

Good Plans: Protection

美好計劃：護佑

詩歌一：在各地讚美祂 **Praise You Anywhere**
詞曲：Brandon Lake

有時你要在黑暗中起舞
在火中歌唱 難以理解仍讚美
有時你要學習直視巨人
在獅穴之中敬拜
有時你也要從高山上大喊 在山谷更大聲
相信神會帶領祂度過

有時你要迎接奇跡降臨 等候神回應
高舉雙手來敬拜

我在各處讚美 讚美 讚美祂 讚美祂
至高真神 讚美祂 讚美祂
至高真神 祂是配得 YES 祂是配得所有的讚美

有時你要在獄中讚美
向上天呼求 直到天堂門做開
有時要在捆綁中站立 爭戰中勇敢
高舉雙手來敬拜

讚美 讚美祂 讚美祂
至高真神 讚美祂 讚美祂
至高真神 祂是配得 YES 祂是配得所有的讚美

讚美 讚美祂 讚美祂
至高真神 讚美祂 讚美祂
至高真神 祂是配得 YES 祂是配得所有的讚美

橋段

一生都信實 日夜都賜福
無盡的理由 在各地讚美祂
應許不落空 步步有良善
凡有氣息的 在各地讚美祂 ×2

讚美 讚美祂 讚美祂
至高真神 讚美祂 讚美祂
至高真神 祂是配得 YES 祂是配得所有的讚美

在各地讚美祢
在高山或低谷
我都知 祢 與我同在

詩歌二：聖潔到永遠 **Holy Forever**

千千万万世代 屈膝齐来敬拜
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
高唱永恒 神羔羊的诗歌
And all who've gone before us and all
who will believe
我们之前的信徒 和以后的世代
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb
高唱永恒 神羔羊的诗歌

Your name is the highest
祢名本为至高
Your name is the greatest
祢名本为至大
Your name stands above them all
祢名超乎万名之上

All thrones and dominions
远超执政 掌权
All powers and positions
有能的 和 主治的
Your name stands above them all
祢名超乎万名之上

And the angels cry, Holy
众天使呼喊 圣洁
All creation cries, Holy
全地都呼喊 圣洁
You are lifted high, Holy
主祢被高举 圣洁
Holy forever
圣洁到永远

If you've been forgiven and if you've
been redeemed
如果你罪得赦免 被主耶稣赎回
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
来讚美神羔羊 到永远
If you walk in freedom and if you bear

His name
如果你已得自由 是属基督的人
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
来讚美神羔羊 到永远
We'll sing the song forever and amen
齐来讚美神羔羊 到永远 阿门

And the angels cry, Holy
众天使呼喊 圣洁
All creation cries, Holy
全地都呼喊 圣洁
You are lifted high, Holy
主祢被高举 圣洁
Holy forever
圣洁到永远

Hear your people sing, Holy
众百姓颂扬 圣洁
To the King of Kings, Holy
归万王之王 圣洁
You will always be, Holy
主祢不改变 圣洁
Holy forever
圣洁到永远

Your name is the highest
祢名本为至高
Your name is the greatest
祢名本为至大
Your name stands above them all
祢名超乎万名之上
All thrones and dominions
远超执政 掌权
All powers and positions
有能的 和 主治的
Your name stands above them all
祢名超乎万名之上
(X2)

And the angels cry, Holy
众天使呼喊 圣洁
All creation cries, Holy
全地都呼喊 圣洁
You are lifted high, Holy
主祢被高举 圣洁
Holy forever
圣洁到永远

Hear your people sing, Holy
众百姓颂扬 圣洁
To the King of Kings, Holy
归万王之王 圣洁 (圣洁归我主)
You will always be, Holy
主祢不改变 圣洁
Holy forever
圣洁到永远

詩歌三：美好計畫 **Good Plans**

詞曲：[Red Rocks Worship] by Jake Espy and Kory Miller

第 1 節

主是我的牧者
他是我所需要的一切
所以我不會擔心
我不會害怕敵人
他說他愛我
他說他仍與我同在，即使
我走在陰影和死亡的山谷
我依然知道

合唱 1

他有很好的計劃
他對我有好的計劃
所以我會鼓起勇氣
在沙漠和花園裡
他有很好的計劃
他對我有好的計劃
如果我認識我的父親
我知道我父親有(好的計劃)

第 2 節

主是我的救主
那我為什麼要懷疑我的勝利
我為什麼要質疑
安慰我的桿和杖
他使水面平靜
祂平息了我內心的風暴
那麼還有什麼更好的呢
勝過我在信心中與他同行

和聲 1

確實是祢的良善與憐憫
會跟隨著我

所以恐懼不會找到我
因為我要住在神的殿中

和聲 2

好計劃

好計劃

如果我認識我的父親

我知道我父親有美好的計劃

Intro: 簡介

1. [Honor Veterans - Please stand] 榮譽退伍軍人 - 請起立
 - a. We thank you for your service - Putting yourself in harms way to protect both loved ones and those you do not know. For your service, we thank you. 我們感謝你的服務 - 為了保護親人和不認識的人而冒著危險。對於你的服務, 我們表示感激。
 - b. You may be seated. 您請坐下
2. Before we begin, I want to share a word of encouragement to us all about the election. We had an election this week (in case you didn't notice) 在我們開始之前, 我想先就這次選舉向我們大家分享一句鼓勵的話。本週我們舉行了一次選舉(如果您沒有註意的話)
 - a. [A word of encouragement] - Let's find our hope and confidence not in head of the American, but the head of the Church, who is the world's true Lord [一句鼓勵的話] - 讓我們的希望和信心不是在美國人的頭上, 而是在教會的頭上, 他是世界真正的主。
 - i. In doing so, with our confidence firmly rooted in Christ, let's be a people who love one another...even when there are political differences? 在這樣做的過程中, 我們的信心牢固地植根於基督, 讓我們成為彼此相愛的人.....即使存在政治分歧?
 1. So, instead of being quick to judge, we were quick to love? 那麼, 相對於著急去批評論斷, 讓我們主動地去彼此相愛
 2. Instead of being quick to state our opinion, we were quick to listen, slow to speak 相對於著急的表達我們的意見, 而是積極聽, 慢慢說
 - ii. If you are here and you are pained by the election results, we are with you. 如果你在這裡並對選舉結果感到痛苦, 我們與你同在,
 - iii. If you are and you are thrilled with the results, I want to encourage you to not set your hope and confidence in the president, but faithfully pray for your president as you live a good life as a citizen of a different kingdom - the Kingdom of God 如果你在這裡並對結果感到興奮, 我想鼓勵你不要把盼望和信心寄託在總統身上, 而是忠實地為你的總統祈禱, 因為作為神國的子民, 我們的信心是建立在耶穌基督上。

iv. If you are here and you are glad the election is over, and was hoping it would not be mentioned so that you could forget about it...my apologies. 如果你在這裡並且很高興選舉已經結束，並且希望它不會被提及，這樣你就可以忘記它.....我很抱歉。

3. If we have not me, I'm David. I'm one of the pastors here. 我是大衛，我是這裡的牧師之一。

4. [Series summary + goal] 系列總結+目標

- a. We are in a series called Good Plans 我們現在在學習“好計劃”系列。
- b. In this series, we are diving into the promises of God - and His promises are good plans for His people 在本系列中，我們將深入探討上帝的應許——祂的應許是對祂子民的美好計劃。
- c. And our anchor text is Jeremiah 29 我們的錨文本是耶利米書 29
 - i. Which has a very familiar verse - Jer. 29:11 其中有一首非常熟悉的經文——耶利米書 29:11 我知道我向你們所懷的意念是賜平安的意念，不是降災禍的意念，要叫你們末後有指望。這是耶和華說的
 1. We love it, because we think of all of our good plans and say, “Hey, God has good plans for me! Plans for prosperity and a good future!” 我們喜歡它，因為我們想到我們所有的美好計劃並說：「嘿，上帝對我有美好的計劃！共謀繁榮，共創美好未來！」
 2. But this verse, when taken out of context, is overly individualized and loses its meaning and power. 但這節經文如果斷章取義，就會過於個人化，失去了意義和力量。
 - ii. You see, this prophecy of good plans is for people who are in exile from their home! 你看，這個美好計劃的預言是為那些流亡海外的人準備的！
 - iii. They are in a far-from-ideal situation. 他們的處境並非理想。
 - iv. But all of this is to call people back to God (see verse 12) and trust him when he says he will bring them back home from exile. 但這一切都是為了呼召人們歸向上帝（見第12節），並相信祂說祂會帶他們從流亡之所返回家。
- d. Jeremiah 29, though a very different time and setting, is incredibly informative for us in how to live, if we allow our imaginations to be soaked in and shaped by the Scriptures. 耶利米書第 29 章雖然發生在非常不同的時間和背景，但如果我們讓我們的想像沉浸在聖經中並被聖經塑造，那麼它對於我們如何生活來說是令人難以置信的信息。
- e. For we believe that God does indeed have good plans for us right here, right now, in the Portland Metro area in the 21st century. 因為我們相信，上帝確實在此時此地，在 21 世紀的波特蘭都會區為我們制定了美好的計劃。
- f. But what if God's good plans are not what you expect? 但如果神的美好計畫

沒有達到你的預期呢？

- i. Maybe the election did not go as expected 也許選舉沒有如妳預期
- ii. Could God still have good plans for His people, even when preferred political figures are not in power? 即使在偏好的政治人物沒有掌權的情況下，上帝還能對祂的子民有美好的計劃嗎？
- g. B4Church, what if God's plans are far better, even if in your life at this present time it feels like God has lost the plot? B4教會，如果上帝的計劃更好怎麼辦，即使在妳目前的生活中感覺上帝已經失去了計劃？
- h. This morning, we are talking about Good Plans for Protection and finding our security and refuge in our good and loving God. 今天早上，我們正在談論良好的保護計劃，並在我們仁慈慈愛的上帝那裡找到我們的安全和避難所。

Longing: Security/Protection 渴望：安全/保護

1. Church, I am not a risk taker. I am not that fast of a driver. 弟兄姐妹，我不是一個願意冒險的人。我不是開得那麼快的司機。
2. [Story] - [When I thought I was going to die while driving with my father-in-law - I drove a Prius. You press the button, put it in drive (the only gear) and go 5 miles under the speed limit to save gas) [故事] - [當我以為我和岳父開車時會死時 - 我開的是普銳斯。您按下按鈕，將其置於驅動檔（唯一的檔位），然後以低於限速的速度行駛 5 英里以節省汽油]
3. [WE - Our longing] - Feeling safe is a baseline human desire [我們 - 我們的渴望] - 感到安全是人類的基本願望
 - a. In Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs (a famous psychological theory by Abraham Maslow) - After biological needs are met (water, shelter, food), the next greatest human need is safety and security 在馬斯洛的需求層次理論（亞伯拉罕·馬斯洛的著名心理學理論）中——在滿足生物需求（水、住所、食物）之後，人類的下一個最大需求是安全和保障
 - b. When it comes to safety, we all long for a day when the dangers out there in the world cannot even come close to reaching us. 說到安全，我們都渴望有一天，世界上的危險都無法接近我們。
4. We all long for the peace of mind that results from potential dangers being dealt with. a. [Honor veterans - men and women whose sacrifice affords us that peace] 5. Desiring safety is a good, normal human desire. 我們都渴望因應潛在危險而獲得內心的平靜。[向退伍軍人致敬—他們的犧牲為我們帶來了和平]渴望安全是人類良好的、正常的願望。

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Tension: What if Protection is not guaranteed or withheld? 焦慮：如果保護得不到保證或被拒絕怎麼辦？

1. But what if the protection we long for is not guaranteed? What if the security we need to feel safe and relaxed is withheld? 但如果我們渴望的保護得不到保證怎麼辦？如果我們需要感到安全和放鬆的保障被剝奪了怎麼辦？
 - a. [examples] - You have your car broken into, and stuff stole (a deep violation) [範例] - 您的汽車被闖入，東西被盜(嚴重違規)
 - b. Financial security is far off, because money is tight, and the outflow of expenses exceeds your income 財務安全還很遙遠，因為資金緊張，支出的流出超過了你的收入
 - c. 對我們安全的恐懼和對保護的內在需求可以追溯到人類歷史的開端。
2. If we don't have what we need to feel safe, we do what we can to search out what we need to feel safe. 如果我們沒有感到安全所需的東西，我們會盡我們所能去尋找我們需要感到安全的東西。
 - a. Fear for one's safety is why cults exist. 對個人安全的恐懼是邪教存在的原因。
 - i. Cults find fearful people. They play on their fears and then make them believe the only source of protection from the big bad world is the community of the cult and, more importantly, the cult leader. 邪教找到可怕的人。他們利用自己的恐懼，然後讓他們相信，免受這個大壞世界的唯一保護來源是邪教團體，更重要的是邪教教主。
3. The fear for our safety and the intrinsic need for protection goes to the very beginning of human history. 對我們安全的恐懼和對保護的內在需求可以追溯到人類歷史的開端。
 - a. In the story of Cain and Abel, Cain murders his brother. God then gives him a mark to warn people not to harm him, which is a surprising act of God's grace! 在該隱和亞伯的故事中，該隱謀殺了他的兄弟。然後上帝給了他一個記號，警告人們不要傷害他，這是上帝恩典的驚人之舉！
 - b. God offers protection for Cain. BUT... 上帝為該隱提供保護。但...
 - c. Cain is fearful; he dwells in the land of wandering east of Eden, and he builds a city (which in the Hebrew text implied an enclosure with a wall - Cain builds a wall for protection because of fear.) 該隱懼怕；他居住在伊甸園以東的流浪之地，他建造了一座城市(在希伯來文本中，這意味著一個有圍牆的處所——該隱因為恐懼而建造了一堵牆作為保護。)

- i. Do you see the pattern? 你看到這個模式了嗎？
- ii. Humans were in the presence of God, a place of peace and protection 人類處於上帝面前，是一個和平與保護的地方
- iii. They disobey God and are exiled from Eden - they go East of Eden 他們違背上帝並被逐出伊甸園 - 他們去了伊甸園東邊
- iv. Cain murders his brother - and is Exiled further away from Eden, the text says he went east of Eden. 該隱謀殺了他的兄弟，並被放逐到離伊甸園更遠的地方，文本說他去了伊甸園以東。
- v. Eden, this delight-filled garden of God is where there is protection and no need for walls because the presence of God is there. 伊甸園，這個充滿喜樂的神的花園，那裡有保護，不需要圍牆，因為神的同在那裡。
 - 1. (This is the home we were made for. The home we all at the deepest level of our soul, are home sick for - our true home) 這是我們為之而生的家。我們所有人都在的家 我們靈魂的最深處，都想家了—我們真正的家)
- vi. Since humanity's exile out of Eden, we wander in a dangerous world, doing all we can to build up walls and fences to keep danger out and keep ourselves protected. 自從人類被放逐出伊甸園以來，我們在一個危險的世界中徘徊，盡我們所能地建造圍牆和柵欄來抵禦危險並保護自己。
 - 1. Today that could look like literal walls, or it could be our finances as our protection. 今天，這可能看起來像是真正的牆，也可能是我們的財務狀況 作為我們的保護。

4. In a world filled with danger, our souls long for protection. 在一個充滿危險的世界裡，我們的靈魂渴望受到保護。

- a. Even if you had a terrible upbringing, and home was not a safe place, you still have a longing deep down for your true home where there IS safety. 即使你的成長經歷很糟糕，家也不是一個安全的地方，但你內心深處仍然渴望真正的家，那裡是安全的。
- b. We long for a return to Eden - the presence of God - where there is protection and no need for walls or weapons. 我們渴望回到伊甸園——上帝的存在——那裡有保護，不需要牆壁或武器。
- c. There is protection in the presence of God. 在神的面前有保護。

Transition 過渡

- 1. What could it look like to experience the peace of God's presence and protection right here, right now? 此時此刻，體驗神臨在和保護的平安會是什麼樣子？

2. But what could it look like for us to be unafraid in this world? 但是我們在這個世界上要如何才能無所畏懼呢？
3. And how could this be possible? 這怎麼可能？

Locating the Series and the Story 定位系列和故事

1. Here's where we are at in the story of Jer. 29 這就是我們在耶爾的故事中所處的位置 耶利米書 29

a. [Summarize the story of Israel]【總結以色列的故事】

2. [Read Passage] [閱讀段落]

a. This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:⁵ "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce.⁶ Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease.⁷ Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." (Jeremiah 29:4-7)

a. 萬軍之耶和華以色列的上帝對所有被我從耶路撒冷擄到巴比倫的人如此說：5「建造房屋，安居下來；種植花園並食用其中所生產的東西。給你的兒子娶妻，給你的女兒嫁人，使他們也能生兒養女。那裡的數量增加；7 另外，請為我流放你們的那座城市尋求和平與繁榮。為它向主祈禱，因為如果它成功，你也會成功。（耶利米書 29:4-7）

Imagining Exile 想像流放

1. Imagine you are in Exile... 想像你正在流亡...

a. You did not choose this 你沒有選擇這個

b. You feel like God has abandoned you 你感覺上帝拋棄了你

c. It's a godless culture and yet it worships multiple gods 這是一種無神文化，卻崇拜多個神

d. It's a different language, culture, and climate. 這是一種不同的語言、文化和氣候。

2. If it were me, I would be pretty eager to get out of exile and return home to Jerusalem 如果是我，我會非常渴望擺脫流亡並返回耶路撒冷的家。

3. Now, Jeremiah's message to them has two parts: 耶利米向他們傳達的訊息分為兩部分：

a. Good news: God has good plans for YOU! (Jeremiah 29:11) - you WILL return home. 好消息：上帝對你有美好的計劃！（耶利米書 29:11）- 你會回家。

b. **But**...settle down here. Get comfortable. This city you'd prefer not to live

in, well...seek the peace and prosperity of the city. We're gonna be here for a while. So build houses, plant vineyards, and let your kids get married. 但是.....在這裡安頓下來。舒服點。這座你不想居住的城市，好吧.....尋求這座城市的和平與繁榮。我們要在這裡待一段時間。因此，建造房屋，種植葡萄園，然後讓你的孩子結婚。

c. So, the two parts are "Take heart. Trust God. For God has good plans...BUT...it might not be on your preferred timeline" 所以，這兩個部分是“鼓起勇氣。”相信上帝。因為上帝有美好的計劃.....但是.....它可能不在你喜歡的時間表上”

4. There's another prophet. He is preaching a very different message than Jeremiah. 還有一位先知。他所傳講的信息與耶利米截然不同。

a. In Jeremiah 29:24 耶利米書 29:24

b. Shemiah - 謝米亞 -

c. He is telling people not to listen to Jeremiah - for Jeremiah is telling them to settle down for a little while in exile. 他告訴人們不要聽耶利米的話——因為耶利米告訴他們在流亡中安定下來一段時間。

d. Shemiah is telling them their exile will be short. 謝米亞告訴他們，他們的流放將會很短暫。

e. Peterson quote - 彼得森的名言——

i. As long as the people thought that they might be going home at any time, it made no sense to engage in committed, faithful work in Babylon...The prophets manipulated the self-pity of the people into neurotic fantasies.

The people, glad for a religious reason to be lazy, lived hand to mouth, parasites on society, irresponsible in their relationships, indifferent to the reality of their actual lives. - Eugene Peterson 只要人們認為他們隨時可能回家，那麼在巴比倫從事忠誠的工作就沒有意義.....先知們操縱人們的自憐情緒進入神經質的幻想。人們，很高興因為宗教原因而變得懶惰，過著勉強糊口的生活，社會的寄生蟲，對人際關係不負責任，對現實生活漠不關心。——尤金·彼得森

5. Here in the exile, we have two prophets. One is Jeremiah, and he's saying God has good plans, but we're going to be here a while. The other is telling people not to listen to Jeremiah because of this "building houses and planting gardens" stuff. 在被擄之地，我們有兩位先知。其中之一是耶利米，他說上帝有美好的計劃，但我們還要在這裡待一段時間。另一個是告訴人們不要聽耶利米的話，因為這些「建造房屋和種植花園」的東西。

a. He is a prophet declaring that their time in exile will be short! 他是一位預言

家，宣稱他們的流亡時間將會很短！

6. One is saying we'll return home from exile, but it will be a little while. 有人說我們會從流亡回家，但這需要一段時間。
 - a. Another is saying they'll be home before they know it. 另一個人說他們會在不知不覺中回家。
7. One of these prophets is telling the truth, the whole truth with honesty (that it might be a while). 其中一位先知說的是真話，誠實地講了全部真話（可能需要一段時間）。
 - a. The other is telling the people what they want to hear - he pairs a half-truth (that they will return from exile) with a lie (that it will be on their timetable). 另一個是告訴人們他們想聽到什麼——他將半真半假的事實（他們將從流放中回來）與謊言（這將在他們的時間表上）配對。
8. I believe this is what we need: 我相信這就是我們所需要的：
 - a. Robust confidence in God as our protector 對上帝作為我們的保護者的堅定信心
 - b. But honesty about suffering and death in this present life (our own exile from Eden) 但對今生的苦難和死亡誠實（我們自己被從伊甸園放逐）

Stockdale Story 斯托克代爾故事

1. [Jim Collins Good to Great book - Ad. Jim Stockdale story] [吉姆柯林斯從優秀到偉大的書 - 廣告。吉姆·斯托克代爾的故事]
2. Principle of the story (the Stockdale Paradox): **Never lose faith that you'll pull through, but be brutally honest with the facts.** 故事原理（斯托克代爾悖論）：永遠不要失去渡過難關的信心，而是對事實殘酷地誠實。

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The Principle for our Faith 我們信仰的原則

1. In this world with all of the complex crises, the volatility, strife, and danger, we, as the people of God, cannot lose our confidence that our God will make all things right, but we must also be realistic and honest about the struggles ahead 在這個充滿複雜危機、動盪、衝突和危險的世界裡，我們作為上帝的子民，不能失去我們的信心，相信我們的上帝會讓一切變得正確，但我們也必須現實和誠實地對待前面的鬥爭。

- a. Jesus told his disciples, "In this world you will have trouble." 耶穌對門徒說：“在世上你們有苦難。”
 - i. This is brutally honest. 這真是殘酷的事实。
 - ii. But he also tells them, 但他也告訴他們
 - b. "Take heart; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33) 但你們可以放心，我已經勝了世界。約翰福音 16:33
2. What does it mean to trust that God is the one we find our protection, and yet know that there is still suffering and death we face? 相信上帝是我們的保護者，卻知道我們仍然面臨痛苦和死亡，這代表什麼？
 3. There are two places in the Scriptures I want to share,
 - a. My desire is that our imaginations would be shaped by the text, so that we would live good and faithful lives in our own exile from the Garden of Eden, awaiting our return. 聖經中有兩處地方我想跟大家分享：
我的願望是我們的想像力能夠被文本所塑造，這樣我們就可以在從伊甸園流放的過程中過著美好而忠實的生活，等待我們的歸來。

1. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego - Daniel 3 沙得拉、米煞、亞伯尼歌-但以理書 3

1. The first is found in the book of Daniel ch. 3. 第一個可以在但以理書第 3 章找到。
 - a. It is the famous story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. 這是沙得拉、米煞和亞伯尼歌的著名故事。
 - b. These young men were faced with a choice to faithfully worship God, and God alone, and die, or renounce their faith and find safety and security in the empire. 這些年輕人面臨一個選擇：是忠誠地崇拜上帝，唯獨上帝，然後死去，還是放棄信仰，在帝國中尋求安全和保障。
 - c. They choose to resist the pressure of the empire to worship the king's golden image. 他們選擇頂住帝國的壓力去祭拜國王的金像。
 - d. Therefore, a fiery furnace is prepared to throw them in. 於是，準備了一個熾熱的熔爐，將他們扔進去。
 - e. But they are given one last chance by the king himself. And here is what they said, staring death in the face 但國王親自給了他們最後一次機會。這就是他們在面對死亡時所說的話
 - f. "King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter.¹⁷ If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand.¹⁸ But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up." (Daniel 3:16-18, NIV)

但以理書3:16 沙得拉、米煞、亞伯尼歌對王說：尼布甲尼撒啊，這

件事我們不必回答你；17即便如此，我們所事奉的神能將我們從烈火的窯中救出來。王啊，他也必救我們脫離你的手；18即或不然，王啊，你當知道我們決不事奉你的神，也不敬拜你所立的金像。

2. Choosing faithfulness to God over their protection, they had the utmost confidence that God could save them. 他們選擇對上帝的信實，他們堅信上帝能夠拯救他們。
3. But they also had a higher perspective than simply having their lives saved. 但他們也有比僅僅拯救自己的生命更高的願景。
4. Therefore, they chose faithfulness to God because they knew that no matter what, whether God saved them right then and there or if they were to burn, they were safe in the love of God. 因此，他們選擇忠於上帝，因為他們知道，無論發生什麼，無論上帝當場拯救他們，還是他們被燒死，他們在上帝的愛中都是安全的。
5. They were confident in God's goodness and protection to the end, even if (surprisingly) this meant the end of their lives. 他們對上帝的良善和保護充滿信心，即使(令人驚訝地)這意味著他們生命的終點。

2. The Apostle Paul - Philippians 1:21-26 使徒保羅 - 腓立比書 1:21-26

1. For our second example, go to Philippians 1:21. 關於我們的第二個例子，請參考腓立比書 1:21。

2. [Summarize Paul and his less-than-ideal situation] 【總結保羅和他不太理想的處境】

3. In this passage we notice a duel, almost competing desire inside Paul's soul. 在這段經文中，我們注意到保羅靈魂深處有一種決鬥的、幾乎是相互競爭的慾望。

4. [Read passage] 【閱讀段落】

a. ²¹ For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. ²¹ 因我活著就是基督，我死了就有益處。²² 但我在肉身活著，若成就我工夫的果子，我就不知道該挑選甚麼。

i. For Paul, the purpose of his present life is continued labor for the churches. 對保羅來說，他今生的目的就是繼續為教會勞苦。

b. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two; 然而我該選擇什麼呢？我不知道！²³ 我正在兩難之間

i. What are the two choices he's torn between? 他面臨的兩個選擇是什麼？

c. I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. 我渴望離開並與基督在一起，這比現在更好；²⁴ 然而，我在肉身活著，為你們更是要緊的。

5. You can feel it in his writing! 從他的文字中你就能感受到！

- a. What he really wanted is to be done with his life and be in the presence of Christ, which he declares is far better!
 - b. But he knows the Lord still has work for him to do.
 - a.他真正想要的是結束自己的生命並在基督面前，他宣稱這要好得多！
 - b.但他知道主還有工作要他去做。
6. Therefore, he's confident he will be delivered from his present situation and continue on in his labor. 因此，他有信心擺脫目前的處境，並繼續從事他的工作。
7. Still, his deeper longing is to finally be in the presence of His Lord and friend, Jesus.儘管如此，他更深的渴望是最終能來到他的主和朋友耶穌的面前。
 - a. Trusting in the Lord as his protector, his shelter and refuge, he knew that his life was not his own. 他相信主是祂的保護者、庇護所和避難所，祂知道祂的生命不是祂自己的。
 - b. He belonged to Jesus, he was a servant of Jesus, and his life was focused on (as he says in Philippians 3:14) pressing on toward the goal of the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 他屬於耶穌，他是耶穌的僕人，他的生活專注於（正如他在《腓立比書》3:14 中所說）朝著上帝在基督耶穌裡從上面呼召而來的獎賞的目標前進。
8. His source of security and protection was found in the Lord 他的安全感和保護的根源在於主
9. But his perspective was an eternal perspective - a future resurrection from the dead like his Savior as he in his present life shared in the suffering of his Savior.但他的觀點是永恆的觀點——未來像他的救主一樣從死裡復活，因為他在今生分享了救主的痛苦。

Main Idea - What I want B4 to hear from all this 主旨 - 我希望B4教會能聽到的

1. Church, here's what I want you all to hear: 教會，我想讓大家聽一聽如下幾點：
 - a. 1. God is our Protector 神是我們的保護者
 - b. 2. We're all going to die 我們都會死
 - i. How is it true that a good, loving God can be our protector, and yet we all will die and face suffering in this life? 一個美善慈愛的神是我們的保護者，怎麼能是真的，讓我們在世上還是要受苦難死去？
2. Honestly I wish I could preach this - Follow Jesus, and you will have no suffering throughout your life. You'll never have financial troubles, health troubles, and never have any problems, all of your wildest dreams will come true, and your

in-laws will be delightful always. 老實說，我希望我能宣講這一點——跟隨耶穌，你一生將沒有痛苦。你永遠不會有經濟困難，健康問題，永遠不會有任何問題，你所有最瘋狂的夢想都會成真，你的姻親會永遠令人愉快。

a. This church would be a lot more full if that were the message 這個教會可能人會更多，如果我們宣講這樣的信息。

i. [Just as Jeremiah and Shemiah - Beware of people who equate the protection of God with zero suffering in this present life...] [正如耶利米和示米亞－提防那些將上帝的保護等同於今生無痛苦的人...]

1. [Half truths - and sharing what you want to hear] 【半真半假－分享你想聽的話】

3. Church, we actually have a better message for you. 諸位，我們實際上有更好的信息給你

a. Yes, you will die. 是的，我們會死

b. Yes, life comes with suffering, especially a life of following Jesus (because he calls us to die to ourselves and follow him). 是的，生命伴隨著苦難，特別是跟隨耶穌的生命（因為祂呼召我們向自己死並跟隨祂）。

c. But here's the good news: 但好消息是

i. Death and suffering are not the end of the story. 死亡和痛苦並不是故事的結局。

ii. Because Jesus faced death and suffering, and he was raised to glory. 因為耶穌面對死亡和苦難，但他卻復活到榮耀中。

iii. For Death could not hold him down. 因為死亡無法壓制他。

4. You know what this means? 你知道這意味著什麼？

a. That if God, who in Christ defeated the power of death, is our protector, then... 如果神在基督裡擊敗了死亡的權勢，是我們的保護者，那麼...

b. no matter what comes our way - even death cannot separate us from God's love. 無論我們遇到什麼，甚至死亡也不能使我們與神的愛隔絕。

c. **We are safe in the love of God.** 在神的愛中我們是安全的。

d. He is our treasure! 他是我們的財富。

e. We get him! No matter what comes our way in life, we get Him! 我們抓住他！無論我們的生活發生什麼，我們都抓住他！

f. And if our hope is in Him, then we have good reason to be confident! 如果我們的希望寄託在祂身上，那麼我們就有充分的理由充滿信心！

[Pastoral moment?] 【牧師時刻】

Romans 8:28-39 羅馬書8:28-39

1. Yes, God is our protector - and in this life, there are certainly times when God specifically protects us from certain situations 是的, 上帝是我們的保護者 - 在這一生中, 有時上帝會特別保護我們免受某些情況的影響
 - a. And we ought to pray for protection right here, right now 我們應該此時此地祈求保護
 - b. But what I want us to know is that... 但我想讓我們知道的是...
 - i. just as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego knew that God could save them from the furnace, but also trusted him with whatever happened... 正如沙得拉、米煞和亞伯尼歌知道上帝可以將他們從熔爐中拯救出來一樣, 但也相信上帝會處理所發生的一切...
 - ii. so we can believe that God can protect us from present dangers. But even if circumstances do not go how we would prefer, we are safe in the love of God nonetheless. 因此我們可以相信上帝可以保護我們免受當前的危險。但即使情況不如我們所願, 我們在神的愛中仍然是安全的。
 - c. He protects us from the powers of Death and darkness, so much so that death does not have the final say for those of us who place our confidence in Christ. 祂保護我們免受死亡和黑暗的權勢的侵害, 以至於死亡對我們這些相信基督的人來說沒有最終決定權。

2. Returning to the Apostle Paul, if you forget everything I say except for this, it would be the words of Paul in Romans 8:28-39 回到使徒保羅, 如果你忘記了我所說的一切, 除了這一點, 那就是保羅在羅馬書8:28-39所說的話

3. [Read passage]

a.²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 我們曉得萬事都互相效力、叫愛神的人得益處, 就是按他旨意被召的人。

i. This is after a prolonged discussion about us sharing in the sufferings of Christ 這段是關於我們在分擔耶穌的苦難的長篇討論。

ii. Drop down to verse 35 再讀35節

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?³⁶ As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35-39) 35 誰能使我們與基督的愛隔絕呢? 難道是患難麼、是困苦麼、是逼迫麼、是飢餓麼、是赤身露體麼、是危險麼、是刀劍麼? 8:36 如經上所記, 『我們為你的

緣故, 終日被殺。人看我們如將宰的羊。』8:37 然而靠著愛我們的主, 在這一切的事上, 已經得勝有餘了。8:38 因為我深信無論是死、是生、是天使、是掌權的、是有能的、是現在的事、是將來的事、8:39 是高處的、是低處的、是別的受造之物、都不能叫我們與神的愛隔絕。這愛是在我們的主基督耶穌裡的。

[Make it Personal] 【變成自己的】

1. Confession: It doesn't take much for me to feel anxious (story of flight to England) 自白: 我不需要太多就能感到焦慮(飛往英國的故事)
2. [What this means for us as a church] 【做為一個教會有什麼意義】
 - a. Let's be a people who trust 讓我們成為可信賴的人。

Final story (Perpetua and Felicity) 最後的一個故事 (永久和幸福)

1. The early church, despite persecution, grew exponentially 早期教會儘管遭受迫害, 仍呈指數級增長
2. They trusted in God as their protector, but they had their eyes on their Savior, who endured the cross. 他們信賴上帝作為他們的保護者, 但他們也把目光投向了忍受十字架苦難的救主。
3. Two of these martyrs were Perpetua and Felicity - Two North African women.
 - a. Under the Roman rule of Emperor Severus, they were arrested for their faith in Jesus. 其中兩位烈士是佩佩圖阿和費莉西蒂——兩位北非婦女。一個。在西維魯皇帝的羅馬統治下, 他們因信仰耶穌而被捕。
 - b. Perpetua, a woman of high standing for women in those days who could read and write (which was uncommon), and Felicity, her servant. 佩佩圖亞(Perpetua)是當時女性中地位很高的女性, 會讀書寫字(這並不常見), 而費莉西蒂(Felicity)是她的僕人。
 - c. Both died in the Roman arena, with spectators witnessing their fate. 兩人都死在羅馬競技場, 觀眾見證了他們的命運。
 - i. But, as the story is recounted to us, the crowd surprisingly witnessed two women who were not fearful of their lives, but eager to pass from this life to the next to meet their Savior face to face. 但是, 正如這個故事向我們講述的那樣, 人群驚訝地目睹了兩個女人, 她們並不害怕自己的生命, 而是渴望從今生進入來世, 與她們的救世主面對面。

The Gospel - Return from Exile to our True Home

where we are safe in the presence of God 福音 - 從流放回到我們真正的家，在那裡我們在上帝面前是安全的

1. B4Church, in the midst of a world filled with danger, I have good news for you. B4教會，在一個充滿危險的世界中，我有好消息要告訴你。
2. The longing of our hearts for safety is found ultimately in the presence of God. 我們內心對安全的渴望最終可以在上帝面前找到。
3. And this can be experienced right here, right now. 而此時此刻我們就可以經歷。
4. And it will be fully experienced when we return to our true home where we are safe in the presence of God. 當我們回到真正的家時，我們會充分體驗到這一點，在那裡我們安全地與上帝同在。
 - a. And just as the people of God who were in exile eventually returned to Jerusalem 正如被流放的上帝子民最終返回耶路撒冷一樣
 - b. So we who are in exile from Eden will return from our true home, the New Jerusalem, The New Creation, the uniting of Heaven and Earth, where there is no need for weapons or walls - for we are safe in the love and presence of God 因此，我們這些從伊甸園流放的人將從我們真正的家園，新耶路撒冷，新創造，天地合一返回，那裡不需要武器或圍牆 - 因為我們在愛和存在中是安全的。
 - c. This end of exile from the presence of God is made possible because of Jesus - his life, his death, his resurrection as a foretaste of our resurrection 因著耶穌，這種從神面前被放逐的結束成為可能——祂的生命、祂的死亡、祂的復活是我們復活的預嘗
5. But in the meantime, while we are in our own exile waiting for our return to our true home, we trust God's good plans because we are safe in His love. 但同時，當我們在流亡中等待返回真正的家園時，我們相信上帝的美好計劃，因為我們在祂的愛中是安全的。
 - a. And nothing - not even death - can separate us from His love. 沒有任何東西 ——甚至死亡—— 可以使我們與祂的愛隔絕。

Pray 禱告

Benediction 祝禱

May you, in the midst of a world swimming in fear, display the peace that comes from

time in the presence of God. 願你在這個充滿恐懼的世界中，在上帝面前展現出來自時間的平安。

May you, find in God your source of security, refuge, protection. 願你在上帝身上找到安全、避難所和保護的源頭。

May you, no matter what comes your way in life, find your friendship with God your highest treasure. 願你，無論生活中發生什麼，發現與上帝的友誼是你最寶貴的財富。

And May you know, to the very core of your being, that you are safe in the love of God, and nothing - not even death - can separate you. 願你知道，在你存在的最深處，你在上帝的愛中是安全的，沒有什麼——甚至死亡——可以將你分開。