

**Better Together  
IN CHRIST**

**LENT 2022**

EPHESIANS 4:4-6

**MARCH 2-APRIL 16**

**WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

**SALEM BIBLE CHURCH**  
*Shalom*

**TIAM BOTH LOCATIONS**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Stonecrest Campus</b><br>5460 Hillendale Dr.<br>Stonecrest, GA 30058 | <b>Atlanta Campus</b><br>2283 Baker Rd. N.W.<br>Atlanta, GA 30318 |
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# ***2022 LENT DEVOTIONAL***

***MARCH 2- APRIL 16***

***WEEK 4***

**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 4 (March 21-26, 2022)

### *Grandpa's Table (Actions Speak Louder Than Words)*

#### **Scripture Reading:**

*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. (Proverb 22:6)*

#### **Devotional Reading**

1 Tim. 5:1 - 16

*A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped, the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.*

*The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about Grandfather," said the son. "I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor." So, the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The four-year-old watched it all in silence.*

*One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up." The four-year-old smiled and went back to work. The*

*words so struck the parents that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.*

*That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days, he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.*

*Children are remarkably perceptive. Their eyes ever observe, their ears ever listen, and their minds ever process the messages they absorb. If they see us patiently provide a happy home atmosphere for family members, they will imitate that attitude for the rest of their lives. The wise parent realizes that every day the building blocks are being laid for the child's future. Let's be wise builders and role models. Because Children are our future. Life is about people connecting with people, and making a positive difference. Take care of yourself and those you love, today and every day!<sup>1</sup>*

### **Scripture Commentary**

Proverbs 22:6 is perhaps the best-known verse on child training. There are certainly other verses in the bible that deals with rearing children, but they are all on discipline. Training a child is a proactive response that requires dedication in raising a child whereas discipline is a reactive response typically due to a lack of training. In fact, the word *train* in Hebrew means to dedicate which implies parents and the community must be totally devoted to taking the time to train a child. Child-training involves “narrowing” a child’s conduct away from evil and toward

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<sup>6</sup> [Grandpa's Table](https://www.moralstories.org/grandpas-table/). <https://www.moralstories.org/grandpas-table/>, retrieved 1/13/2022.

godliness and starting him in the right direction. “In the way he should go” means proper way, the path of wise, godly living. It is from this proper behavior pattern or godly lifestyle that he will not turn when is old, that is, when he is grown.

### **Reflection Questions**

**Question 1:** What are affective ways to place and maintain a child on the path of wise, godly living?

**Question 2:** What are ineffective ways in training up a child?