
the Emmanuel Conference

Emmanuel Conference is a day to meditate, learn, and reflect on God's presence individually, and as a Church.

“...and they shall call him Emmanuel, which means
‘GOD WITH US’”

HOSTED BY:
The Harbor Church
November 2020




The Harbor Story

Pastor Israel Solomon dreamed of planting a church with a simple goal—to create a space of Home, Healing & Hope through Jesus Christ. With the help of the launch team, 50 people committed to seeing this dream become a reality, The Harbor Church began August 11th, 2019. That Sunday, more than 170 people attended the first service at Fifty-Fourth Street Elementary School in Los Angeles, CA. But that's not where our story starts. In 2006, there was a group of 2nd generation Ethiopian-American Youth in a 1st generation Ethiopian Church. The Ethiopian Church began to see a language barrier, and an age gap, that prevented the young people from being a part of the adult church after they had graduated High School. When that issue became more evident, they hired an English-speaking Youth & Young adult Pastor to lead the youth beyond their High School years. The ministry was labeled Paradigm and it grew tremendously. As the ministry grew, the youth also grew and became young adults. After a few more years, this group of 2nd generation East African Young Adults were now having families & growing outside of their ethnicity. When the ministry was growing, everyone, including the first-generation Ethiopian Church, saw that this Youth and Young Adult ministry was growing to be a church. After 12 years of being an incredible Youth and Young Adult ministry, the Pastor of the group stepped down & raised up another Pastor to transition the group into becoming an ethnically inclusive, self-sufficient church, now called The Harbor. We are connected with the Evangelical Covenant Church, a multi-ethnic tribe of churches that is supporting and assisting us as we establish this new church.

FOLLOW OUR JOURNEY

www.harborchurchla.com

 [harborchurchla](https://www.instagram.com/harborchurchla)

 [harborchurchla](https://www.twitter.com/harborchurchla)

THE HARBOR CHURCH

MISSION

To meet the spiritual and physical needs of the community, along with creating a space to encounter God.

VISION

Our vision is to become a place where people find Home, find Healing and find Hope in Christ Jesus.

CORE VALUES

Gospel Centered

01

We believe in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and are committed to making the Gospel the foundation of everything we do as a church.

We cultivate the growth and maturing of believers through an intentional, genuine, and welcoming culture of fellowship.

02

Authentic Community

Restorative Justice

03

We are dedicated to reflecting God's heart for restoring to life what has been broken by sin and corruption.

We strive to use our gifts, skills, and resources to serve God and serve others out of the abundance that God has given us.

04

Generous Living

Servant Leadership

05

We aim to equip every believer to lead by serving others first; at home, at work and in their local community.

get CONNECTED

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

01 BIBLE STUDY

Bible study is an opportunity to virtually gather and study the word of God verse by verse to learn from the insight and experiences of each other.

www.harborchurchla.com/biblestudy

02 PRAYER CALLS

Prayer is the lifeline of our Church and lives. Fridays at 8 AM the Harbor Church joins together to pray for our lives, community, city, and the world.

www.harborchurchla.com/pray

03 COVID-19 RELIEF FUND

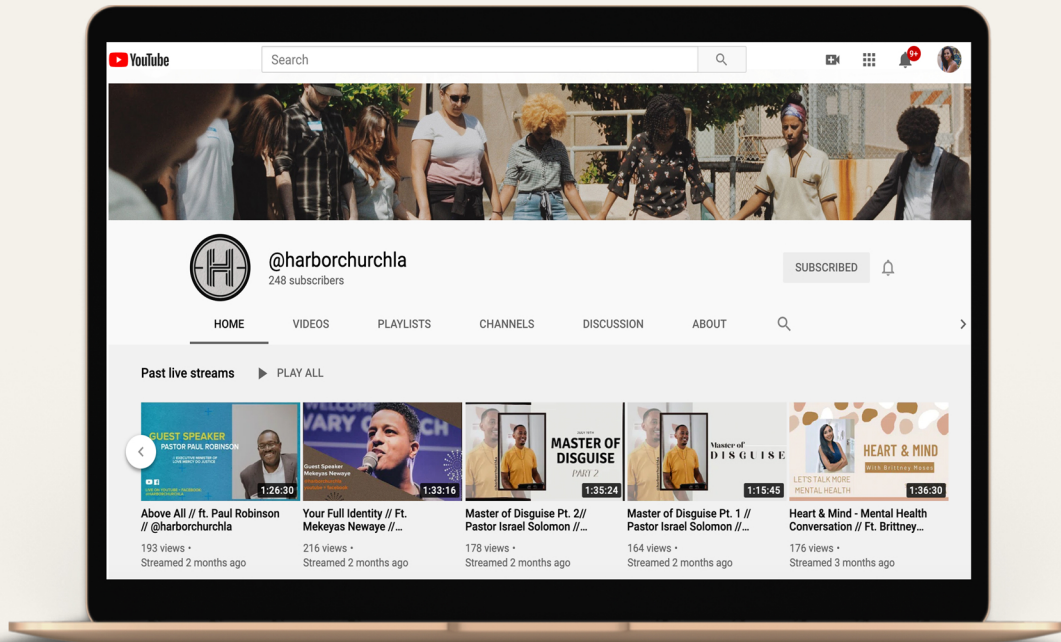
The Harbor Church has created a fund to provide relief to those experiencing hardships in our community due to COVID 19. Since we're not meeting physically as a church, the money we would have normally used to pay rent will now be allocated to providing relief for those in need. Please contact us at info@harborchurchla.com if you are need of financial assistance for housing or a grocery store gift card.

Want to donate?

You can help us grow this fund by donating in one of two ways!

1. www.harborchurchla.com/give - Please select "COVID-19 Fund" in the drop-down menu.
2. www.venmo.com/harborchurchla - Subject: COVID-19 Fund

Sunday SERVICES



SUNDAYS AT 10 AM



YOUTUBE

Join the Harbor on Sunday mornings as we worship, receive Scriptural teaching, and fellowship together!



CONNECT CARD

Fill out a connect card by scanning the QR code or visiting www.harborchurchla.com/connect to stay up to date with what is happening at the Harbor !



SCAN ME

Welcome

Harbor Family



Welcome to Emmanuel Conference. We are so glad that you decided to take this day to intentionally pursue God's presence. We designed this conference for you to actively meditate, reflect on and acknowledge God's presence in your life. Our hope is that you are able to walk away from this conference being confident that God is with you through every moment of your life.

I truly believe that intentionality is the key to understanding and experiencing God's presence. All throughout scripture we see that the people of God encounter God through an intentional pursuit of His presence. From Moses going up Mt. Sinai to receive the commandments, David wanting to build a temple to invite God's presence into the city all the way to Jesus finding time away from the crowd to pray in a solitary place and the disciples intentionally going to the upper room to seek direction from God, it's clear that God's presence requires intentional pursuit!

This is what Emmanuel conference is all about, intentionally pursuing God so that we can grow in confidence that God is with us and is for us! I hope that this day may not just be a one day reminder of His presence but that it can propel you to, not only be reminded that God is with you but that His presence can strengthen you daily.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Israel Solomon.

Israel Solomon

LEAD PASTOR

So do not fear
I am with you
Do not be dismayed,
for I am your God
I will strengthen
and help you.
I will uphold you with
my righteous right hand.

ISAIAH 41:10

Agenda for the day:

10:00-11:30 *Morning Session*

11:30-12:30 *Movin' + Groovin with Q*

12:30-4:00 *Lunch + Afternoon Activity (reflect, read, respond)*

4:00-5:00 *Art with Noahamin*

5:00-7:00 *Dinner Break*

7:00-8:40 *Evening Session with Ida*

SPOTIFY PLAYLIST FOR THE WEEKEND

We've put together a playlist for your weekend!

Scan QR Code to get access!



SCAN ME



Morning *Devotional* with Mama Webi

Bible Verses

SERMON TITLE:

NOTES

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY
REFLECT

Use the afternoon to reflect, read and respond to the prompts on each page.

Have you felt God's presence in this season? Explain.

How has fear and dismay clouded your vision of God?

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY
REFLECT
continued.

What areas in your life are hard to remember when God is with you?

How does knowing God is with you affect the way you live?

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

READ

A SPIRITUAL REALITY

Every day we are reminded that life is a war. Mere moments after we wake up, we see the battles happening inside us, in our relationships, at work, or on campus. Pastor Paul Tripp says this about the war:

Between the “already” and the “not yet,” life is war. It can be exhausting, frustrating, and discouraging. We all go through moments when we wish life could just be easier. We wonder why parenting has to be such a continual spiritual battle. We all wish our marriages could be free of war. We all would love it if there were no conflicts at our jobs or in our churches. But we all wake up to a war-torn world every day. It is the sad legacy of a world that has been broken by sin and is constantly under the attack of the enemy.¹

This war isn’t fought in the physical realm with guns and tanks. This is a spiritual war and the real enemy we fight is a spiritual one. Paul tells us in Ephesians 6:12 that “we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”

God doesn’t leave you to fight in this spiritual war alone. As you take up the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18) He protects you. He gives you eyes to see, frees you from fear, and gives you faith to stand against your enemy.

Q: What part of your life feels like a war right now?

Q: How would you describe spiritual warfare in your own words?

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

READ

continued.

A FEARFUL SERVANT

Israel and Aram (Syria) were at war with one another. Israel had a secret weapon, the prophet Elisha. He helped Israel's king by telling him where the enemy would camp. The king of Syria found out about Israel's secret weapon and sent a great army by night to seize the prophet. Imagine the scene. All is quiet in your city when, suddenly, you're disturbed by the sound of horses riding with terrible speed. You hear the angry shouts of soldiers as they close in on you.

The next morning Elisha's servant woke up and looked out the window. Before him stood the great Aramean army surrounding the city. Fear struck his heart. In distress, he asked his master, "What shall we do?!"

Read: **2 Kings 6:8–23.**

Q: Retell the story in your own words below.

Q: Where does fear come from?

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

READ

continued.

HORSES AND CHARIOTS OF FIRE

The servant saw the situation one way. His master, however, saw it another. Elisha said, “Don’t be afraid. There are more with us than are with them.” Then Elisha prayed and asked God to open the eyes of his servant to see. Suddenly, the servant’s eyes were opened. All around him he saw a mighty army of the Lord with horses and chariots blazing with fire.

When the Aramean army tried to attack, Elisha prayed for God to blind them, and God once again answered his prayer. The prophet led this blind army to Samaria, Israel’s capital. The king asked Elisha what to do with these captives, kill them or spare them? The prophet asked for mercy, asking that they be spared, fed, and sent home.

Q: What’s the biggest difference between Elisha’s response to a dangerous situation and his servant’s response?

Q: Recall a time that you were reminded God is with you.

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

READ

continued.

THE ENEMY'S GREATEST WEAPON

Like Elisha and his servant, our battle is spiritual. The powers of darkness wage war on our souls to keep us from turning to God, trusting Him, and living life by His good design.

Our enemy has his own secret weapon—fear. What is fear? There are two kinds. One is natural and healthy, while the other is unhealthy and paralyzing. Healthy fear tells you, “don’t touch the hot stove,” so that you can avoid burning your hand.

Unhealthy fear draws you to place your focus more on the danger (imagined or real) or on the Enemy himself, preventing you from trusting God in a situation.

God calls you to step out in faith against your fears. Elisha’s servant didn’t overcome his fears by anything in himself. God showed the servant that He had the situation under His sovereign control. God will do the same for you when you look to Him.

Q: In what ways does the enemy try to use fear against you?

Q: What does it look like to step out in faith against your fears?

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

READ

continued.

KING JESUS REIGNS

Elisha and his servant had the army of the Lord to protect them. We have an even greater protection. We have King Jesus, and He has authority over everything (Matt. 28:18).

Because King Jesus reigns, you don't have to fear. His presence and authority protect you in every waking moment.

God does protect you, but that doesn't mean you won't suffer in this life. Things might not work out as you expect. Bad things do happen to good people.

Jesus never promised He would save you from the storms of life. However, He does promise to be with you in the storm and guide you through it.

Q: How does understanding that King Jesus has authority over everything change the way you see dangerous or fearful situations?

Q: What storms are you currently facing? How does Jesus show His presence and authority in them?

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY RESPOND

MEDITATE

The story in 1 Kings 6 reminds us that God's presence is always with us. Deuteronomy 31:6 says, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

We can continually look to God's word to be reminded of his promise, "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

Take the next 10 minutes to meditate on Isaiah 41:10.

- Read Isaiah 41:20 twice
- Write 10 observations about the verse
- Read it again slowly before moving to the next prompt

OBSERVATIONS:

AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

RESPOND

PRAY

Write a letter to the Lord about how you're feeling/what's on your heart.

Dear God,

Evening *Devotional* with Ida Legesse

Bible Verses

SERMON TITLE:

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Thank you for joining us.

More than anything, we hope you can walk away from this conference confident that God has been and will always be with you.

We hope to see you in person very soon.

Love,
Your Harbor Family