

“Draw Near to God” James 4:1-17 5/28/23

Today, we'd like to see the title of "Draw Near to God" in James 4:1-17.

To Online Word's sheep, *through MP3 or YouTube Channel*, on the earth, we'd like to suggest the 3 expositional Questions. ([_____ Maranatha Worship Songs](#). Videos are seeable upon the click on the website). *YouTube Channel is not Available in China, Iran, Germany, etc. where only MP3 is available*

Q1. In verse 2, "You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask," what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

Q2. In verse 8, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded," what does it mean? And how can we apply it to our lives?

Q3. In verse 11, "Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge," what does it mean within the context? And how can we apply it to our lives?

(Background for context of this text on Daily Bible Reading and Studying Weekly Book Basis)

In the last time, James 3:18, "Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace," peace makers sow peace the byproduct of righteousness, being blessed and called as sons of God in the light of Matthew 5:9, "Blessed *are* the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God."

TEXT: NKJV [KJV]

Inductive **Explanation** in context & syntax

¹Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?

1=...wars and fights...from your desires for pleasure...war in your members? (Wars and fights, such as hatred, contentions or dissensions, in the members of the body of Christ or the church for fleshly pleasure, not God's pleasure, do come from the flesh against the Spirit Gal 5:17-23¹)

¹ Gal 5:17-23 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

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| <p><u>² You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.</u></p> <p><u>³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.</u></p> <p><u>⁴ Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.</u></p> | <p>2=Q1lust and do not have...murder and covet and cannot obtain...fight and war...not have because you do not ask (James listed some of 10 commandments – murder the 6th and covet the 10th, which are summarized to love God mostly and to love your neighbor as yourself; because of your flesh such as lust, murder, covet, fight, or war, you don't have your inquiry. Also because you do not ask the Lord about it, you don't have it. So, we can learn that according to God's will, without the flesh or the condemned things, we may receive whatever we ask in prayer <i>Ex 20:1-17; Mat 22:37-40; Mat 26:42; 1 John 3:21-22; Mat 21:22²</i>)</p> <p>3=You ask and do not receive...ask amiss...spend it on your pleasures (You ask but do not receive because you ask an unrighteous thing for fleshly pleasure or carnal pleasure which is enmity against God <i>Rom 8:7-8³</i>)</p> <p>4= Adulterers and adulteresses!...friendship with the world is enmity with God? ...a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God (The 7th commandment not to commit adultery; the friendship with the world is deemed as adultery because we are the bride of the Lord the groom whom we must love mostly, but we love the worldly things – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – not pride of God. The worldly thing is not of God the Father but is of the world, of the prince of the power of the air, devils, or Satan <i>1 John 2:16; Eph 2:1-3⁴</i>)</p> |
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² *Ex 20:1-17* And God spoke all these words, saying: ² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ³ "You shall have no other gods before Me. ⁴ "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. ⁷ "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain. ⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. ¹² "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³ "You shall not murder. ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵ "You shall not steal. ¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."; *Mat 22:37-40* Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."; *Mat 26:42* Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done."; *1 John 3:21-22* Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. ²² And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight; *Mat 21:22*; And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

³ *Rom 8:7-8* Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁴ *1 John 2:16* For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world; *Eph 2:1-3* And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

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| <p><u>⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”?</u></p> <p>⁶ But He gives <u>more grace</u>. Therefore He says:</p> <p><u>“God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”</u></p> <p><u>⁷ Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.</u></p> | <p>5= ...the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”? (In this rhetorical question, the Scripture is true, not vain. Our God is a jealous God, that the indwelling God the Spirit jealously wants to be loved mostly, more than any others, not equal with any others, or to be glorified by us. Here, note godly jealousy, not fleshly jealousy <i>Ex 34:14; 1 Cor 6:19,20⁵</i>)</p> <p>6=...more grace....resists the proud , But gives grace to the humble (Grace is freely given unmerited gift by God or from above; not only tangible things such as daily bread but also intangible things such as the gifts of the Spirit for the profit of all the body of Christ; We accept more grace with thanksgiving to God in prayer by which we can be sanctified together with His word; Proud heart is to be equal with God or to despise others; God resists or hates the proud people who love their own flesh equal with or more than God, but gives grace to the humble people; e.g., various denominational systematic theologies are good to be used humbly or submissively for us to understand God or the Scripture the substance, but those are improper to be used as man-made frames proudly over God or the Scripture the substance; those as means are good but those as the substances are improper because the substance is of God the Son of God <i>James 1:17; Eph 4:7; 1 Cor 12:7-12; 1 Tim 4:4-5; 1 Peter 5:5; Phil 2:6; Luke 18:9-14; Prov 6:16-19⁶</i>)</p> <p>7=...submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you (Obey God rather than obey sin in the flesh. So, when we rebuke the devil affirmatively in Jesus’ name, the devil will run away because the devil was already defeated by Jesus’ death with bloodshed on cross and resurrection. The devil will be cast away or destroyed into the lake of fire forever at His great white throne judgment <i>Rom 6:10-14; Heb 12:4; Rev 20:10⁷</i>)</p> |
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⁵ *Ex 34:14* (for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name *is* Jealous, *is* a jealous God); *1 Cor 6:19,20* Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

⁶ *James 1:17* Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.; *Eph 4:7* But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift.; *1 Cor 12:7-12* But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*: ⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.¹² For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ.; *1 Tim 4:4-5* For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; ⁵ for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer; *1 Peter 5:5* Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”; *Phil 2:6* who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God; *Luke 18:9-14* Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men— extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ ¹³ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” *Prov 6:16-19* These six *things* the LORD hates, Yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him: ¹⁷ A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸ A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, ¹⁹ A false witness *who* speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.

⁷ *Rom 6:10-14* For *the death* that He died, He died to sin once for all; but *the life* that He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹ Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³ And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead,

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| <p><u>8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.</u></p> <p><u>9 Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.</u></p> <p><u>10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.</u></p> <p><u>11 Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.</u></p> | <p>8=Q2 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands...purify your hearts, you double-minded (Tune up to the Lord, and God the Spirit works in you both to will and to direct your paths and to work; don't be polluted by the said flesh or worldly things but be pure to the Lord whom you love mostly, not with divided loyalty between God and another master such as Ashtoreth/sex, Mammon/money, Molech/pleasure, or Baal/knowledge <i>Prov 3:5-7; Phil 2:13; Mat 6:24⁸</i>)</p> <p>9=Lament and mourn and weep!... your laughter be turned to mourning...your joy to gloom [heaviness] (When we commit sins, confess the sins to the Lord with broken heart – from fleshly laughter or fleshly joy to lament, mourn, weep, or gloom -- and the faithful and merciful Lord will forgive us. Then we are free from heavy mind or heaviness, being spiritually joyful <i>1 John 1:9; Ps 32:3-5⁹</i>)</p> <p>10= Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord...lift you up (God loves the humble people. Humble yourself before God, and He will exalt you in His due time <i>1 Peter 5:6¹⁰</i>)</p> <p>11=Q3...not speak evil of one another...He who speaks evil of a brother... judges his brother...not a doer of the law but a judge (To speak evil of a brother or to judge a brother is against the Scripture. It is to violate the 2nd greatest commandment to love another as yourself. Sometimes within the Scripture it appears a conflict but it is not an actual conflict because all Scripture is inspired by God for us to be complete or perfect just as the image of Jesus Christ. Generally to judge another is discouraged except self-judgment and the Spirit's saying; We should do God's law by the Spirit, even governmental law which is not against the Scripture <i>Mat 5:22; Mat 7:1; 1 Cor 4:3-4; 1 Cor 11:31; 1 Cor 14:27-29; Rom 13:1-2; Acts 5:29; 2 Tim 3:16-17¹¹</i>)</p> |
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and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace; *Heb 12:4* You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin; *Rev 20:10* The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

⁸ *Prov 3:5-7* Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. ⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil; *Phil 2:13* for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure; *Mat 6:24* No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

⁹ *1 John 1:9* If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness; *Ps 32:3-5* When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long.

⁴ For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. *Selah* ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*

¹⁰ *1 Peter 5:6* Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.

¹¹ *Mat 5:22* But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire; *Mat 7:1* Judge not, that you be not judged; *1 Cor 4:3-4* But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴ For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord; *1 Cor 11:31* For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged; *1 Cor 14:27-29* If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. ²⁸ But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. ²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge; *Rom 13:1-2* Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves; *Acts 5:29* But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men; *2 Tim 3:16-17* All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete[perfect], thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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| <p>12 There is <u>one Lawgiver</u>, who is able to <u>save and to destroy</u>. Who are you to <u>judge another</u>?</p> <p>13 Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow <u>we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit</u>”;</p> <p>14 whereas you do <u>not know what will happen tomorrow</u>. For what is <u>your life</u>? It is even a <u>vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away</u>.</p> <p>15 Instead you <u>ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.”</u></p> <p>16 But now you <u>boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil</u>.</p> <p>17 Therefore, to <u>him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin</u>.</p> | <p>12=one Lawgiver....to save and to destroy...to judge another (The law in the Scripture such as the said 10 commandments is the word of God who is the savor and destroyer and judge. How come you judge another? No way)</p> <p>13= ...we will go to such and such a city....spend a year there... make a profit (We made a plan, often sadly without the counsel of God)</p> <p>14= ...not know what will happen tomorrow...your life? ...a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away (We don't know the future. Our lives are cut off shortly and fly away, compared to eternity <i>Psalm 90:9-10</i>¹²)</p> <p>15= ...If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that (Your plan to live and do this or that would be first for His kingdom, His righteousness, or His richness, conditioned upon God's will or God's permission, because God's will, His permission, or His counsel will stand. Otherwise, it'd be useless <i>Mat 6:33-34; Luke 12:16-21; 1 Cor 16:7; Prov 19:21</i>¹³)</p> <p>16=...boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil (To boast of you, to be arrogant in you, or to be proud of you is evil or against God. It results in destruction or a fall. Note it is not to boast of God or God's works rather than to boast of you <i>Prov 16:18; 2 Cor 1:12</i>¹⁴)</p> <p>17=...him who knows to do good...not do it, to him it is sin (Here is the nonfeasance or omission not to do it in God's word to do good; Your violation of God's word is sin upon whatever misfeasance, nonfeasance, commission, or omission is, where God allows you the given free will, given talents, and an open door <i>Rev 3:7</i>¹⁵)</p> |
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¹² *Psalm 90:9-10* For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; We finish our years like a sigh.¹⁰ The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years, Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

¹³ *Mat 6:33-34* But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble; *Luke 12:16-21* Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully.¹⁷ And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’¹⁸ So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.’¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.’”²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’²¹ “So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”; *1 Cor 16:7* For I do not wish to see you now on the way; but I hope to stay a while with you, if the Lord permits; *Prov 19:21* There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the LORD's counsel—that will stand..

¹⁴ *Prov 16:18* Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall; *2 Cor 1:12* For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you.

¹⁵ *Rev 3:7* And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, ‘These things says He who is holy, He who is true, “He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens”:

Note: Most Christians say the Bible is important, but rarely study every word in the Bible and commit it to the Lord. So, it's better to study it and live accordingly after the Spirit for the Lord (2 Tim 2:15). This online word for global crusade in effect develops from the expositional sermon (KJV), into spiritual transformation in daily love fellowship with the Lord throughout the Bible Study (NKJV) -- *All Scripture Expository Study from verse by verse Inductive Studies* -- of which application is the Discipleship and Spiritual Formation, closer to the image of Christ. We think that "Any human opinion is not really important rather than what God says. So, the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible per se. But the opinion to make us understand God's Word is acceptable (2 Corinthians 10:5)." Further, for the application, a life or spiritual experience might be helpful to understand how to apply an understood word in the text column, but it is temperately used like Paul, because nobody should think above that actual experience (2 Cor 12:6, Jeremiah 23:28).

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Truth matters, regardless of online, offline, indoor, or outdoor services. The most love of God the truth may be expressed with a donation, regardless of direct, mail, or online ways.



Thank you everybody. Come to Jesus!

GOD's Continuing Work Through His Church Acts 29

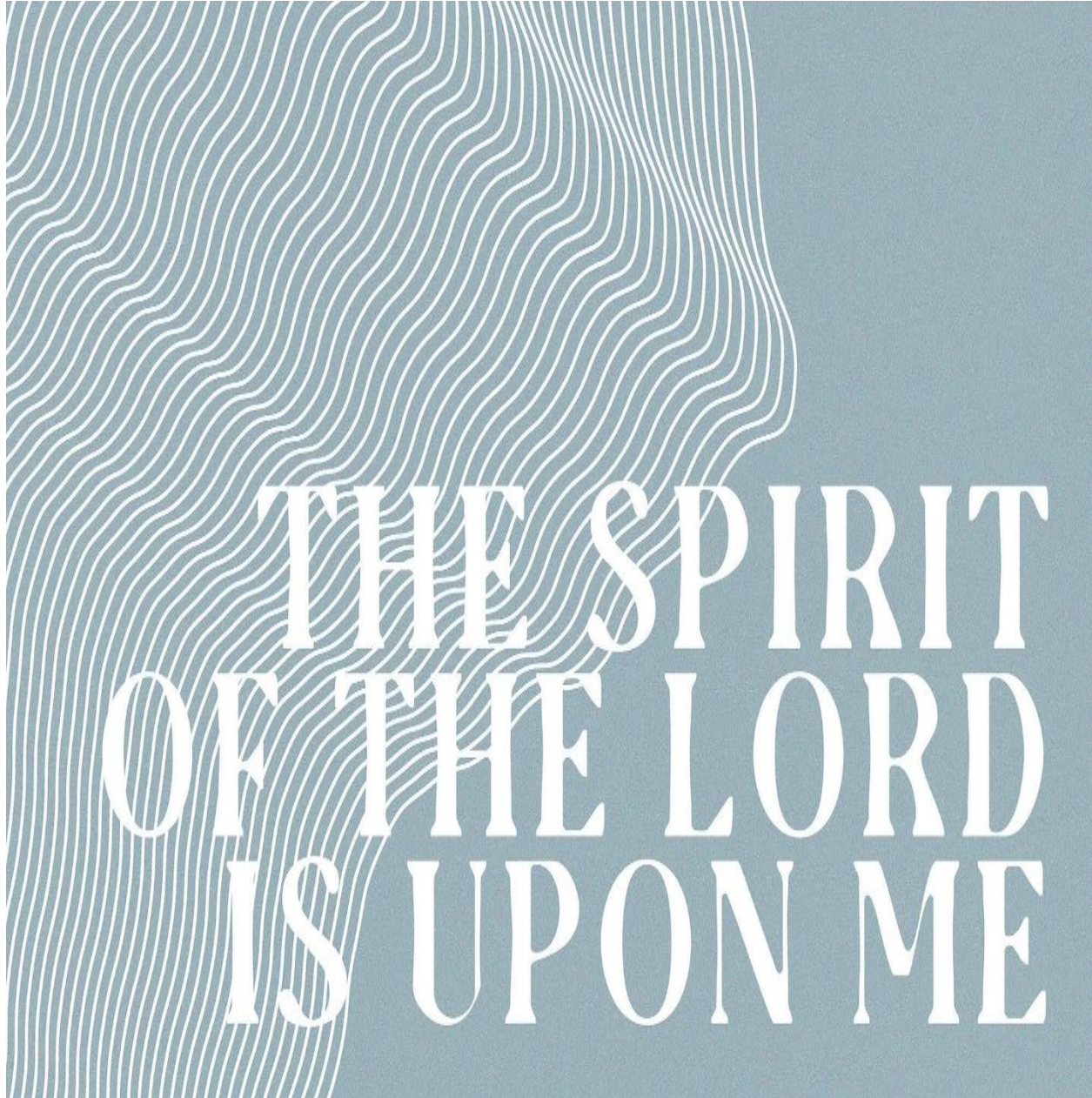
Pray for continually "Let go, let God" because CCAH church (His sheep) is His church. "The Commentary of the Bible By Verse" is coming for this & future generation.

E.g. 2020 <https://calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/letGod.pdf>
<https://www.calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/OnlineSermon2023.htm>

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

Who can be against the Word (λόγος LOGOS or the written word, i.e., the Scripture)?

**Welcome to CGN International Conferences at
Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa on 6/25-28 in 2023.**



June 25-28, 2023 | Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa

**This conference is open to all Ministry Workers! Men & Women!
Pastors, Elders, Ushers, Administration, Worship, Children's Ministry, and
Youth Leaders! at <https://conference.calvarychapel.com/>**

We need the Holy Spirit to empower us for whatever work God calls us to do. Please pray for one another about this necessity in these last days perilous times.



Pastoral Training of Asia

Ministering to Ministers

CALVARY CHAPEL DAEJEON

Loudermilk Family Newsletter – May 2023



Dear Friends and Family,

This was a fun event for us. Many of you know that before moving to Korea 17 years ago, I taught at a Korean church in Southern California for about 8 years. The wonderful young woman sitting across from me is Hannah, one of the kids I taught from elementary school up until I think it was her first year of high school. She came with her Dad, two people behind her and her mom, across from him. They came to visit family in Korea for a couple weeks but stopped by to see us as well. Now of course Hannah is not a kid anymore and that other white guy in front of her is her amazing husband. Her dad was and still is the pastor from the church way back then. There are also other people in the picture that we also knew from that church that live here in Korea now. So we all had a chance to just get together for coffee and catch up a bit.



At Calvary Chapel in Daejeon, we have just begun the book of Acts on Sunday. It has been over two years going through John's gospel since we decided to go through it verse by verse. But now it is time to start working through a little more topically so that we can make faster progress. But we will still go through it verse by verse in our afternoon Bible reading time. Going through the book of Acts is always interesting, because it is a reminder of our need for the Holy Spirit to empower us for whatever work God calls us to do. We know that when we are born again the Holy Spirit dwells in us, but there is an aspect about asking and trusting God for that empowerment as well.

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:9-13)

Thank you always for your prayers and support –
Mike, Hye-Young, and Jeena
mike@ccdaejeon.org / www.ccdaejeon.org

Office: 1000 S. El Camino Real, Unit B, San Clemente, CA 92672 | Mailing: PO Box 1136, San Clemente, CA 92674-1136
Phone 949-348-1808 | e-mail: ptadavis1949@gmail.com Website: www.pastoraltraining.org