

We were  
designed for



# Divine Dialogue

## Daily Devotion

Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024

2024							
Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
46	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23	24



# Cell Groups

**Do you want to sign up to a cell group but not sure which one?**

Scan this QR code to register your interest in joining one and we'll try our best to match you to one.



**SCAN ME**



**Do you already know which group you would like to join?**

The scan the QR code below or follow the instruction below on how to sign up using the 'My ChurchSuite App' on your phone...



**SCAN ME**

## Sign up via 'My Churchsuite App'

1. Open the App and Log in.
2. Click on the menu button - (Bottom Right) 
3. Click on 'Cell Groups'.
4. Click on the group you'd like to join.
5. Click the 'sign up' button - 
6. Finished.





Monday, 11.11. 2024

Dearly Beloved

## **Farewell Pastor Harold**

Yesterday, we bid a heartfelt farewell to Pastor Harold, his wife, Florence and their three children, as they departed Ipswich after twenty-four years of devoted service to assume leadership roles at City Gates Church in Ilford, another branch of the Elim Pentecostal Church.

Until a permanent appointment is made by the National Leadership Team, I will serve as acting lead minister. I am deeply grateful to Pastor Harold for inviting me to the IIC leadership team over a decade ago. Our shared journey has greatly enriched my personal growth and ministry development.

Our team's ethos of respect, authenticity, and sincerity has been unwavering, and we are committed to preserving this culture across all levels of leadership within our faith community.

As part of our commitment to prayer, the monthly corporate prayer on the first Friday of each month will continue. **Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this important event in person at Barrack Corner.**

Please join our daily online devotion at 6:00 AM, a cherished part of our worship lifestyle. Access it via [iic.io/daily6am](https://iic.io/daily6am) with the password [daily6am](https://iic.io/daily6am). Beloved, if

you haven't joined yet, I encourage you to embrace the blessing of shared Bible exploration, prayer, and devotion.

We're thrilled to see the relationship between **IIC** and **Elim Church Colchester** evolve into something even more meaningful. By focusing on collaboration, shared aspirations, and mutual encouragement, we can cultivate a warm and thriving community that uplifts and inspires everyone involved.

As we look ahead, let's reaffirm our identity in Christ and our shared purpose as His followers. **Please take a moment to reflect on 1 Peter 2:9-10**, considering how it speaks to your identity. I would love to hear your reflections on this scripture—please feel free to share your thoughts with me by email at **lead@iicelim.uk** or via text at **07520 631 507**.

Thank you for your dedication and service in the Father's kingdom.

With love, remember that the best is always here in Christ.



Adéwálé Adéfuyè

# PARENTS', BABY & TODDLERS GROUP

ELIM CHURCH, CLEMATIS WAY,  
GREENSTEAD, COLCHESTER, CO4 3PY

EVERY TUESDAY 10 A.M. UNTIL 2 P.M.



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North East Essex  
Maternity and  
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Elim Church  
Colchester



# Born to Pray: Rediscovering Our Spiritual Nature

I have heard countless sermons and read numerous reflections on the many beautiful names of God found throughout the Scripture. Each name of God reveals something profound about His character and relationship with us: Jehovah Rapha—the Lord our Healer, Jehovah Tsidkenu—the Lord our Righteousness, and Jehovah Shalom—the Lord our Peace, just to name a few. These names reassure us, each reflecting an aspect of God that meets our needs or speaks to His presence in our lives. But amidst all these well-known names, there is one that is rarely discussed in sermons: the name revealed in Psalm 65:2.

In this verse, we find a powerful and significant title for God, **Hearer of Prayer**, highlighting His accessibility to all humanity and His readiness to listen to our prayers:

"Hearer of prayer, all flesh comes to You." **LST**<sup>1</sup>

"Hearer of prayer, to Thee all flesh cometh." **YLT**<sup>2</sup>

"All humanity will come to You, the One who hears prayer." **HCSB**<sup>3</sup>

The psalmist David, in his own poetic yet profound way, captures an attribute of God that is vital but often overlooked: God hears us.

God is not just a silent or distant deity; He is active, listening, and attentive to the cries, praises, and supplications of His people.

So, as we reflect on this verse and other supporting verses and what they reveal of God, let us pay close attention to what they reveal of our nature as well. [The Hearer of Prayer has made us as Prayer Beings, a compliment to Himself](#). This is more than a name; it's a profound reality of a deeper relationship to explore and experience.

*Adéwálé Adéfuyè*

*Ipswich, Suffolk*

*10 November 2024*

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<sup>1</sup> Literal Standard Version,

<sup>2</sup> Young's Literal Translation

<sup>3</sup> Holman Christian Standard Bible

## God's Lesser-Known Name



Psalm 65:2

**HCSB** All humanity will come to You, the One who hears prayer.

**ESV** O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

**NLT** For you answer our prayers. All of us must come to you.

**Tanakh** All mankind comes to You, You who hear prayer.

**YLT** Hearer of prayer, to Thee all flesh cometh.



God is described by various names, each revealing a different aspect of His character, attributes, or relationship with His people:

- Yahweh (YHWH) – "I AM WHO I AM" - [Exodus 3:14] Meaning: The self-existent, eternal God
- Elohim – "God" (Creator, Mighty, and Strong) Genesis 1:1
- El Shaddai – "God Almighty" or "All-Sufficient One" Genesis 17:1  
Meaning: Emphasises God's power to sustain and provide.



List two other names of God and what they say of His covenant relationship with His own.

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How does He expect us to respond to the revelation of Himself?

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Praise God for making Himself known, for He cannot be found through human searching alone. Reflect on His many attributes and pray about how you feel regarding each aspect of His nature and how they shape your perspective, thoughts, and attitudes. Consider anything that may hinder you from fully embracing Him as the One who hears prayers.



## Hearer of Prayers



Psalm 65:2

**BSB** O You who listen to prayer, all people will come to You.

**HCSB** All humanity will come to You, the One who hears prayer.



God created us to share in a unique relationship with Him, one where we complement His love and desire for communion. Just as He is a God who listens, He designed us with the capacity to reach out to Him through prayer. He didn't just give us the ability to speak but also the purpose of speaking to Him, bringing our needs, thanks, and praise before Him. In His responsiveness, we find that our prayers are not just words but a bridge to the heart of God, fulfilling a profound connection He intended for us to experience with Him.



(a) What does it mean for God to be the one who "hears prayer"? (b) How does knowing that God hears prayers impact my approach to Him? (c) Why is it significant that "all flesh" is invited to come to God in prayer? (d) Are there any areas of my life where I struggle to believe that God hears my prayers? (e) How does this verse deepen my understanding of God's accessibility and openness to all people? (f) What might be hindering me from fully trusting that God listens to my prayers? (g) In what ways does this verse invite me to approach God with greater confidence and expectation?



Praise the Father for being Hearer of prayer. Thank Him for, by extension, making us prayers (prayer-beings). Consider anything that might keep you from fully embracing Him as the Hearer of prayers.



**GIVING**  
*as an act of worship*  
**BEFORE GOD**  
2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

3 ways you can give in



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**Givt**

You're ready to give.  
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## Crafted for Communion



Genesis 1:26–27 (BSB)

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.” <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Psalms 65:2

**BSB** O You who listen to prayer, all people will come to You.

**ESV** O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

**HCSB** All humanity will come to You, the One who hears prayer.

**LSV** Hearer of prayer, all flesh comes to You.



We bear God's image, a truth the Scriptures clearly affirm. God's declaration of purpose—“Let us make mankind in our image”—is followed by His act of creation: “And God made mankind in His image.” This unique designation signifies that humans possess the capacity for relationship, communication, and understanding akin to God's nature. It implies that we are inherently relational beings, designed to engage in meaningful conversations with our Creator. As He is a Prayer-Hearer, we are designed as Prayer Beings, crafted specifically for divine communication.



Here are a few thoughtful questions to consider: (a) Why does the psalmist say that “*all people will come*” to God? (b) What does this phrase signify? (c) What does this imply about the accessibility of God to everyone, regardless of background? (d) How might this verse encourage someone who feels distant from God? (e) How do you see yourself in the light of this verse? (f) In today's climate of identity confusion, how can you help others recognise this truth?



Praise God for the revelation that you were designed to ‘[come to Him](#)’. Consider anything that may hinder you from fully expressing your nature as a prayer-being.

## Designed for Divine Dialogue



Genesis 3:8–10 (BSB)

<sup>8</sup> Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called out to the man, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup> "I heard Your voice in the garden," he replied, "and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."

Isaiah 1:18 (BSB)

<sup>18</sup> "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they will become like wool."

Psalms 65:2

**BSB** O You who listen to prayer, all people will come to You.

**ESV** O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

**HCSB** All humanity will come to You, the One who hears prayer.

**LSV** Hearer of prayer, all flesh comes to You.



God extends an open invitation to humanity to engage with Him, offering a personal relationship that transcends mere ritualistic practices.



Here are a few questions to ask of these verses today: (a) What does it mean for God to invite us to "reason together" with Him? (b) How does this invitation reflect God's character, particularly in His communication with humanity? (c) How do these verses speak to God's desire for relationship rather than mere judgment? (d) How can this invitation impact the way I view forgiveness, both in my own life and in how I forgive others? (e) What serves as a primary means of dialogue with God?



Thank the Father for the open invitation.

**Father, as You ask, 'Where are you?' help me to respond**

**honestly.** (1) Ask for help me to hear His voice and draw near to

Him with an open heart. (2) Pray for awareness of God's pursuit. (4)

Confess areas of hiding, fear or shame.

## Pray without Ceasing



Luke 18:1

**BSB** Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray at all times and not lose heart:

**NKJV** Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart...

1 Thessalonians 5<sup>17</sup> BSB, Pray without ceasing.

Psalms 65:2

**BSB** O You who listen to prayer, all people will come to You.

**ESV** O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

**HCSB** All humanity will come to You, the One who hears prayer.

**LSV** Hearer of prayer, all flesh comes to You.



Here are a few thoughtful questions to help as we explore our texts for today: (a) What does it mean to "always pray"? Does this imply continuous prayer, an attitude of prayerfulness, or a specific habit of regular, devoted prayer? (b) What is the significance of "not giving up" in the context of prayer? Why might Jesus emphasise persistence, and what situations might test someone's endurance in prayer? (c) What are some ways to "pray and not give up" in today's world? (d) What habits or practices might help a person remain committed to prayer despite difficulties? (e) How can this verse and the following parable inspire believers to support each other in prayer? (f) How does the teaching of persistence in prayer align with your personal experience and understanding of God?



(1) Thank God for His faithfulness. (2) Ask for a heart of perseverance (3) Seek strength to overcome discouragement (4) Pray for growth in faith and patience (5) Commit to regular prayer.

## “We will give ourselves to pray”



Acts 6:4 (BSB)

<sup>4</sup> and will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

Psalms 65:2

**BSB** O You who listen to prayer, all people will come to You.

**ESV** O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

**HCSB** All humanity will come to You, the One who hears prayer.

**LSV** Hearer of prayer, all flesh comes to You.



Here are a few questions to consider: (a) What does it mean to “devote” oneself to prayer and the Word? How can this commitment be reflected in the lives of modern believers?

(b) What can we learn from this passage about the foundational activities that should guide church functions? (c) How can prayer enhance the effectiveness of life and ministry?

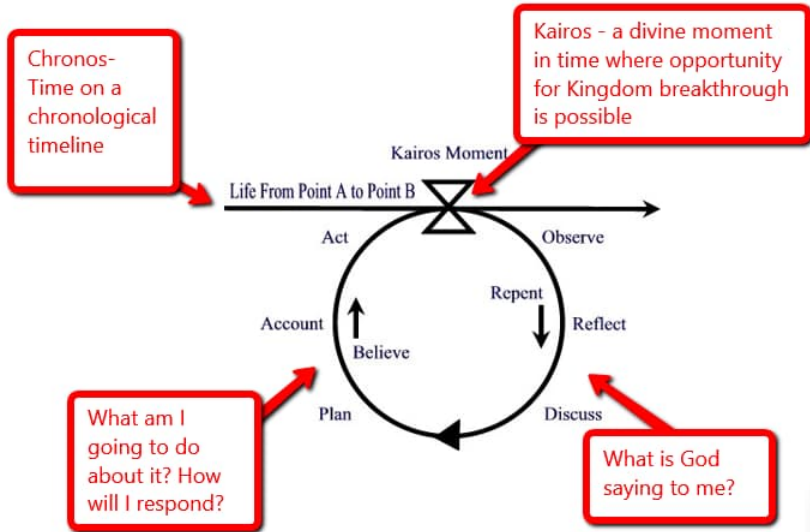
(d) In what ways can this principle be applied in contemporary church practices? (e) In what ways can individual Christians today devote themselves to prayer and the ministry of the word? What practical steps can be taken to embody this commitment?

(f) What challenges might arise when we focus on prayer and the ministry of the word? How can these challenges be addressed?



(1) Ask for help to devote yourself to prayer and to the study of the Scriptures. (2) Ask for the discipline and desire to spend time with Him daily. (3) Pray for focus and prioritisation of His Word and prayer above distractions. (4) Ask for strength to persevere. (5) Pray for a heart that values God’s presence and Word. (6) Seek wisdom for serving others.

# Pause. Reflect. Process



It's time to pause, reflect, process and act on your week's Kairos moment(s).

This week, \_\_\_\_\_

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**GIVING**  
*as an act of worship*  
**BEFORE GOD**

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

2 ways **you can** give in



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Saturday, 16.11.2024

Dear Church

### **A Divine Invitation**

Yesterday, we gathered for a time of fasting and prayer at the Church Building in Barrack Corner at 7:30pm. We began our meeting by thanking, praising, and adoring our dear Father. During our prayer, Papa God posed a thought-provoking question: "**What would you say about Me to someone who doesn't know Me?**" In essence, God is asking us for a character reference.

A **character reference** is a written or verbal statement that affirms an individual's personal qualities, character traits, and overall behaviour. It is often used to support job applications, legal matters, or academic admissions. So, what character reference would we provide for God? We reflected on His **faithfulness, His care for His own, the peace He bestows, and the intimacy of His fatherhood.**

As we prayed in response to His word from **Psalm 110:1 & 3**, we sensed His invitation to partner with Him in this season to reach the unsaved. Our response was a resounding "**Yes, LORD!**" We have committed to fasting and praying together on the next four Fridays: **November 22, 29, and December 6, 13.** We will gather in person at 7:30pm in Barrack Corner for prayer.

Dear Church, as someone remarked during the prayer meeting, "**It is a great honour to partner with the Almighty.**" We want to extend this invitation beyond those who were present; **it is for everyone in the IIC faith community.**

Remember the best of God is in Christ.

With love

Adéwálé Adéfuyè

**everyone born of God overcomes the world**

## Divine Mandate, Divine Dialogue

The question, **“Why does God allow certain things to happen?”** resonates deeply in many hearts. People frequently grapple with this inquiry, particularly during prayer meetings or moments of shared contemplation. With sincerity and heartfelt emotion, they express, *“God knows why He allows this,”* seeking solace in the belief that there is a purpose behind every circumstance, even those that are painful or perplexing.

In his book, **I Believe in Visions**, Kenneth E. Hagin shared a vision that taught him that God allows what we allow. During one of his encounters with Jesus, Hagin experienced a striking lesson about spiritual authority. He described a vision where Jesus was teaching him about this principle, and during their conversation, a demon-like creature appeared, causing distraction. The creature created noise and interference, preventing Hagin from hearing Jesus.

Hagin expected Jesus to address the creature, but Jesus did nothing. Eventually, Hagin, realising that he had the authority to act, rebuked the creature himself, and it immediately left. Jesus then explained that if Hagin hadn't acted, He wouldn't have either. This moment revealed to Hagin that God has given authority to Believers, and it is up to them to exercise it. Failing to act allows certain negative circumstances to persist, as God respects the responsibility He has delegated to mankind.

As we contemplate the role of the Believer in fulfilling God's will on earth through prayer, faith, and the authority of Christ, may our hearts be receptive to embracing our place within God's mandate to: “be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it.”

*Adéwálé Adéfuyè*

*Ipswich, Suffolk*

*16 November 2024*

## Stewards of Earth: Humanity's Mandate



Psalms 115:16 (BSB)

<sup>16</sup> The highest heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth He has given to mankind.

Genesis 1:27-28 (BSB)

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth."



God entrusts humanity with the earth, granting us the privilege and responsibility to inhabit, cultivate, and care for it. This delegation signifies a partnership, with humans serving as co-workers under His guidance. Prayer serves as the means to align with His will, seeking His assistance and direction in fulfilling our responsibilities on earth.



1. How does acknowledging God's control over the highest heavens affect our approach to prayer?

2. How can recognising our role as stewards influence our prayers?

3. How can we ensure our prayers reflect His intentions for creation?

4. How should the understanding that the earth is given to humanity influence our prayer life?

5. Who might we pray for in relation to their roles and responsibilities?

6. How can we express humility in our requests and thanksgivings?

Prayer Application: Pray for alignment with God's purpose in your work, relationships, and role as a steward of His creation.



Thank God for the privilege of being stewards of His creation. **Ask for a heart that appreciates the responsibilities entrusted to us.**

Request wisdom and discernment in how to manage the resources and opportunities He has given us, ensuring they align with His will. **Pray for fellow believers and leaders to fulfil their roles responsibly and effectively, asking God to equip them with the necessary resources and strength.**

Ask for help in ensuring that our desires and actions reflect God's purposes for our lives and the world. **Request empowerment to serve those in need in our communities, reflecting God's love and compassion in our stewardship.**

## On Earth as in Heaven



Matthew 6:10, Genesis 1:26-28, Revelation 21:1-33



This prayer, taught by Jesus, highlights God's original intent for the earth to reflect His heavenly authority and beauty. It underscores the central purpose of prayer as aligning the earth with the perfection and order of heaven. Through this, Jesus envisions a world where God's reign is fully manifested, His purposes fulfilled, and His glory evident, mirroring the harmony and righteousness of heaven.



- a. What does it truly mean for God's Kingdom to come to earth in our current context?
- b. How can we actively participate in the process of bringing God's will to fruition in our daily lives?
- c. In what ways can prayer help align our desires with God's purposes?
- d. How does understanding that we are made in God's image influence our self-worth and interactions with others?
- e. What practical steps can we take to fulfill the command to "be fruitful and multiply" in a way that honours God?
- f. How does the concept of dominion over the earth challenge or inspire our view of environmental stewardship?
- g. What insights does the promise of a new heaven and new earth provide for our understanding of hope and restoration?
- h. How can the vision of the New Jerusalem shape our understanding of community and relationships in the present?
- i. In what ways does this passage challenge us to reflect on the temporary nature of our current struggles and the eternal promise of God?



Thank God for creating humanity in His image and likeness. **Pray for a deeper understanding of your identity and authority as a child of God.** Tell the LORD how open you are for His will to be fulfilled in your life and the lives of those around you. **Intercede for nations to align with God's purposes and for His peace to reign.** Ask for strength and wisdom to fulfil the mandate to "be fruitful, multiply, and subdue the earth." **Intercede for those who are suffering and in need of comfort, reminding them of the promise of renewal.** Ask God to help you live in a way that reflects the values of His Kingdom.

## Divine Dialogue: How God Encourages Our Input



Genesis 18:16-33



God invites Abraham into the divine deliberation, granting him insight into His intentions and purposes for these twin cities. This reflects a profound act of trust and a desire for Abraham to engage in intercession, showcasing the close relationship between God and Abraham.



- i. Why might God choose to reveal His intentions about Sodom and Gomorrah specifically to Abraham?
- ii. How does Abraham balance his boldness with humility when speaking to God?
- iii. Why does God permit Abraham to question Him repeatedly and reduce the number of righteous people required to spare the city?
- iv. What does Abraham's interaction with God suggest about human agency in influencing divine decisions?
- v. What does this passage reveal about God's willingness to engage in a dialogue with humanity?
- vi. What ethical responsibilities do we bear for the righteousness or welfare of the communities around us?
- vii. How does Abraham's intercession compare to other examples of intercession in the Bible (e.g., Moses for Israel, Jesus for humanity)?
- viii. How might this passage inform our own approach to prayer, especially prayers of intercession?
- ix. In what ways does this dialogue foreshadow the broader theme of salvation and God's desire to save rather than condemn?
- x. Are there areas in our lives where we hesitate to "negotiate" with God or to intercede boldly for others?



Give thanks to God for encouraging our input. **Pray for the boldness to intercede on behalf of others.** Ask for a heart that desires to stand in the gap for those in need of His mercy. **Seek wisdom and understanding regarding God's justice and mercy.** Pray that you may comprehend the balance between His righteousness and His desire to save. **Ask God to cultivate a deep compassion in your heart for those who do not know Him.** Pray for the courage to reach out and share His love with those who are lost.

## When God Leaves Room for Our Response



Deuteronomy 9:12–14; 10:10



Sarcasm can be used to convey humour, frustration, or irony, and it's a great conversational tool when both people are on the same page. God tells Moses, "Leave Me alone, so that I may destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven." God and Moses seem to be on the same page. Did He really want to destroy them?



- a. Why does God describe Israel as Moses' people in verse 12? How might this language reflect His disappointment or emphasis on Israel's accountability?
- b. Why might God, knowing all things, still express His anger so forcefully? What purpose could this serve in His relationship with Moses and Israel?
- c. Why might God give Moses the opportunity to intercede rather than immediately carrying out His judgment on Israel?
- d. What does this moment reveal about the responsibilities and challenges of spiritual leadership?
- e. What might God's willingness to share His anger with Moses suggest about the role of intercession?
- f. Why is Moses' intercession significant here, and how might it affect both God's plan and Israel's future?
- g. What lessons can be drawn from Moses' role in this passage that might apply to our own roles as intercessors or leaders?



Thank God for His grace and patience, despite our shortcomings.

**Pray not to take His kindness for granted, but rather live in a way that honours His sacrifices.** Pray for the ability to recognise,

confess and renounce your own sins. **Ask for a repentant heart that seeks to turn away from wrongdoing.** Request deeper insight into the mercy of God, as displayed throughout history. **Pray that you may fully grasp the extent of His love and forgiveness, especially in times of failure.**

Ask God to instil in you a strong desire to obey His commandments and follow His ways. **Pray for the strength to resist temptation and remain faithful to His Word.** Pray for those around you who may be struggling with disobedience or distance from God. **Ask for opportunities to encourage them to return to the Lord and experience His grace.**

## Engaging with God, Understanding His Intentions



Luke 24:28-29 BSB

<sup>28</sup> As they approached the village where they were headed, He seemed to be going farther. <sup>29</sup> But they pleaded with Him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So He went in to stay with them.



Yesterday, we reflected on how God told Moses to leave Him alone so He could destroy Israel. This led us to ponder whether God truly intended to destroy Israel or if this was an implicit invitation for Moses to intercede on behalf of the people. Similarly, in today's text, we see Jesus "acting as if He were going farther," prompting us to consider the deeper significance of these moments where God appears to leave room for human response or engagement. Both instances highlight divine intention to draw humanity into deeper partnership, intercession, or understanding of His will.



- a. Why might Jesus initially act as though He were going farther instead of directly revealing His identity to them?
- b. What might be the significance of Jesus' decision to accept their invitation only after they insist?
- c. How does Jesus' behaviour in this passage encourage or challenge the disciples' understanding of Him, even before they know who He is?
- d. What might Jesus be teaching through His willingness to walk with and stay with them, despite their lack of recognition?
- e. How does this apply to prayer?



Pray for a hunger and thirst for deeper revelation of Jesus in your life. **Ask for your eyes to see Him more clearly in your daily experiences.** Just as the disciples urged Jesus to stay with them, pray for a desire to invite Christ into your home, heart, and daily activities. **Request that God help you to be more attentive to His guidance and direction in your life.** Pray for the wisdom to recognise His leading, especially in moments of uncertainty. **Pray for an open heart and mind to receive the truths of Scripture.** Seek God's help in building and maintaining meaningful fellowship with other Believers. **Pray that you may encourage one another in faith and grow together in Christ.** Pray that your life reflects the love and grace of Jesus in all that you do. **Pray for the boldness to share the good news of Jesus with others.**



## Prayer: Encountering a God Willing to Wrestle



Genesis 32:22-32



Jacob is deeply fearful about meeting his brother Esau, feeling as though his past actions are finally catching up to him. He takes practical steps to prepare for the encounter, arranging his family strategically. And he prays (Genesis 32:9-12). In the solitude of the night, when he is left alone, God meets him in a profound way. This moment demonstrates the intersection of human fear, divine assurance, and the transformative presence of God.



- i. Does Jacob have a reason to be afraid of Esau?
- ii. Who might this mysterious figure be, and why does the text describe him ambiguously as “a man”?
- iii. What could be the purpose of this figure wrestling with Jacob rather than communicating in a more straightforward way?
- iv. How does the figure’s ability to injure Jacob with a mere touch reveal his power and identity?
- v. What might be the significance of this figure changing Jacob’s name to Israel?



Thank God for His mercy and grace in your life. Acknowledge His faithfulness, even when you have struggled with doubt or disobedience.

**Pray for a hunger to encounter God in a personal way. Ask Him to reveal Himself to you and to help you recognise His presence in your life.**

Request strength to endure and persevere through life’s struggles. Pray for the ability to hold on to God during difficult times, just as Jacob clung to the angel. **Just as Jacob’s name was changed to Israel, pray for a transformation in your identity. Ask God to help you embrace your new identity as His beloved child and to live accordingly.**

Ask God to help you overcome any fear or doubt that may hinder your faith. Pray for courage to face challenges and to trust in His promises. Pray for a renewed commitment to prayer and seeking God’s face. Ask for the discipline to spend time in His presence, seeking His will and guidance. **Lift others who are struggling in their faith or facing challenges. Pray that they may have their own encounters with God and experience His blessings and transformation.**

## ELIM'S FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

Elim's Foundational Truths explain our theology and are a statement of faith - they are powerful, non-negotiable and guide all we say and do.

### THE BIBLE

We believe the Bible, as originally given, to be without error, the fully inspired and infallible Word of God and the supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

### THE TRINITY

We believe that the Godhead exists co-equally and co-eternally in three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - and that these three are one God, sovereign in creation, providence and redemption.

### THE SAVIOUR

We believe in the true and proper deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His real and complete humanity, in His sinless life, in His authoritative teaching, in His substitutionary and atoning sacrifice through His blood shed, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in His heavenly intercession and His second advent to receive His Church.

### THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the deity of the Holy Spirit who proceeds from the Father and the Son and the necessity of His work in conviction of sin, repentance, regeneration, and sanctification, and that the believer is also promised an enduement of power as the gift of Christ through the baptism in the Holy Spirit with signs following. Through this enduement, the believer is empowered for fuller participation in the ministry of the Church, its worship, evangelism, and service.

### MANKIND

We believe in the universal sinfulness of all men since the Fall, rendering man subject to God's wrath and condemnation.

### SALVATION

We believe in the necessity for salvation of repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ by which the sinner is pardoned and accepted as righteous in God's sight. This justification is

imputed by the grace of God because of the atoning work of Christ, is received by faith alone and is evidenced by the Fruit of the Spirit and a holy life.

### THE CHURCH

We believe in the spiritual unity and the priesthood of all believers in Christ and that these comprise the universal Church, the Body of Christ.

### THE MINISTRY

We believe in the ministries that Christ has set in His Church, namely, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers and in the present operation of the manifold Gifts of the Holy Spirit according to the New Testament.

### THE ORDINANCES

We believe in the baptism of believers by immersion in water in obedience to the command of Christ and in the commemoration of Christ's death by the observance of the Lord's Supper until His return.

### THE COMMISSION

We believe that the Gospel embraces the needs of the whole man and that the Church is therefore commissioned to preach the Gospel to the world and to fulfil a ministry of healing and deliverance to the spiritual and physical needs of mankind.

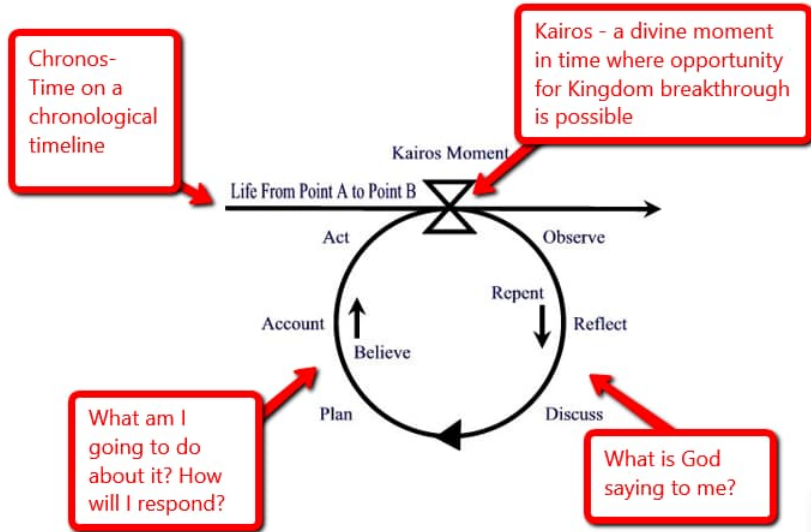
### THE COMING KING

We believe in the personal, physical and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to reign in power and glory.

### THE FUTURE STATE

We believe in the resurrection of the dead and in the final judgement of the world, the eternal conscious bliss of the righteous and the eternal conscious punishment of the wicked.

# Pause. Reflect. Process



It's time to pause, reflect, process and act on your week's Kairos moment(s).

This week, \_\_\_\_\_

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19 – 21 December 2024

# A Very Christmas Carol

PRODUCTION

at Ipswich International Church

More details shortly

See  
**Father Christmas**  
in his  
**Grotto**



**Come and join us, fun for all the family!**

At



**Christmas**

**Tombola**

**Fete**

**Saturday 7th December 12pm-4pm**

**Colchester Elim Church**

**Clematis Way,**

**CO4 3PY**

**Cakes & Treats**

**Name the Reindeer**

**Floating Ducks**

**All proceeds go to maintenance of the church.**

Working in partnership with Elim Church, Colchester. Charitable Trust (charity number 251549)



# Our Priorities

ELIM 2025 RECOGNIZABLE

**MAKING  
DISCIPLES**

»»» ADVANCE

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white top, with her arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship. The background is dark blue with light blue geometric shapes.

ELIM 2025 RECOGNIZABLE

**DEVELOPING  
LEADERS**

»»» ADVANCE

A man with short hair, wearing a dark suit, speaking into a microphone. The background is dark blue with light green geometric shapes.

ELIM 2025 RECOGNIZABLE

**GROWING  
CHURCHES**

»»» ADVANCE

A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a patterned top, singing into a microphone. The background is dark blue with yellow and orange geometric shapes.

ELIM 2025 RECOGNIZABLE

**REACHING  
NATIONS**

»»» ADVANCE

A man with short hair, wearing a light-colored shirt, speaking into a microphone. The background is dark blue with red and pink geometric shapes.