

# **ENJOYING GOD TOGETHER**

# CALLING TO MIND GOD'S GOODNESS



# <u>ICYMI</u>



# **Nearlyweds**



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



# <u>Antifragile</u>



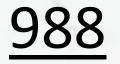
# **Antifragile**

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



<u>988</u>





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



# Petfluencer



# Petfluencer

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



# **Digital nomads**



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



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...



# <u>Adorkable</u>



# <u>Antifragile</u>



## 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."





• 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...



- 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.



- 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...



- 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.



- 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—





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



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



- 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 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



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   Pregnancy Center
- Helped kids on the verge of homelessness get to school through HIS-OC



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- Helped keep families together by supporting Strong Families at Olive Crest





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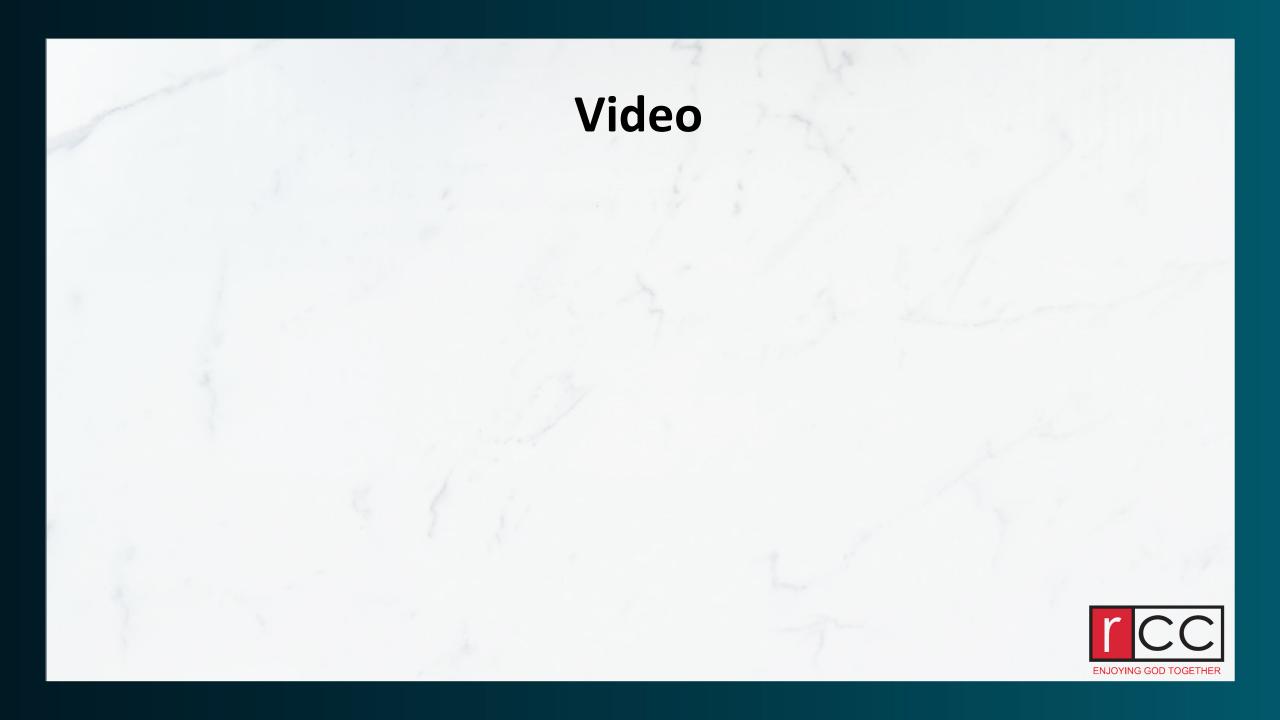


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- Helped equip Chinese pastors to minister to the Chinese community here in the US and abroad
- Helped support church leaders in Indonesia that are bringing the Good News to many churches, across many islands, and many cultures





### **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?



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• 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...



- 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.



- 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 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 <u>all</u> unrighteousness.



- 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



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