



**Better Together
IN CHRIST**

LENT 2022

EPHESIANS 4:4-6

MARCH 2-APRIL 16

TIAM BOTH LOCATIONS

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

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2022 LENT DEVOTIONAL

MARCH 2- APRIL 16

WEEK 7

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 7 (April 11-14, 2022)

Father and Sons (Unity is Strength)

Scripture Reading:

I pray and hope that with the help of God and our own efforts, we will continue to remain united, because “In unity there is strength”. In the words of the psalmist, let us say to one another, “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1)

Devotional Reading

Psalm 46, Ephesians 4: 1 – 6, 11-13

A father had a family of sons who were perpetually quarreling among themselves. When he failed to heal their disputes by his exhortations, he determined to give them a practical illustration of the evils of disunion.

One day he told his sons to bring him a bundle of sticks. When they had done so, he placed the fagot into the hands of each of them in succession and ordered them to break it in pieces. They tried with all their strength and were not able to do it.

He next opened the fagot, took the sticks separately, one by one, and again put them into his sons’ hands, upon which they broke them easily. He then addressed them in these words:

“My sons, if you are of one mind, and unite to assist each other, you will be as strong as this fagot, uninjured by all the attempts of your enemies, but if you are divided among yourselves, you will be broken as easily as these sticks.” In other words, there is unity in strength.¹

⁹ Father and Sons. <https://www.moralstories.org/father-and-sons/>, retrieved 1/13/2022

Scripture Commentary

The psalmist declared that **God** is the **Refuge and Strength** of believers. In other words, they find safety and courage by trusting in Him, who is always **present** to **help** them in their troubles. So, the saints need **not fear**, even if many perils come against them. The language is exaggerated, to describe how great the perils may be that could come. No matter what happens, those trusting in Him are safe.² Jesus, the King of the Jews, conquered death and now lives within the heart of every believer. He is with his believers at all times, never changing. “Therefore [they] will not fear” (Ps 46.2) because he is “an ever-present help in trouble” (Ps 46.1). Thus, those who accept Jesus as Savior and believe in him will experience first-hand the comfort of his strength, his power, his protection and his counsel.

Reflection Questions

Question 1: What are ways the believer can help strengthen the bonds within the community of believers?

Question 2: What are some advantages of being

¹⁰ Ross, A. P. (1985). [Psalms](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, p. 828). Victor Books.