

# EPHESIANS

*PART OF SOMETHING BIG*



*September 17, 2023*



# WELCOME

At RCC, the Bible tells us that God wants us to find our greatest joy in Him and that He desires for us to share this experience with others.

So our mission is - To encourage people to **Enjoy God Together**.

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And our vision is - To **build joy-filled communities of faith** whose very existence inspires individuals to live an abundant Christian life, **made up of three key relationships - r1, r2, and r3**.

**r1** – A deepening relationship with God

**r2** – A life-changing relationship with other believers

**r3** – An engaging relationship with those yet to believe

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To get there, we have a few things that matter to us:



**WE FIND OUR GREATEST JOY IN JESUS**



**WHAT WE THINK ABOUT GOD MATTERS**



**WE HELP PEOPLE HELP PEOPLE**



**WE CELEBRATE QUESTIONS**



**WE EMBRACE INEVITABLE TENSIONS**



**THIS IS FOR LIFE**

# GIVING UPDATE

Thank you to all of you for investing in RCC's vision and community. As of 09/13/23 our giving vs. budget is:

General Fund Giving	Month to Date	Year to Date
2023 Actual	\$55,869	\$896,675
2023 Budget	\$69,424	\$1,078,175
Difference	-\$13,555	-\$181,500

## SEWING SEEDS

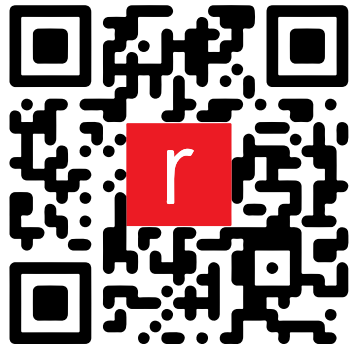
Last week, Keith Gove announced a new way to care for our community through RCC – our quilting group, Sewing Seeds.

This team has already blessed almost 20 folks struggling with health issues as well as healthy new babies and parents.

If you know someone who could use the comfort of one of these handmade quilts, we have many ready to be given out.

You can get one by filling out a card at the Welcome Table on the Patio or by scanning this QR code.

Or, if you'd like to join the team that makes them, they'd love to have you as there are several ways you can help out. For more information or to help you get connected to the team, you can contact Keith at [keithg@richfieldcc.org](mailto:keithg@richfieldcc.org).



# Women's Weekend Retreat



**DONT MISS OUT!** This year's Women's Weekend Retreat is up at Forest Home. Rooms are double occupancy in their newest and nicest accommodations. Our theme this year is "Deeper Still", as we spend time planting our roots in God's Word.

**Dates:** 10/6-10/8

**Where:** Forest Home in the San Bernardino Mountains

**Cost:** \$295 (includes double occupancy room and 5 meals)

If you have questions, please contact Stephanie at [womenconnect@richfieldcc.org](mailto:womenconnect@richfieldcc.org) or call Sonya at the church office at (714) 524-1744.

**Registration is open!**

Register at  
[richfieldcc.org/events](http://richfieldcc.org/events)  
or scan the barcode



# SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK:

## Ephesians 1:3-6

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

## NOTES:

# **Wrestling with God's Love**

Ephesians 1:3-6

Todd Chapman - September 17, 2023

Paul wants us to more fully experience the deep love of God that moved Him to give us in Christ *"every spiritual blessing"*.

But this requires effort from us. For those willing to wrestle with more fully understanding the magnitude of God's love, there is inconceivable delight, assurance and joy.

**God chose to bless us before we existed.**

**God chose to radically transform us.**

**God chose to have an astounding relationship with us.**

**God chose us according to His own pleasure and will.**

**God chose us that He might ultimately be glorified.**

# ***Life Group Discussion Questions***

Ephesians 1:3-6

For the week of September 17, 2023

## ***Reading the Text:***

1. There are some words and/or ideas that are repeated multiple times. Which words and ideas do you see repeated? Why do you think Paul would repeat these words and ideas?
2. In verse 3, what has God blessed us with? What are some examples of “*every spiritual blessing*” that He has blessed us with? When did He choose to bless us with these things?
3. There are five ideas in this text surrounding the reality of God choosing His people. What are these five ideas?
4. Of the five ideas from above, which ones seem to be the easiest/most difficult to embrace? Why?

## ***Living It Out:***

1. Have you ever thought about God choosing you before the beginning of time? What thoughts or emotions come with that truth in this text?
2. How would you describe “*God’s spiritual blessings*” to a friend who trusts Jesus? How would you describe them to someone who does not trust Jesus? What do these words mean?
3. When you think of wrestling with complex ideas in the Bible, how do you respond? (Example: Do you tend to get excited, discouraged, intrigued, confused, etc?)

# RICHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

## OUR STAFF



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