

God Gives Grace to the Humble

James 4

“Bondslave” and “submission” are words that are not popular in our culture today. Yet we see them all throughout the New Testament, describing the relationship believers have with Christ, and also describing believers’ horizontal relationships.

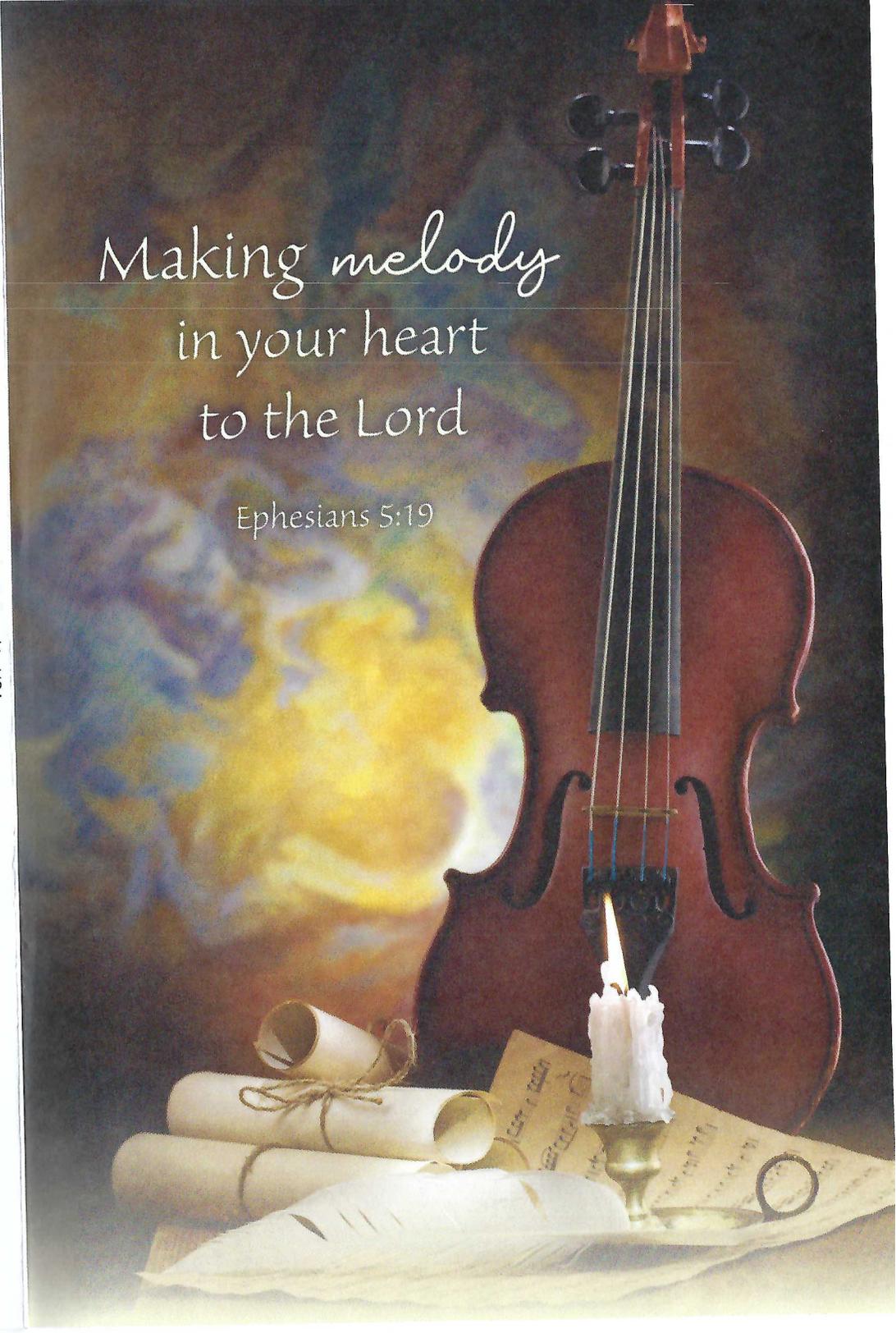
They seem counter to our love for freedom. Yet Jesus Christ is our Lord and Master. To submit to Him is to humble ourselves under His rule for our lives in every area. It is acknowledging that He is Lord and I am not. Submission is losing my “self-rule” and allowing His will, revealed in His Word, to be my direction.

The irony of this is that when I pursue my own freedom, I never get there. There are obstacles everywhere! When these obstacles prevent me from my freedom and pursuits, they produce anger. But when I submit to Christ as my Lord over all, losing my freedom, I actually find true freedom, which no one can take from me! Therefore, my submission becomes a glad submission . . . with joy. So I love Christ as my Lord, and humble myself before Him, seeking His direction and will in His Word and prayer. His spirit unpacks His Word and helps us apply it, and so we walk in that direction. This brings true freedom to the follower of Christ. It is a glad submission!

On the Mount of Olives, Jesus said to some of His followers, “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free . . . If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed” (John 8:31–32, 36).

John Grunditz
“Sunday Rewind”

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A violin is the central focus, positioned vertically. In the foreground, a lit candle sits in a small brass holder, resting on a scroll of parchment with handwritten text. Another scroll is tied with a string nearby. The background is a soft, out-of-focus bokeh of warm colors, primarily yellows and oranges, suggesting a light source like a lamp or fire. The overall mood is contemplative and artistic.

Making melody
in your heart
to the Lord

Ephesians 5:19

Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16th Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

January 28, 2024

Call to Worship

Sounds of Hope

Invocation

Don Mauldin

Sing Unto the Lord

Hymn #225 Come Christians Join to Sing

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Guests

Mission Moment

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Worship in Song

Hymn #214 He Has Made Glad #78 I Love You , Lord

Offertory Prayer

Craig Alexander

Offertory

Rose Morgan

Special Music

Sermon:

Reverend Don Mauldin

Scripture:

Hymn of Benediction

Hymn #

Shine, Shine, Shine!

Covenant News

Covenant Ministries

Our ministry for January is Family Promise. Since 1998, Family Promise of Gainesville has provided families experiencing homelessness with compassionate care that includes shelter, case management, education, housing, meals and transportation until they can transition to a home of their own.

Covenant News



Valentines Banquet

February 11, 2024

Bring a friend for food, fun, and fellowship.

Be sure to make a reservation.

TRUST

Sure, it takes a lot of courage to put things in God's hands
To give our lives completely, our lives, our hopes, our plans;
To follow where He leads us and makes His will our own,
But all it takes is foolishness to go the way alone.