



Better Together
IN CHRIST

LENT 2022

EPHESIANS 4:4-6

MARCH 2-APRIL 16

11AM BOTH LOCATIONS

Stonecrest Campus 5460 Hillendale Dr. Stonecrest, GA 30058	Atlanta Campus 2283 Baker Rd. N.W. Atlanta, GA 30318
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SALEM
BIBLE CHURCH
Shalom

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2022 LENT DEVOTIONAL

MARCH 2- APRIL 16

WEEK 5

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 5 (March 28-April 2, 2022)

Lesson Learned (What Money Cannot Buy)

Scripture Reading:

Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. (Isaiah 55:6)

Devotional Reading

Isaiah 55: 1-7

One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him how poor people live. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"It was great, Dad."

"Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked.

"Oh yeah," said the son.

"So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

The son answered: "I saw that we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden, and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden, and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard, and they have the whole horizon.

"We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight.

"We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We buy our food, but they grow theirs.

"We have walls around our property to protect us, they have friends to protect them."

The boy's father was speechless.

Then his son added, "Thanks Dad for showing me how poor we are."

Wealth is not a sign of God's favor! Love, Unity, Care, Satisfaction is richer than any comfort money gives.¹ We'll never accumulate enough riches to purchase a place in heaven. But isn't it good news that salvation is free!

Scripture Commentary

People are seeking to take responsibility for their own future. They need instead to look to God for that which truly satisfies. God holds out his invitation in these passages to all who are willing to come, including Israel and the Gentile nations. God's invitation to us is not merely for the basic stuff of life; rather, he invites us to come to him to find that which is truly satisfying and fulfilling. These verses show us the futility we experience when we try to find satisfaction and joy apart from God. While we might spend a lifetime working hard to purchase things that will ultimately leave us frustrated and empty, God alone holds satisfaction in himself. In him, we can finally and ultimately be delighted, for God created us with a unique capacity to know and enjoy him for all eternity.

Reflection Questions

Question 1: What problems arise when one obsessively seeks worldly wealth?

Question 2: What can we do, as people of God, to demonstrate true riches here on earth?

⁷ Lesson Learned. <https://www.moralstories.org/lesson-learned-by-son/>