



# Reflections from the Sequoia Room

A Weekly Devotional  
by Pastor Jeong



FLEXIBILITY AND FAITH  
IN THE NEW YEAR

## **Jeong's Devotion: Flexibility and Faith in the New Year**

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.” – Proverbs 3:5-6

As the new year began, I wanted to start with an act of kindness. My heart was set on visiting Jeff Jenks at a care facility. Even though visitors weren't allowed, I'd heard someone else had delivered a pecan pie and met him. Inspired, I thought I'd bring a poinsettia left over from church. But plans don't always go as expected. On my way, I stopped to check the flower, only to find it had withered. Disheartened, I sought a substitute. Kind folks at church suggested swapping it for a healthier poinsettia from our church's display. After some effort—watering, wrapping, and packing—I set out again, feeling hopeful.

Yet, as I neared the care facility, the bright sun caught the poinsettia's leaves, revealing they weren't real. It was a fake plant! Another wave of disappointment hit. Still, I pressed on, only to find Jeff wasn't at that facility. I was redirected miles away,

and when I arrived, I was told they couldn't confirm if he was even there. Standing with a fake flower in my hands, I realized my carefully laid plans had fallen apart.

I felt like I'd failed. But as I reflected, I recognized a deeper lesson. Life often doesn't follow our plans. It flows like a river, winding in unexpected ways. My experience reminded me of the need for flexibility and trust in God's greater plan. This lesson became even clearer as my family navigated challenges—like my wife's knee injury during a trip. Adjusting to her healing process has been a reminder to be resilient and patient, trusting that God will guide us through uncertain times. As I step into this year, my goal is to be open, flexible, and committed, trusting in God's guidance. Plans may shift, but with faith, the path ahead will always be made straight.

Pastor Jeong