



**Better Together
IN CHRIST**

LENT 2022

EPHESIANS 4:4-6

MARCH 2-APRIL 16

TIAM BOTH LOCATIONS
Stonecrest Campus Atlanta Campus
5460 Hillendale Dr. 2283 Baker Rd. N.W.
Stonecrest, GA 30058 Atlanta, GA 30318

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SALEM
BIBLE CHURCH
Shalom

2022 LENT DEVOTIONAL

MARCH 2- APRIL 16

WEEK 3

Salem Bible Church

2283 Baker Road | 5460 Hillendale Drive

Atlanta, GA. 30318 | Lithonia, GA. 30058

Dr. Joseph L. Williams, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jasper W. Williams, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Dear Salem Family and Friends:

The 2022 Lent season is upon us, and we pray that you will be blessed by our program this year. In keeping with our 2022 church theme *Better Together in Christ*, we will focus on the tenet *Unification* in the acronym C.U.R.E.

Other features of our Lenten observance will include:

- Daily prayer, Bible readings and personal worship
- Weekly Devotional Readings and Jubilee Growth Groups
- 42 Weeks of Prayer and Consecration with Jubilee Prayer Partner
- Fasting & Prayer Times (personal and corporate)
- Virtual Sunday School classes
- Maundy Thursday Observance
- Easter Sunday Services
- Special Resurrection Offering (over and above regular tithe and offerings)

Finally, please know that although we are in prayer with you during this Lenten Season as God continues to bless during the season of Jubilee. We pray that you continue to stay safe, in good health and that God will prosper you. Until we see you again, Shalom and God bless you.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Joseph L. Williams, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jasper W. Williams, Pastor Emeritus

WEEK 3 (March 14-19, 2022)

Freedom in Unity

Scripture Reading:

Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ. (Gal. 6:2)

Devotional Reading

Gal. 6:1-10, Esther 4:1 – 17; 8:1-2

Once upon a time, there was a flock of doves that flew in search of food led by their king. One day, they had flown a long distance and were very tired. The dove king encouraged them to fly a little further. The smallest dove picked up speed and found some rice scattered beneath a banyan tree. So, all the doves landed and began to eat.

Suddenly a net fell over them and they were all trapped. They saw a hunter approaching carrying a huge club. The doves desperately fluttered their wings trying to get out, but to no avail. The king had an idea. He advised all the doves to fly up together carrying the net with them. He said that there was strength in unity.

Each dove picked up a portion of the net and together they flew off carrying the net with them. The hunter looked up in astonishment. He tried to follow them, but they were flying high over hills and valleys. They flew to a hill near a city of temples where there lived a mouse who could help them. He was a faithful friend of the dove king.

When the mouse heard the loud noise of their approach, he went into hiding. The dove king gently called out to him and then the mouse was happy to see him. The dove king explained that they had been caught in a trap and needed the mouse's help to gnaw at the net with his teeth and set them free.

The mouse agreed saying that he would set the king free first. The king insisted that he first free his subjects and the king last. The mouse understood the king's feelings and complied with his wishes. He began to cut the net and one by one all the doves were freed including the dove king.

They all thanked the mouse and flew away together, united in their strength.

When you work together, you are stronger.¹ Corporal prayer and fasting are powerful weapons in our war against the evil and woes of this fallen world!

Scripture Commentary

Paul deals with a hypothetical case of a Christian who is **caught in a sin**, or better, is "caught by a sin." The thought is that of someone running from sin but sin, being faster, overtakes and catches him. But a Christian should **restore him**. The task of restoration is not to be undertaken by fledglings in the faith but by those **who are spiritual**, that is, believers who walk by the Spirit, and who are mature in the faith. Furthermore, this delicate work must be done **gently** and with the consciousness that no one is immune from falling into sin.²

⁴ <https://www.moralstories.org/unity-is-strength/>, retrieved 1/13/2022

⁵ Campbell, D. K. (1985). [Galatians](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 609). Victor Books.

Reflection Questions

Question 1: What kind of spirit does one need to be able to bear the burden of others?

Question 2: What are ways you can help restore a believer who has been caught by a sin?