



## REAL LIFE CHURCH

*Helping people know and become like Jesus.*

### IN THE BEGINING

Have you felt confused or bewildered attempting to read the Old Testament? Whether you've studied it often or avoided it we want to encourage you to join this 7 week intro to the Old Testament taught by Cornelius Adewale. Continuing today at 9am. Childcare and videos of previous lessons available.

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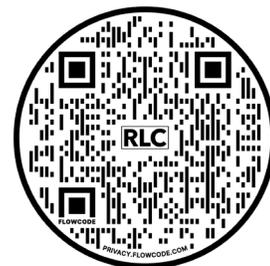
### EVERY MAN A WARRIOR

Gentlemen, if you are looking to grow closer to the Lord and are ready for a challenge, EMAW is the study for you. This four book study is not easy, it requires dedication and time commitment. The requirements include completing daily quiet times and weekly lessons, memory verses, and group gatherings. We will begin Book 1 (10 week study) in May and meet every Wednesday evening from 5:30-7:30 pm. If you are interested, please contact Caleb Brown @ 919-593-3242

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### JOIN A HOME GROUP

Is your life missing one or two good friends? The kind of people that you look forward to connecting with. I know where you can find them! Seriously, I am not joking. Join a home group or a college small group. Scan the code, sign up and go for it.



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# KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

## Colossians 1:9-23: Your Kingdom Come.

### Kingdom Conditions

1. The finger of God moves.
2. The people call Him Lord.
3. The people respond in obedience.



### **Colossians 1:9-12 NASB**

For this reason we also, since the day we heard about it, have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all perseverance and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

- Western: Bullet Points (Sheets)
- Eastern: Unfolding (Scroll)

“For this reason” based on Colossians 1:3-6 (The Gospel spreading in Colossae.)

### Pauls Prayer for Colossae:

- > They would understand the will of God. (More info on the will of God on the back of the sermon notes.)
  - > Walk in a manner worthy of God, pleasing God. (*Tzedekah*: Right relationships/God’s intention.)
  - > Bearing fruit IN good works. (Galatians 5:22-23)
  - > Increasing in knowledge of God and His will.

**> All possible by the strength of Jesus, who qualifies.**

### **Colossians 1:13-14 NASB**

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

μεθιστημι (Methistemi): to transfer or remove from one place to another. Used to describe when a person is transferred from a nation to another after it has been conquered.

### Jesus’ Kingdom

- Redemption - to buy back.
- Forgiveness
- Jesus is King

## **Colossians 1:15-20 NASB**

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation: for by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or rulers, or authorities— all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also the head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

### The Roman Cross

- Showed power and authority.
- Established peace through fear.
- No longer relevant or scary.

### Jesus' Cross

- Showed power and authority.
- Established eternal peace through love.
- Still a symbol of hope and community.

## **Colossians 1:21-23 NASB**

And although you were previously alienated and hostile in attitude, engaged in evil deeds, yet He has now reconciled you in His body of flesh through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach— if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

Problem: Alienation from God's kingdom.

Symptom: Evil deeds.

### Applications

1. Look for the finger of God and better understand His will.
2. The kingdom of God is here, live in it and bring it with you.
3. Recognize Jesus as king in your life.



# Home Group Notes

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Pray: It is always good by having someone begin group with prayer and invite the Spirit to join in on your group. (It may help to ask someone else ahead of time, some people like to prepare.)

Intro: Below is a table depicting four different perspectives that we can view God's will. Spend some time and write what you think God is at work doing in these four areas. Share with each other you write down.

- What did you base your answers on? Scripture, other teachers/preachers, or personal experience?

Questions: Read these out and discuss as a group, if you have more thinkers than talkers, maybe give them a moment to write out their thoughts on some of them. As always these are a tool to help build relationships with each other and grow closer to God, use them until they aren't useful.

- What does scripture say about the will of God?
- How can we get to understand God's will better?
- Do you think you are fulfilling your part in God's will? Why or why not?
- How have you seen God moving in your life recently?

Pray Again: You can never pray too much, but this is a good time to ask if there are anything the group can be praying for. Leaders, be sure to take some notes and pray for your groups throughout

All People   All Time	All People   Now
You   All Time	You   Now