bill Bright, in his book **Revolution Now** says "sometime ago I was visiting in West Texas the largest pool of oil that has ever been discovered, until recent years. It is known as the Yates Way Pool.

This property was owned by a man named Yates, a sheep rancher. He used to graze his sheep over these rolling West Texas hills. He was living in poverty, on relief. It was during the depression years and there was not enough money to buy food and clothing for the family. I am sure that as he grazed his sheep he often wondered where his next meal would come from. Then one day an oil company sent a seismographic crew into the area, and they said "We believe there is oil on your property and we would like to drill a wild-cat test." He signed the contract and they begin to drill . At a 1,015 ft. they discovered oil. They did not discover a pool, they discovered an ocean of oil. The first well came in at around 8,000 barrels a day of oil. Now oil is worth about \$3.00 per barrel. When you multiply 8K x 3, you get almost a quarter of a million dollars a day. But the next well was 180,000,000 barrels which would mean that about one half a million dollars worth of oil could be produced from that one well in a single day. Then there were many wells. They were everywhere! As a matter of fact, two years ago the

government, after all these years, did a test on one of the wells and discovered that it still have the potential of flowing 125,000,000 barrels a day and Mr. Yates owned it all! It was all his, yet he was living in poverty on relief.

Can you imagine - he was a multi-billionaire but he was living in poverty. I do not know of a better illustration of the Christian life than this.

The moment we become the children of God, heirs of God, all the resources of God are made available to us."

# THE PERFECT BALANCE

november

2020-2022  
**ONE**  
TWENTY TWENTY TWO  
God and Father

## Monthly Message Direction:

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| November 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Desiring to do His Will. |
| November 13 <sup>th</sup> | Changing our Purpose.    |
| November 20 <sup>th</sup> | Approaching in Boldness. |
| November 27 <sup>th</sup> | Hearing the Father.      |

Date: November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: José Gavidia



Title: Desiring to do His Will.

Text: 1 Peter 2:1-5

*In 2018, a mine in Australia produced 2 of the biggest gold specimens in recorded history. The biggest of the stones came in at 198 lbs. and estimated to contain about 143 lbs of gold. The second, was 132 lbs. The owner of the mine estimated the value of gold he found was 10.4 million dollars.*

- The mine had been in operation for over 45 years. This was their biggest piece ever. It has never yet run out of gold.
- How similar to God's Word.

## **1 – Our growth and our desire to grow in relation to how we ingest the Word of God.**

### **Verse 2a**

- We are told to *long* for the pure milk of the word.
- *Long* is the Greek word *epipotheo* and means *to crave*.

How do we begin to crave something?

1. Establish the discipline. Setting our mind.
2. Establish the time. Rising earlier or making priority.
3. Allowing it to stay. Memorization is so important.

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**2 – Our growth in the Word develops from the practice of using it. Verse 2b**

➤ *Growing in respect to salvation.*

We must be active in the growth of our salvation.

➤ We must look for ways to practically apply the Word of God to our specific situations.

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**3 – Our growth is enhanced through our continual dependence on Jesus Christ.**

**Verse 4a**

➤ *And coming to Him as to a living stone...*

How often are we coming to Jesus for not only our need but for each aspect of life?

Luke 18:3-7

Key verse 7

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Spend an effort to memorize a scripture this week. Let it get into your heart and into your situation.

Date: November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Changing Our Purpose.

Text: Ephesians 2:8-13

## 1 – We are the workmanship of God.

### Verse 10

- *Workmanship* is the Greek word *poiléma* and literally means *a woven fabric*. It is specifically attributed to the works of God as Creator.

There is not one thing that God has created that does not contain purpose.

- When God creates, purpose is manifested as well.
- Colossians 2:16 – Through Him and For Him.

We are professionals at creating things to look at!

- But when God creates, His intention always brings Him glory.

## 2 – We were created for relationship and purpose.

### Verse 13

- Even through the eyes of a fallen world, we see that man's greatest struggles lie within the context of broken relationships.
- Sicknesses, betrayals, divorces, abuses, addictions, friendships, deceitfulness, etc.
- These struggles all appear because the purpose within these relationships become marred.

Our true purpose is and will always be hinged upon our relationship with the Godhead.

- Our walk with God the Father, Jesus His Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The original intent and original purpose of creation has not changed since the creation of man.

Genesis 1:26 – This verse only shows the authority which has been placed in us. Yet it does not show intent of purpose.

- We were created with the authority of victory.

Genesis 1:28 – This verse is the intent of purpose.

- God wanted them to multiply so He could be close to each person. The more they multiplied, the more people could walk in relationship with God.

The purpose has not changed. Sin changed the relationship. Jesus redeemed the relationship.

Therefore we must now, with redeemed relationship:

1. Be fruitful, John 15:5
2. Multiply, Colossians 1:28
3. Fill the earth, Habakkuk 2:14;  
Psalm 22:27; Isaiah 40:5
4. Subdue it. Galatians 5:1;  
Isaiah 58:6; 1 John 1:5; Mark 16:17

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## WHAT NEXT?

Realize that your purpose is not your own. Once we see it, we will *feel* the happiness that we crave which lies unfulfilled in ourselves. Pray for godly purpose realization!



Date: November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Hearing the Father.

Text: Hebrews 1:1-2; John 14:21-26; 16:13-15

*“What the Patient hears...could have an adverse effect on his recovery.” Henry Bennett*

### **1 – The voice of God is not far from us.**

**Hebrews 1:1-2**

- The more we strive to know Jesus, the clearer we hear the voice of God.

The voice of God through our relationship with Jesus prepares us for our journey, sustains us through our journey, and blesses us to yield glory to Him.

### **2 – Obedience to His voice opens for us a lifestyle of full disclosure. John 14:18-21**

- *Disclosure* is the Greek word *emphanizo* and means *to appear (in person) to declare, to make visible.*
- Exodus 33:13-14

The desire of God is that He reveal Himself in such a way that we would live ready through our trust in Him.

- Ready for what? Ready for each event and season of our life.

### **3 – The full disclosure of God is the work of the Holy Spirit teaching us all things. John 14:26**

- The Helper. He is our Ebenezer.
- 1 Samuel 7:12

It is interesting to see that God's voice for a situation, manifests by giving us the Holy Spirit to Help us through the situation.

- We hear best when we are in the midst of it.
- Chaos outside, urges the ears inside, to hear.
- 1 Kings 19:11-13

#### **4 – The full disclosure of God prepares us for what is to come.                      John 16:13-14**

The image: Jesus is at the right hand of God interceding for us. (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25) The Father is listening to the words of Jesus which are moved by the cries of the redeemed. (1 John 2:1) The Father begins to speak. The Holy Spirit hears the words of the Father and whispers them to us. (John 16:13b)

#### **5 – The full disclosure of God is more than words. It is effects.                      John 16:14-15**

Not only does the Holy Spirit disclose the words He hears from the father (John 16:13), but He also discloses or gives us the possessions of Jesus (John 16:14).

- What does Jesus possess? Power, authority, peace, comfort, etc.

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**WHAT NEXT?**



The Holy Spirit is sharing something from the throne of God directly to you. What is it? Is it a word? Or a discipline? Give in to it. He is speaking to you!

Date: November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Hearing the Father.

### Opening Illustration:

The banter of the operating room may have to be toned down, if new research on unconscious awareness in patients under total anesthesia is borne out. Surgeons have taken their patients' oblivion as license for talking as though the patient were not there--even making remarks that patients would find frightening if they heard.

But two research groups report that what anesthetized patients hear can affect them. "What the patient hears--say a remark like, 'He's a goner' - -could conceivably have an adverse effect on his recovery," says Henry Bennett, one of the researchers.

In one study, anesthetized patients heard a taped voice tell them during surgery they should signify having heard the message by touching their ears in a postoperative interview. Later, in the interview, the patients tugged at their ears, although none could recall having heard the message, nor were they particularly aware of touching their ears.

Dr. Bennett, a psychologist now at the Univ. of California Medical school at Davis, reports that when patients were given the suggestion during surgery that one hand was becoming warmer and the other cooler, the hands' temperature did so.

This suggests, says Bennett, inadvertent negative remarks--such as, "Holy Moses, this is a terrible bone graft" --could interfere with recovery.

Under anesthesia, "Patients may be more vulnerable to upsetting remarks they might hear," Bennett says. "Their normal coping techniques aren't available, since they are drugged."

Other research involving patients undergoing back surgery suggests possible beneficial applications. Because a common postoperative complication of back surgery is difficulty is urinating, most patients require a catheter. During surgery, the researchers suggested to the anesthetized patients that they would be able to relax their pelvic muscles afterward, and so need no catheter. None of the patients who received the suggestion subsequently needed a catheter.

*Spokesman Review, February 13, 1984.*



## Monthly Message Direction:

- |                           |                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| December 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Different Gifts, Same Giver Pt. 1 |
| December 11 <sup>th</sup> | Different Gifts, Same Giver Pt. 2 |
| December 18 <sup>th</sup> | Different Gifts, Same Giver Pt. 3 |
| December 25 <sup>th</sup> | Different Gifts, Same Giver Pt. 4 |

Date: December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Papparatti



Title: Different Gifts,  
Same Giver – Part 1

Text: Ephesians 4:7; Romans 12:3-8

*“Christmas is all about the introduction to the cross of Calvary. Every part of Christmas points to the death and resurrection of Jesus.”*

### **1 – Christ gave to us the gift of prophecy.**

#### **Verse 6b**

- This word translated as *prophecy* is the GK word *propheteia* and means *the Spirit-given ability to proclaim the written word of God with clarity and to apply it to a particular situation with a view toward correction or edification.*
- It is the extraordinary ability to discern and proclaim truth.

We would all like to have a gifting that prepared us for the situations of our life and the idea of what tomorrow holds.

In a report given by Regent professors DellaVecchio and Winston, after interviewing people who had high levels of prophetic gifting, they found these people to have a high level of faith. In addition, people interviewed who did not have a prophetic gifting were also found to have a decreased level of faith in God.

Growing faith in Christ, developed faith in Christ, and disciplined faith in Christ produces a

preparedness for the events of our life and a discernment between right and wrong.

For this life, we need to grow in our faith. The more we grow in our faith, the more we will be:

1. Prepared for sudden life shifts,
2. Mentally able to continue through,
3. Capable of discerning right and wrong.
4. Maintain a joyful disposition and attitude.

## 2 – Christ gave us the gift of service.

### Verse 7a

- The Gk. word for *servicing* is the word *diakonia* and means *the God-given ability to identify unmet needs and make use of available resources to meet those needs.*

This is so important as we enter this Christmas season in that, how we serve reflects our interpretation on the sacrifice of Jesus coming to serve us by giving His life for us.

As we meet needs with faith in mind, we:

1. Solidify our connection to Christ,
2. Connect people to Christ,
3. Allow the Holy Spirit to bring conviction,
4. Receive from God's storehouse.

If we use that which has been given to us to serve others, it is investment with a fast return.

- Philippians 4:18-19

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### WHAT NEXT?

Grow your faith! Do not let anything distract you from pressing in to know God. The more you press in, the more you realize His power in you!

Date: December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Different Gifts,  
Same Giver – Part 2

Text: Ephesians 4:7; Romans 12:3-8

*There is no such thing as a hurting member. Tell that to the splinter in your hand. It is a hurting body!*

### **3 – Christ gave to us the gift of teaching.**

#### **Verse 7b**

- *Teaching* is the Greek word *didasko* and nearly always refers to teaching the Scriptures (the written Word of God).
- In the N.T., teaching the Word is shown as a key role of life with a great frequency of being mentioned 220 times.

The importance of teaching and being taught the Word of God must hold prominence in the life of any Believer.

It is so important because:

1. The Word of God is powerfully positioned by God for the events of our life.  
2 Tim. 3:16-17
2. The Word of God reveals God. We cannot know God apart from His Word. Every ‘Why?’ finds its place in the Word.  
John 1:1

*“In Scripture, the person of God and the Word of God are everywhere, interrelated so much that whatever is true about the character of God is true about the nature of God’s Word.”* Richard Mayhue



We must all take a Scripture that we have experienced and teach it to someone this week.

#### **4 – Christ gave to us the gift of exhorting/encouraging. Verse 8a**

- *Exhorting* is the Greek word *parakaleo* which means *to make a call from the position of being ‘up-close’ and personal.*
- It is all about developing deeper relationships with those in the body of Christ.

Exhorting is more than just encouraging. As Barnes notes, *“It denotes one who urges the practical duties of religion.”*

- Is it the closeness to a person and urging them to practice their relationship with Christ.

*“The biblical writers do not get into people’s lives only when things are falling apart; they get in when things are going well. And they exhort them and urge them and stir them up to keep on doing well and to do better and better.”* John Piper

We must all take an individual in the body of Christ and become a biblical exhorter.

- We must live forward moving lives!

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### **WHAT NEXT?**

If we do not live in an active and interested way in body lifestyle, we are truthfully disconnected from the body. And, a disconnected member is prone to attack, isolation, and defeat. Be active in the body of Christ!!

Date: December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Rai Paparatti



Title: Different Gifts,  
Same Giver – Part 3

Text: Ephesians 4:7; Romans 12:3-8

*“In God’s economy you will be more blessed if you’re a spiritual conduit rather than a spiritual cul-de-sac.” – Tony Evans*

**5 – Christ gave to us the gift of giving with liberality. Verse 8b**

➤ This reflects His very own giving nature.

We often do not want to be the initiator of this but rather the receiver. Yet, the giver possesses a power that is only experienced through the release of our own possessions.

➤ Luke 14:33

➤ Acts 20:35

1. The giver experiences being used by God to accomplish His work. James 1:17a
2. The giver experiences the faithfulness of God who never changes. James 1:17b  
– If God calls to release a gift, He never calls us to be in lack. He calls us to release, only to be steadfastly filled and fulfilled. (Proverbs 19:17)
3. The giver always has the opportunity to be used supernaturally. Luke 6:38  
- Luke 6:33-35 – Expect nothing in return, yet our return will be great!

- *Great* is the Gk. word *Polus* and means *many, numerous, abundant, intense and long.*

**6 – Christ gave to us the gift of leading with diligence.** **Verse 8c**

- Surprising here than *diligence* means *quickly obeying what the Lord reveals is His priority.*

This elevates the:

- Better over the good,
- The more important over the important,
- And does so with earnest swiftness or intensity.

How intense is our earnestness to DO what Christ is prompting us to do?

The usage of the word *diligence* was sometimes used as a metaphor for piloting as in piloting a boat. Especially in Biblical times and context:

- Extreme care was to be given because life and livelihood were always at stake.

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**WHAT NEXT?**



Take time this week and come to a conclusion how, when, and why you will give. It is the opportunity, literally, of a lifetime.

After you give, share with a church member the anticipation of what God will do!



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Text: Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38;  
Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 2:1-11; 13-15

### **1 – The coming of Jesus caused inconvenience.**

- Inconvenience for Mary and Josephs **lifestyle**. It became a strained engagement.
- Inconvenience for the magi which came to see Him. It caused a frustrating journey and run in with evil leaders.
- Inconvenience for Herod who feared Him. Jesus' birth threatened the powers at work in this world.
- Inconvenience for the very world He created and now came into. The status of the world was shaken.

### **2 – The coming of Jesus caused adjustment.**

- Adjustment to the way of life Mary and Joseph **thought** they would have. Not all our

- plans come to fruition. Our ideals are often dwarfed in light of God's plan for us.
- Adjustment in the **comfort** of having a baby in the right environment. Not in a stable. Jesus was born in the very lowest of lows. There was no **convenience**. We find it in our life as well. Our convenience is often sacrificed.
- Adjustment in the **lifestyle** of Mary and Joseph. They had to flee from everything they knew and hide in Egypt.

**Newness because of hardship does not mean forsakenness!**

**Newness in hardship means deliverance and salvation!**

- Adjustment to the **plan** of God, receiving both joy and hardship in the fulfillment of God's plan.

**3 – The coming of Jesus highlighted the greatest weaknesses in all who were involved.**

- Weakness of Mary being a **virgin teen with child**.
- Weakness of Joseph being a **disgraced righteous finance**.
- Weakness of shepherds becoming the **choice for this great news**. Shepherds were the lowest in a society that was eager to boom.

- Weakness of **place in life**. Stable. Back shed! Alone and isolated.
  - Weakness of **position**. Away from family during birth.
  - Weakness of **society**. Hiding for fear of death. Herod's decree.
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Jesus coming brought:

1. Inconvenience,
2. Adjustment, and
3. Highlighted weakness.

### **He will do the same in our very own life.**

#### **With inconvenience we receive:**

1. Directive,
2. Empowerment, and
3. Freedom.

#### **With adjustment we receive:**

1. Supply for every need,
2. Closeness of His presence and
3. Completion in His purpose.

Nothing could stand in the way of His purpose being accomplished in and through us. Philippians 1:6.

#### **With highlighted weakness we receive:**

1. Strength to magnify God through the weakness
2. Power to live in wholeness because our weaknesses magnifies His strength.

**Because He is strong, my weakness is only a platform for His miraculous intervention. My life becomes the glitter of His window display.**