



# Mariner's **DISCOVERY** **Church**

*OurMDC.org*  
(925) 354-1096  
1641 Bixler Road,  
Discovery Bay  
California 94505

***Program for Sunday, August 31, 2025***

***Please welcome the worship music team this week!***

**Call to Worship:** *Fill My Cup*  
*Holy Water*

**Welcome, announcements, and prayer:**

**Thanks for joining our Worship Service today.....**

- **JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY THIS WED. September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 P.M.** here in the Fellowship House. We're on Chapter 12 in the book of 1st Corinthians. A copy of the study guide is on the back table. You can also join **ONLINE** with **Zoom**. Go to our website to join in or give us your E-mail Address on a Connect Envelope and we'll send you a link. You can also contact the Church office at (925-354-1096) for more information.
- **Attention Ladies** - Mark your calendar for this Sat., September 6th at 9 A.M., for Breakfast at the **Discovery Bay Marina Restaurant**.
- **Attention Men** - Mark your calendar for this Sat., September 6th at 9 A.M., for Breakfast at **Byron Roadhouse Restaurant** located at 3045 Taylor Lane in Byron. (next to Borden Junction Garage)
- **Time to think about selling Christmas Trees this November.** There are 2 signup sheets on the information table. One to help unload trees & setup the lot on Sat. Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> and one to help during the sales, which runs from Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.
- **Following Church Service on September 28<sup>th</sup>** we will have a BBQ & Baptism. Please contact Pastor Larry if your interested in being baptized.
- **If you have any prayer requests**, please fill out a Connect Envelope and place it in the wooden offering box in the back. Also, during the week you can email requests at:

**[PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org](mailto:PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org)**  
**Thank you for your Offerings.....**

***There are several ways you can give:***

**To Donate:**

**OFFERING BOXES** - In Back

**ONLINE**

Go To: [www.OurMDC.org](http://www.OurMDC.org)

**BY MAIL**

Mariner's Discovery Church

P.O. Box 1667

Discovery Bay, CA. 94505

**or CALL THE OFFICE - (925) 354-1096**

**Adoration:** *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

**Selected Scripture reading:** Proverbs

**Message:** *The Wisdom of True Friendships*

**Affirmation:** *Raise a Hallelujah*

**Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues**

### **Selected Scriptures:**

**Proverbs 17:17** A friend loves at all times,  
And a brother is born for adversity.

**Proverbs 18:24** A man of too many friends comes to ruin,  
But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

**Proverbs 27:9** Oil and perfume make the heart glad,  
So a man's counsel is sweet to his friend.

**Proverbs 25:17** Let your foot rarely be in your neighbor's house,  
Or he will become weary of you and hate you.

**Proverbs 25:20** Like one who takes off a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar on soda,  
Is he who sings songs to a troubled heart.

**Proverbs 26:18-19** Like a madman who throws  
Firebrands, arrows and death,  
19 So is the man who deceives his neighbor,  
And says, "Was I not joking?"

**Proverbs 27:14** He who blesses his friend with a loud voice early in the morning,  
It will be reckoned a curse to him.

**Proverbs 13:20** He who walks with wise men will be wise,  
But the companion of fools will suffer harm.

**Proverbs 27:5-6** Better is open rebuke  
Than love that is concealed.

6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend,  
But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.

**Proverbs 16:28** A perverse man spreads strife,  
And a slanderer separates intimate friends.

**Proverbs 29:5** A man who flatters his neighbor  
Is spreading a net for his steps.

**Proverbs 27:9** Oil and perfume make the heart glad,  
So a man's counsel is sweet to his friend.

**Proverbs 27:17** Iron sharpens iron,  
So one man sharpens another.

**John 15:13-16** "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you."

**Friday Devotional:** Malachi 2:17 You have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet you say, "How have we wearied Him?" In that you say, "Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and He delights in them," or, "Where is the God of justice?"

### **The Fear of the Lord: To begin with the God**

**Proverbs 9:10** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,  
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

- *Beginning*: Wisdom is the foundation on which a life demonstrating competence with the complex realities of life: moral discernment, practical insight, oriented towards right relationships ( ).
- *Knowledge of the Holy one* (experiential knowledge), Holy = God in His separateness (purity, moral perfection).
- *Understanding*: Insight, discernment, ability to apply knowledge wisely.
- *Fear*: Not terror nor dread, but reverential awe, humility, and respectful submission.
- What you fear reveals what you love, the loss of which (who) and you become undone.

**Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;

Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

- *The Fear of the Lord*: reverential awe, respect, and submissive trust in God's holiness, sovereignty, and authority
- Is the beginning of knowledge: Starting point, skillful living. The knowledge that matters. After you get saved, does your perspective about what you thought you knew change?
- Fools despise wisdom and instruction: Fools: spiritually or morally obstinate, rejecting the ways of God.
- God is the source of knowledge.
- Rejection of God leads to distorted thinking and moral failure.
- We need divine guidance to overcome folly.

### **The Fear of the Lord: To know God**

**Deuteronomy 10:12-13** "Now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require from you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the Lord's commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?"

- *The Fear of the Lord*: reverential awe, respect, and submissive trust in God's holiness, sovereignty, and authority
- *Walk in His ways*: live consistently with God's commands, and character.
- *Love Him*: loyalty, devotion, and affection (mirror His love).
- *Serve the Lord with all you heart and soul*: Worship, dedication, obedience, with total commitment.
- We are His people. God is our God.

**Psalms 130:4** But there is forgiveness with You,

That You may be feared.

- *But there is forgiveness with You*: But contrasts with verse 3, if God marks the iniquities, who can stand. God extends mercy rather than judgment. Forgiveness is pardon, release from guilt.
- *That you may be feared*. Grammar links forgiveness to feared. God forgiving inspires love, loyalty, awe.
- Forgiveness is rooted in the character of God.
- The purpose of forgiveness is to restore a relationship so that worship can happen.

### **The Fear of the Lord: To trust God**

**Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the Lord with all your heart

And do not lean on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge Him,

And He will make your paths straight.

- *Trust in the Lord with all your faith:* complete (emotions, will, intellect) undivided faith in the Lord.
- *Do not lean on your own understanding:* Human understanding is limited, fallible, and influenced by sin.
- *In all your ways acknowledge Him,*” The ways, paths, decision, habits, actions submitted to God, seeking His will.
- *And He will make your paths straight.:* promise of providential guidance, with God smoothing out obstacles.

### **The Fear of the Lord: To experience the grace of God**

**Proverbs 20:9** Who can say, "I have cleansed my heart,  
I am pure from my sin"?

- *Who can say...:* Rhetorical question; no one can.
- *I have cleansed my heart:* purify, make clean inner thoughts, motive, will.
- *I am free from my sin.* We cannot cleanse ourselves. We cannot purify ourselves.

**Proverbs 16:6** By lovingkindness and truth iniquity is atoned for,  
And by the fear of the Lord one keeps away from evil.

- Conundrum: Lovingkindness (God’s loyal love expressed) versus “truth” is faithfulness to the law.
- Answered in Jesus.

**Matthew 27:43** HE TRUSTS IN GOD; LET GOD RESCUE Him now, IF HE DELIGHTS IN HIM;  
for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'”

- Jesus was the only person to completely trust God.
- Jesus was forsaken by God in order that we would never be forsaken by God.

**Philippians 2:12-13** So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

- Christian living is a cooperative process: We are to actively pursue sanctification with reverence, empowered by the work of God through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

### **The Fear of the Lord**

- To begin with God.
- To know God.
- To trust God.
- To experience the grace of God.
- The Fear of the Lord is a life rearranging, joyful, reverential awe and wonder before God for who He is, and what He has done.

### **The wisdom of true friendship**

**Proverbs 17:17; 18:24**

- Friends are unique gifts of God in our life.
- Not like family, nor friends, nor neighbors.
- “Do life with;”= loves at all times.
- Sticks closer than a brother.
- Friends we pick. Choose wisely.
- John Maxwell: “You are the average of your five closest friends.”

### **Proverbs 18:24; 27:9**

- True friends are rare, built on shared affinity.
- Companions are many.
- True friends are few. Deep. Vulnerable.
- Sweetness = discovered (honey, not sugar).
- Be receptive to feedback, even if unasked-for advice happens.
- Give counsel that refreshes the soul.

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### **Proverbs 17:17; 18:24;**

- True friends are forged.
- True friends are loyal.
- True friends are there for you, regardless.

### **Proverbs 25:20, 26:18-19, 27:14**

- True friends are sensitive and empathetic.

### **Proverbs 13:20, 27:5-6; 29:5**

- Choose wise friends who will honestly rebuke, and provide wise counsel

### **John 15:13-16;**

- Jesus is our True Friend.
- Jesus declared that we are His friends.
- Jesus knew that Gethsemane (they slept, Jesus prayed), betrayal, denial, crucifixion, and being forsaken were ahead of Him.
- Jesus remained a loyal and faithful friend.
- True friends are a gift.
- Quality time needs quantity time.
- Friends may require sacrifice.
- Choose your friends wisely.
- Be loyal. Do not gossip about your friends.
- Be sensitive. Be empathetic.
- Be courageous, speaking the truth in love (counsel).
- Jesus is our friend.
- Jesus calls us friends.
- Jesus is our example.

**You are not alone. God is with you! MDC wants to help. We are here for you.**

Prayer Request: [PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org](mailto:PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org)

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