



ENJOYING GOD TOGETHER

**CALLING TO MIND  
GOD'S GOODNESS**

# New Words in 2023

# New Words in 2023

ICYMI

# New Words in 2023

Nearlyweds

# New Words in 2023

## Nearlyweds

a person who lives with another in a life partnership, sometimes engaged with no planned wedding date, sometimes with no intention of ever marrying.

# New Words in 2023

Antifragile

# New Words in 2023

## Antifragile

becoming more robust when exposed to stressors, uncertainty, or risk. (J. Haidt and G. Lukianoff)



# New Words in 2023

988

# New Words in 2023

988

(in the United States) the telephone number for a mental health crisis hotline staffed by licensed counselors and other staff trained in suicide prevention.

# New Words in 2023

Petfluencer

# New Words in 2023

## Petfluencer

a person who gains a large following on social media by posting entertaining images or videos of their cat, dog, or other pet.

# New Words in 2023

Digital nomads

# New Words in 2023

## Digital nomads

a person who works remotely while traveling for leisure, especially when having no fixed, permanent address.

# New Words in 2023

The recent pandemic may have made us as a human population slightly more awkward than before. The internet has responded by referring to people who are endearingly socially awkward as...

# New Words in 2023

Adorkable



# New Words in 2023

Antifragile

## Lamentations 3:21-24

<sup>21</sup> But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: <sup>22</sup> The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup> they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. <sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- His Goodness in Creation (Psalm 136)

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever...  
<sup>4</sup> to him who alone does great wonders,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>5</sup> to him who by understanding made the heavens,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>6</sup> to him who spread out the earth above the waters,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>7</sup> to him who made the great lights,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>8</sup> the sun to rule over the day,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>9</sup> the moon and stars to rule over the night,  
for his steadfast love endures forever...

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- In Creation
- His Goodness in Providence (Psalm 37)

The steps of a man are established by the LORD,  
when he delights in his way;  
though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong,  
for the LORD upholds his hand.

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- In Creation
- In Providence (Psalm 23)



The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.  
He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake...

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- In Creation
- In Providence
- His Goodness in Redemption (Psalm 130)

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
O Lord, who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness,  
that you may be feared...

O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with Him is plentiful redemption.

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- In Creation
- In Providence
- His Goodness in Redemption (Ephesians 2)

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins<sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—<sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.  
<sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- How did I get to know God better this year?

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- How did I get to know God better this year?
- Where did I see His love, His power, His wisdom displayed?



# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- How did I get to know God better this year?
- Where did I see His love, His power, His wisdom displayed?
- Where did I struggle to trust and follow Him?

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

- How did I get to know God better this year?
- Where did I see His love, His power, His wisdom displayed?
- Where did I struggle to trust and follow Him?
- How did He use me to bless others?

# Locally Through RCC

# Locally Through RCC

- Helped young women in crisis through LivingWell Crisis Pregnancy Center

# Locally Through RCC

- Helped young women in crisis through LivingWell Crisis Pregnancy Center
- Helped kids on the verge of homelessness get to school through HIS-OC

# Locally Through RCC

- Helped young women in crisis through LivingWell Crisis Pregnancy Center
- Helped kids on the verge of homelessness get to school through HIS-OC
- Helped keep families together by supporting Strong Families at Olive Crest

# Globally Through RCC

# Globally Through RCC

- Helped Muslims hear the gospel for the first time (BIM)



# Globally Through RCC

- Helped Muslims hear the gospel for the first time (BIM)
- Helped relieve the financial burden from a church in Tirana, Albania that is going to the hub of church planting network

# Globally Through RCC

- Helped Muslims hear the gospel for the first time (BIM)
- Helped relieve the financial burden from a church in Tirana, Albania that is going to the hub of church planting network
- Helped equip Chinese pastors to minister to the Chinese community here in the US and abroad

# Globally Through RCC

- Helped Muslims hear the gospel for the first time (BIM)
- Helped relieve the financial burden from a church in Tirana, Albania that is going to the hub of church planting network
- Helped equip Chinese pastors to minister to the Chinese community here in the US and abroad
- Helped support church leaders in Indonesia that are bringing the Good News to many churches, across many islands, and many cultures

# Video

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

We don't know exactly what 2024 will bring:

# Calling To Mind God's Goodness

We don't know exactly what 2024 will bring:

- Challenges?
- Opportunities?
- Opposition?
- Victories?
- Losses?

## Lamentations 3:21-24

<sup>21</sup> But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: <sup>22</sup> The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup> they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. <sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

# 5 Things We Can Pray in 2024



# 5 Things We Can Pray in 2024

- Help me know You better

# Ephesians 1

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup> having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe...

# 5 Things We Can Pray in 2024

- Help me know You better
- Help me see Your love more clearly

## Ephesians 3

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father...that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

# 5 Things We Can Pray in 2024

- Help me know You better
- Help me see Your love more clearly
- Help me trust Your love when I can't see it

# 5 Things We Can Pray in 2024

- Help me know You better
- Help me see Your love more clearly
- Help me trust Your love when I can't see it
- Help me trust Your forgiveness when I don't feel worthy

## 1 John 1:8-9

<sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

# 5 Things We Can Pray in 2024

- Help me know You better
- Help me see Your love more clearly
- Help me trust Your love when I can't see it
- Help me trust Your forgiveness when I don't feel worthy
- Help me share Your goodness



## Lamentations 3:21-24

<sup>21</sup> But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: <sup>22</sup> The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup> they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. <sup>24</sup> “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”