

# THE MESSAGE

## Choosing The Better Thing

**Ralph Delgado**

1. When you put your faith in Christ, you receive God's \_\_\_\_\_ for both \_\_\_\_\_ AND for \_\_\_\_\_ in your life.

2. The soil on a path represents a person with a "\_\_\_\_\_ heart".

3. The rocky ground represents a person with a "\_\_\_\_\_ heart".

4. The thorny soil represents people with a "\_\_\_\_\_ heart".

5. Fruitfulness flows out of a \_\_\_\_\_ heart.

6. God's \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_ force for our \_\_\_\_\_!

**Romans 7:15 (NIV)** - "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do."

**Luke 8:5-8 (NIV)** - <sup>5</sup>"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. <sup>6</sup>Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. <sup>8</sup>Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown."

**Luke 8:11-15 (NIV)** - <sup>11</sup>"This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup>Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup>Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. <sup>14</sup>The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go

# MESSAGE NOTES

on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. <sup>15</sup>But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

**James 1:2-4 (GWT)** - <sup>2</sup>My brothers and sisters, be very happy when you are tested in different ways. <sup>3</sup>You know that such testing of your faith produces endurance. <sup>4</sup>Endure until your testing is over. Then you will be mature and complete, and you won't need anything.

**Luke 10:38-42 (NIV)** - <sup>38</sup>As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. <sup>39</sup>She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

<sup>41</sup>"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, <sup>42</sup>but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

**Matthew 13:23 (NIV)** - "But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

**Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)** - "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

**John 15:5 (NIV)** - "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

**Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)** - For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

**Jeremiah 23:29 (NIV)** - "Is not my word like fire," declares the Lord, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"

**Ezekiel 11:19-20 (NIV)** - <sup>19</sup>I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh. <sup>20</sup>Then they will follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. They will be my people, and I will be their God.

# MOBILE APP

Scan Below & Download the CA App for upcoming events, to give, and past sermons!



## WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE



CHECK



CASH



APP



KINGDOM

Go to [CAchurch.com](http://CAchurch.com) or use the envelope in the seatbacks at our services.

### Financial Update

2023 General Budget: **\$8,500,000.00**

YTD 11.30.2023 - Requirement: **\$7,682,692.31**

YTD 11.30.2023 - Offering: **\$8,006,022.26**

November Kingdom Offering: **\$55,608.59**  
YTD Kingdom Offering: **\$606,281.60**



[Facebook.com/CAchurchLA](https://www.facebook.com/CAchurchLA)



[@CAchurchLA](https://www.instagram.com/CAchurchLA)



Service Times:

- Saturdays | 6pm (south)
- Sundays | 9am (south)
- Sundays | 11:15am (north & south)
- Sunday [Fusion, 18-35] | 6pm (north)

2424 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90041  
Phone: 323.255.1421  
[cachurch.com](http://cachurch.com)



December 30 & 31, 2023

**Worship God**  
Become part of His **Family**  
Extend His **Kingdom**

# WELCOME!

We're so glad you've chosen to join us!

Christian Assembly (CA) is a community started in response to God's grace shown to us through Jesus Christ. **That grace compels us to lead spiritually convinced and unconvinced people to complete commitment to Jesus Christ.**

We don't profess to have all the answers, but we do believe there is a God who is worth knowing and following. Whether you are simply curious about Jesus or have been a long-time follower of Christ, we welcome you and are excited you are with us today.

Enjoy the service!

Tom Hughes & Mark Pickerill  
Co-Lead Pastors

## NEW?

- We'd love to meet you! Stop by our **New People's Table** in the lobby where we have a welcome gift for you.
- There is a **Connection Card** in the seatbacks that you can use to ask questions, submit a prayer request or just let us know you're visiting. Fill it out and drop it in the dropbox at the New People's Table.
- If you have an infant or you'd like your child to be with you during service, there is a **family room** that is equipped with a live feed of the service as well as a private **nursing room** for mothers. The courtyard is also available with a live feed. Just ask an usher!

# INFORMATION



Have you ever felt that you wish something was different, that you wish you were different? God has a design and a plan to help each one of us grow to fully become the people He has created us to be. Each week during our **new MiracleGro series**, we will discover the core principles from God's Word that God has put in place to help us grow spiritually. As we step into 2024 together, invite a friend and join us **next weekend Jan. 6/7** for this 5-week series as we each kick-start fresh growth in our lives by God's design and with God's help!



Men! Join other men as we kick off the new year with our first **Men's Gathering of 2024 on Wednesday, Jan. 10 (7pm) at 2424 Colorado Blvd. (south)**. This will be a time to worship, pray, and hear an inspiring message from God's word. Make plans to come and bring a buddy! For more info, please visit: [cachurch.com/mensgathering](http://cachurch.com/mensgathering)



Our Kids Church Program is offered during all services for children from birth to 5th grade. For more information stop by the Kids Church tent or visit: [cakidschurch.com](http://cakidschurch.com)

We offer programs for both middle and high schoolers. For grades 6th-8th, we meet on Saturdays (6pm-7:15pm) and for grades 9th-12th, we meet on Wednesdays (7pm-8:30pm). For more info, please visit: [castudents678.com](http://castudents678.com)



Fusion is one of our weekend services and is specifically geared toward 18-35 year olds. We meet on Sunday nights 6pm at 2435 Colorado Blvd. (north). Join us! For more info, visit: [cafusion.com](http://cafusion.com)

# OPPORTUNITIES



## 2023 KINGDOM PARTNERSHIPS AND EFFORTS



40 KINGDOM PARTNERSHIPS & EFFORTS

25 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

35 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS BEING REACHED

Thank you to all those who have prayed, given generously, and served to see God's kingdom extended both near and far in 2023!

To learn more about our Kingdom partnerships and efforts, please visit: [cachurch.com/kingdom](http://cachurch.com/kingdom)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Year End Contributions

**All contributions must be received or postmarked by this Sunday, Dec. 31 (if you give online, please submit no later than 10pm PST) to receive tax credit for 2023.** Also, keep us informed with your correct address and email with the connection card. You can find the connection cards in the seatbacks or online at [cachurch.com/connectioncard](http://cachurch.com/connectioncard)

## Baby Dedications

Our next baby dedications will be held on **Jan. 20/21**. If your baby is under one year old or you have recently adopted, fill out and turn in a request form in person or online. **Forms are due by Monday, Jan. 8** and are available in the lobby or online at [cachurch.com/babydedications](http://cachurch.com/babydedications)

## Women's Bible Study

Ladies! We want to invite you to join us at **Women's Bible Study** this winter for our Story Series as we study the book of Jonah! **This is a 6-week series from Jan. 9/10-Feb. 13/14 and all are welcome. Tuesday nights (7pm) & Wednesday mornings (9:30am). Satellite and online groups are also available!** For more info and to register for free childcare, please visit: [cachurch.com/wbs](http://cachurch.com/wbs)

## Baptism Class

If you've decided to trust Jesus with your life and to follow Him, we encourage you to proclaim your decision through baptism. Our next baptism class will be on **Sunday, Jan. 28 at 1pm in Rm. 100 (south sanctuary hallway)**. Our next baptisms will be on **Feb. 17/18**. For more info and to register, please visit: [cachurch.com/baptisms](http://cachurch.com/baptisms)

## Women's Prayer Groups

Kick off 2024 in prayer and join a **Women's Prayer Group!** The goal of these groups is to provide a safe space to develop and nurture your prayer life. Groups spend time praying together for one another, our church, and our city. For more info and a list of prayer groups, please visit: [cachurch.com/womensprayergroups](http://cachurch.com/womensprayergroups)