# Journey EVANGELICAL CHURCHY



JEC Sisters Group Christmas Gathering

14614 Magnolia Street Westminster, CA 92683 (714) 893-5500 | JourneyEC.org A member of EFCA | efca.org



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Elders, Deacons, and
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# Today's Service December 22, 2024

Worship Presider.......Elder Peter Leung
Congregational Worship......Kyle Ng
Worship Through Scripture.....Pastor Phil Yoder
Worship Through Response.....Kyle Ng
Worship Through Communion....Pastor Phil Yoder
Benediction.....Pastor Phil Yoder

## Sermon Notes - Trouble or Treasure at Jesus' Birth?

Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20

There were strange visitors and events that caused Mary both trouble and "treasure" around the birth of her son, Jesus the Christ, the Son of God. Are you experiencing trouble from Jesus' absence or "treasure" from His presence in your life?

- 1. The troubling message to Mary (1:26-38)
  - Mary's question: "What Child is This?"
  - The Lord's answer: "Joy to the World!"
- 2. The treasures in the heart of Mary (2:1-7)
  - Jesus' birth: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
  - Jesus' birth: "Away In a Manger"
- 3. The proof via angels and shepherds (2:8-20)
  - Angels' proclamation: "Joy to the World"
  - Shepherds' response: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"
  - What response do you have to the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world?
  - What gift will you bring to Him?

#### **Reflection & Discussion**

- 1. Which Christmas hymn best summarizes the Christmas story?
- 2. What event seems most miraculous around His birth?
- 3. Why did Jesus have such humble beginnings?
- 4. Why might others have celebrated with Joseph and Mary?
- 5. What is the reason Jesus came for you and me?

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Official Website + Facebook | journeyec.org + https://www.facebook.com/JourneyEvangelicalChurch/

Contact Us! | Contact an Elder or Deacon at elders@journeyec.org or deacons@journeyec.org, respectively. | The deacons would like to support you in prayer! Email prayer requests to prayer@journeyec.org

Thank you for attending FBH last Sunday to hear Koleen French sharing! If you would like a copy of her notes, please email Paulah Wong at <a href="mailto:paulah@journeyec.org">paulah@journeyec.org</a>

**Holiday Bible + Book Sale** | 70-95% OFF! Located at the outside table on the lawn, find a good read or study Bible for 2025 and gift a Bible or book for Christmas! Also, check out the special table of books from Rev. Wayland Wong's library, donated for your reading and use.

**Alzheimer's Update** | by Dr. Trinh. Saturday, January 25, 2025: 9am - 12pm in the MPR. For more information, please contact Cherry Chin Hsia at <a href="mailto:cherrychin1@aol.com">cherrychin1@aol.com</a>

No Ping Pong Ministry for December 24th and December 31st - enjoy your time!

# **GO Partner Update from Adam Joe**

Written by Adam Joe

I recently read about the importance of where you are standing. Not just literally where you are physically standing, but who are you with? Know what you are doing and what you believe. But, who are you in kinship with? For the past 3 years, God has brought me into kinship with child survivors of violence in Guatemala, from 2-17 years of age.

I've also been in meetings with judges, public prosecutors, and megachurch pastors - in spaces where power is held. Yet, it is not in these spaces of power where I have felt the Kingdom of God near. Rather, it is in Bible studies, devotionals, prayer times, dodgeball games, and eating contests with 12-year-olds - where I have experienced God's presence fervently.

Over these 3 years, I have learned repeatedly that God has called me to stand with these children, survivors of violence. To stand with them, knowing that they have suffered a lot, but somehow being able to see them as children, just as God sees them. Standing with them in these past years has meant anything from playing a soccer game, to simply listening to their stories, worshiping together, studying the Bible together, or eating together.

Standing with a 16-year-old mother - who says, I learned this year how to be a leader, and led a Bible study with her classmates. Standing with a 15-year-old, guiding 35 other girls in a time of intercessory prayer. And standing with a 6-year-old who asks me everyday if today is Wednesday, the day of our weekly devotional.

By standing with, being in mutuality, not just doing something for or saying something to



experience God
together in mutual
transformation.
Ushering the
Kingdom of God
forth on earth as it
is in heaven.

3 years into my time as a missionary in Guatemala, I can confidently say, I am standing right where God has called me to be.

I'd love to share more about my ministry in Guatemala, please get in touch at: adamharrisonjoe@gmail.com

## After service, please stay for refreshments and fellowship.