

OCTOBER 9, 2022

FIRST



# THESSALONIANS

HOPE OF A SOON RETURN

[WWW.CCCIV.ORG](http://WWW.CCCIV.ORG)



CHRIST  
*Community*  
CHURCH  
EL CENTRO



590 W. Orange Ave.  
El Centro, CA 92243  
760-337-9400 Office

# Welcome

to Christ Community Church



**SCAN TO  
CONNECT  
WITH US**



Apple

**GET THE APP!**

Christ Community Church IV

**Mobile APP**



Android



**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY APPRECIATION LUNCHEON TODAY!**

**MIDWEEK GATHERING - EACH WEDNESDAY AT 6:30 PM**

This week is Devotion and Discussion night! We will gather in the sanctuary for a brief devotional teaching and an interactive group discussion on the topic. Next week we'll have a Prophecy Update, and the following Wednesday will be Harvest Night (so we will be out in the parking lot)

**BETRAYAL & BEYOND FOR WOMEN THURSDAYS 6:30 PM AT IVLC**

Betrayal & Beyond is a support group for Women who have been betrayed by a spouse's behavior due to sexual addiction (e.g. pornography or adultery) to be able to find healing and prayer support. The meetings are held each Thursday at 6:30 pm at the IV Life Center.

**WOMEN'S BUNCO GAME NIGHT OCTOBER 10 - 6-8:30 PM**

It's all fun and games ladies! Register now, and join us for a night of Bunco (a fun and easy to learn dice game) in the Fellowship Hall Saturday, October 10th at 6pm.



**IV LIFE CENTER FUNDRAISER TICKETS NOW ONLINE!**

The IV Life Center Dinner for Life will be on October 21st at 6 pm. Tickets are available in the Visitor's Center today for \$50 or scan the QR code!



**HARVEST NIGHT CARNIVAL & CAR SHOW 10/26 AT 5:30 PM**

**MEN'S RETREAT IN PINE VALLEY - 10/28 \$160 REGISTER ON THE CCC APP**

**NEW SERIES: ISRAEL☆ PAST PRESENT FUTURE - BEGINS 10/23**

\*OUR FEATURED GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE ISRAEL'S CONSUL GENERAL - SUNDAY 11/6

**GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP** ALTERNATING SATURDAYS BEGINNING 10/29

**LUNCH IN THE WORD MEN'S STUDY • TUESDAYS AT NOON • FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**IMPERIAL VALLEY SCHOOL OF MINISTRY • TUESDAYS 6:30 PM • FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**ROOTED YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (18-24) TUESDAYS AT 7:00 PM • REACH BASEMENT**

**YOUNG AT HEART COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP • WEDNESDAYS AT 10:00 AM • LIBRARY**

**REACH YOUTH GROUP (REACH BASEMENT) & AWANA (FH) • WEDNESDAYS 6:15 PM**

**MIDWEEK GATHERING • WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 PM • MAIN SANCTUARY**

**JOY OF LIVING WOMEN'S STUDY • THURSDAYS AT 9:30-11:30 AM • FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**MOMS IN PRAYER • THURSDAYS 6-7 PM • PRESCHOOL ROOM 4**

**BETRAYAL & BEYOND WOMEN'S STUDY • THURSDAYS 6:30 PM • IV LIFE CENTER**

**KITCHEN WITH A MISSION • FRIDAYS AT 5:30 PM • FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP • ALTERNATING SATURDAYS • THE COTTAGE BEGINNING 10/29**

**ONGOING**

# Find the LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS On the CCC Mobile APP or at [ccciv.org/lifegroup-resources](http://ccciv.org/lifegroup-resources)



## Getting to Know You:

1. What are some stress-reduction "life-hacks" people have shared via social media or written in blogs and self-help books? Why do you think there is such a market for these ideas?
2. What common misconceptions do people have about death, heaven, and life after death? What do you think generates and perpetuates those misguided ideas and false philosophies?

## Digging Deeper:

1. Many ponder God's will for their lives, but what does 1 Thessalonians 4:3-12 say pleases God? Read Ephesians 5:17-20, Micah 6:8, James 1:21-27, and Isaiah 1:17, noting the tenets of God's expectation for a believer. How would you summarize God's will in just one or two words?
2. Read Isaiah 26:3-4, Philippians 4:6-7, John 16:33, John 14:27, and 1 Peter 5:7, then discuss how one can achieve inner peace. How does that peace lead to the tranquil life described in 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 and 52-53, then discuss why believers can be encouraged (1 Thessalonians 4:18) rather than fearful concerning the return of the Lord. How does knowing that the disciples and Paul were eyewitnesses to the bodily-resurrected Jesus bolster one's confidence in a believer's future resurrection? (1 Thessalonians 4:14)

## Taking it Home:

1. Can you confidently declare that you are in the will of God according to His word? How could you be more intimately centered in God's plan or more obedient to His commands?
2. Do you lead a quiet life focused on the Lord, or are you sometimes distracted by things of the world? What one thing will you do differently this week to lead a more peaceful life?
3. What does your response to death (avoidance, abhorrence, acceptance, or anticipation) indicate about your relationship with Christ? How might you develop a healthier response and faith-filled anticipation of heaven?

# 1 THESSALONIANS 4:1-18

LIVE A LIFE OF \_\_\_\_\_

A CALL TO \_\_\_\_\_ GOD

A CALL TO \_\_\_\_\_ IN RELATIONSHIPS

LIVE A LIFE OF \_\_\_\_\_

THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF LOVE

THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF LOVE

THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF LOVE

LIVE A LIFE OF \_\_\_\_\_

OUR REASON FOR HOPE IS THE \_\_\_\_\_

OUR REASON FOR HOPE IS THE \_\_\_\_\_

OUR REASON FOR HOPE IS THE \_\_\_\_\_

WALTER COLACE

THE  
FIRST  
THESSALONIANS  
HOPE OF A SOON RETURN

SCAN TO OPEN TODAY'S  
OUTLINE & SCRIPTURES >>>



WEEK OF  
October 9, 2022

## Cliffhanger: The story isn't over

PARENT GUIDE  
Preteen



**First, watch  
this week's  
video!**

**Grit: Refusing  
to give up when  
life gets hard**

### Memory Verse

"Let us not become  
tired of doing good.  
At the right time we  
will gather a crop  
if we don't give up."  
Galatians 6:9, NIV

### Bible Story

Joseph Forgives  
His Brothers  
Genesis 41-45

### Key Question

When has something  
turned out better  
than you expected?

Use this guide to help your family  
learn how God can help us have grit.

### Activity

#### Screen Time

#### What You Need:

Smartphone or Wi-Fi-enabled device

#### What You Do:

Explain that you'll be playing a game with a video that gives ultra-zoomed-in images of various objects. Challenge your child to call out what they think the object is before the full-size image is revealed. See how many they can guess before the image is revealed. Or, make it a competition between the two of you to see who can guess the image first.

- Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kffid0F1AYWU>
- If time allows, play again with another video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBh1BMb8KwM>

After the activity, say, "Do you remember how last week, we learned about all the bad things that happened to Joseph? Even though those challenges seemed like a lot, they were really only a small portion of the story, right? Today we saw that there was a much bigger story being told all along and that God was using those tough situations for good."



### Talk About the Bible Story

If you had been Joseph, would you have been able to forgive your brothers?

How was Joseph able to show forgiveness to his brothers? (*He realized that there was a bigger story; he knew that God forgave him for all the things he did wrong; he loved God*)

When has something turned out better than you expected?

Even though we know there's a bigger story, why is it so hard to believe that sometimes?

*Parent: Share a personal example of a time where perhaps the small details in your life didn't make sense ... but then God allowed you to eventually see it all come together for a bigger story.*



### Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Thank you, God, for our family. Help us to grow closer to each other. When we face difficult things in life, help us to believe that You have a bigger story—even if we can't always see it. Be with us throughout the week, as we continue to trust You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

# DEVOTIONS

WEEK OF  
October 9, 2022

## Cliffhanger: The story isn't over

PARENT GUIDE  
Elementary



First, watch  
this week's  
video!

**Grit: Refusing  
to give up when  
life gets hard**

### Memory Verse

"Let us not become  
tired of doing good.  
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will gather a crop  
if we don't give up."  
Galatians 6:9, NIV

### Bible Story

Joseph Forgives  
His Brothers  
Genesis 41-45

### Bottom Line

Hold on because  
there's a bigger  
story.

Use this guide to help your family  
learn how God can help us have grit.



### Activity

#### Screen Time

#### What You Need:

Smartphone or Wi-Fi-enabled device

#### What You Do:

Explain that you'll be playing a game with a video that gives ultra-zoomed-in images of various objects. Challenge your child to call out what they think the object is before the full-size image is revealed. See how many they can guess before the image is revealed. Or, make it a competition between the two of you to see who can guess the image first.

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After the activity, say, "Do you remember how last week, we learned about all the bad things that happened to Joseph? Even though those challenges seemed like a lot, they were really only a small portion of the story, right? Today we saw that there was a much bigger story being told all along, and that God was using those tough situations for good."



### Talk About the Bible Story

If you had been Joseph, would you have been able to forgive your brothers?

How was Joseph able to show forgiveness to his brothers? (*He realized that there was a bigger story; he knew that God forgave him for all the things he did wrong; he loved God*)

When has it been hard to forgive someone?

*Parent: Share a personal story of when it was difficult to forgive someone, or when you needed forgiveness yourself.*



### Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, when we face difficult things in life, help us to trust You and believe that You have a bigger story—even if we can't always see it. Thank You for always being there for us. Please help us feel Your presence when we feel alone. In Jesus' name, amen."

**TEXT (833) 694-6999 TO GIVE:**

Use the  
keyword: **CCCIV**

**CCCIVBRAWLEY**  
**CCCIVCALEXICO**  
**CCCIVSPANISH**

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**VOLUNTEER**

Several ministries are looking for help, including the Tech Team, AWANA, Kids Ministry, and KWAM.

**WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?**



## **CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH PASTORS**

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