



GRACE NOTES

August 2016

ELDER-LED PRAYER

WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 17
6:30 - 7:30 pm

We are living in trying times. It is especially important during times of uncertainty to seek the Lord in prayer. As the new school year approaches, let's take time to pray for our nation, our leaders, our families, our schools, and our kids.

Please make plans to join us for a time of elder-led, corporate prayer and worship on Wednesday, August 17, from 6:30-7:30 pm at GBF.

*I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,
1 Timothy 2:1*

We are updating GBF contact information. Please click the link below to provide your current address, phone number and email to stay up to date on everything going on at church. If you experience problems or have questions, please contact lara@thegbf.com.



<http://thegbf.com/update-my-information/>

On Sunday mornings, remember to check announcements on the board in the coffee area, located north of the sanctuary, for activities planned for the month and upcoming week.





Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

Volunteers are needed in the following areas. Please be in prayer about these opportunities to serve.

- Clean and organize the kitchen once a month.
- Update the bulletin boards in the hallways once a month.

Email Lara (lara@thegbf.com) for more information regarding these opportunities.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

Fall 2016 GraceGroups will begin meeting in September! A GraceGroup is a small group of people, meeting in a home on a regular basis, for the purpose of authentic community and spiritual growth.

GRACE groups

If you are interested in joining a GraceGroup, please email lara@thegbf.com.

If you are interested in leading a GraceGroup, please fill out the application at this link:

<http://thegbf.com/grace-group-leader-application/>

Anyone interested in baptism please read the following and contact lara@thegbf.com to participate in the Baptism service on August 21.

What is Christian Baptism?

Very simply, baptism is an outward testimony of the inward change in a believer's life. Christian baptism is an act of obedience to the Lord *after* salvation; although baptism is closely associated with salvation, it is not a requirement to be saved. The Bible shows in many places that the order of events is 1) a person believes in the Lord Jesus and 2) he is baptized. This sequence is seen in Acts 2:41, "Those who accepted [Peter's] message were baptized" (see also Acts 16:14-15).

A new believer in Jesus Christ should desire to be baptized as soon as possible. In Acts 8, Philip speaks "the good news about Jesus" to the Ethiopian eunuch, and, "as they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?'" (verses 35-36). Right away, they stopped the chariot, and Philip baptized the man.

Baptism illustrates a believer's identification with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. Everywhere the gospel is preached and people are drawn to faith in Christ, they are to be baptized.

The preceding was taken from GotQuestions.org. Grace Bible Fellowship's position on baptism says:

About Baptism by Immersion – We believe that scriptural baptism must be: (1) by being completely immersed under the water and (2) after salvation. Baptism has no saving power but is the first act of obedience symbolizing (1) the believer's faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, (2) the believer's death to sin and resurrection to walk anew in Christ, and (3) the Christian's belief that he will die, be buried, and that Jesus will resurrect him from the dead. Acts 8:26-39; Romans 6:4, 5; Colossians 2:12

Marriage Help...

Last month, I did something I've never done before – officiate 2 weddings in less than 24 hours! Weddings are always a joy to be a part of. Even more than the ceremony itself, I enjoy getting to meet with couples before their wedding. In some cases, like the two couples I married in July, my wife and I get to do a good amount of premarital counseling. Now, as you married folks know, there's no amount of premarital counseling that can adequately prepare you for all of the challenges and joys of marriage. Every relationship is unique and needs God's wisdom and grace in unique ways. BUT, there are some things that can be very helpful to know going in to marriage. I'm not sure where we picked them up, but over the years my wife and I have settled on 5 topics, or "marriage killers" that we like to address with couples before they marry. We talk about the challenges of each topic, and then offer biblical wisdom, resources, and counsel for each one.

Here's our list of 5 marriage killers:

1. Communication
2. (dealing with unmet) Expectations
3. In-laws
4. Finances
5. Sex and Romance

And just to be clear, these challenges are not exclusive to newlyweds! Doesn't matter if you've been married 5 days or 5 decades these "marriage killers" tend to represent the source of a lot of problems in marriage.



Also, we strongly recommend that couples read [The Meaning of Marriage By Tim and Kathy Keller](#). It's been VERY helpful to us, and all of these 5 marriage killers get addressed in the book on some level.



Not much of a reader? Check out this audio message from Tim and Kathy Keller, [Cultivating A Healthy Marriage](#). This is one hour and fifteen minutes of pure marriage wisdom gold. My wife and I recently had a long road trip back from Missouri and made use of this audio during our drive-time together. We found it useful to listen for a while, pause the audio, and discuss how the teaching could be applied to our marriage, then restart. We listened to the entire thing – VERY helpful.

By God's grace, Casey and I celebrated 18 years of marriage in June. I still have a ton to learn when it comes to marriage. Ask my wife she'll tell you. Second only to my relationship with God is my relationship with her. We have a unique opportunity and responsibility to represent the love of Jesus Christ in our marriage (Eph 5:22-33), why wouldn't we spend time working on improving it?

What about your marriage? Is there a particular area of your marriage that needs work? *Looking at the 5 marriage killers above, is there one that stands out that God would have you pray and seek His wisdom and power for?* Time spent improving your marriage is ALWAYS time well spent.

Here's a couple more resources you might be interested in:

Dr. James Dobson's [12 Marriage Killers](#)
[The Mingling of Souls](#), by Matt Chandler, FREE on Christian Audio this month.

[Maximum Marriage](#) sermon series by Tommy Nelson at Denton Bible Church



For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm! God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.
Psalm 47:7-8

Volunteers are needed in the children's ministry.
Please email Alicia@thegbf.com for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

www.gbfbkids.blogspot.com

8/24: Children's Ministry Leaders meeting: 6:30-7:45 pm

8/31: KICKOFF for Wednesday Night Grace Kids: 6:30-7:45 pm
Pizza, Games, Music, FUN!!!

AUGUST GRACE KIDS

August 7: **DAVID WAS ANOINTED AND FOUGHT GOLIATH**
BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 Samuel 16-17 MAIN POINT: God gave David power to defeat Goliath.
KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 47:7-8
BIG PICTURE ? : Who is our King? Jesus is our King forever, and He rules over the world.

August 14: **DAVID AND JONATHAN BECAME FRIENDS**
BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 Samuel 18:1-12; 19:1-10; 20:1-42
MAIN POINT: God used Jonathan to save David's life.
KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 47:7-8
BIG PICTURE ? : Who is our King? Jesus is our King forever, and He rules over the world.

August 21: **GOD MADE A COVENANT WITH DAVID**
BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Samuel 7
MAIN POINT: God promised that Jesus would come from David's family.
KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 47:7-8
BIG PICTURE ? : Who is our King? Jesus is our King forever, and He rules over the world.

August 28: **DAVID SINNED AND WAS RESTORED**
BIBLE PASSAGE: 2 Samuel 11:1-12:14; Psalm 51
MAIN POINT: God forgave David when he repented of his sin.
KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 47:7-8

CATECHISMS 1 - 10

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Who Made you? God | 6. Are there more gods than one? There is only one God |
| 2. What else did God make? All things | 7. In how many persons does this one God exist? In three persons |
| 3. Why did God make you and all things? For His own Glory | 8. What are they? The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost |
| 4. How can you glorify God? by loving Him and doing what he commands | 9. What is God? God is a Spirit, and has not a body like men |
| 5. Why ought you to glorify God? because He made me and takes care of me | 10. Where is God? God is everywhere |

GRACE KIDS
SMALL GROUP LEADERS FOR **AUGUST**

PK/K: Lacy Dupler & Addie Turner
1st/2nd grade: Mary Gage
3rd/4th grade: Mandy Turner

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By Marshall Segal

<http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/five-back-to-school-basics>

The beginning of August signals the beginning of back-to-school shopping, or at least back-to-school-shopping commercials. You may not know it, but whether you're a freshman or senior, you're going to need more than notebooks, pencils, and a strong book bag.

You need truth. Sure, you're going to school, willingly or unwillingly, to learn, but there are truths you need before the algebra, literature, and biology. While you should develop good study habits for the new semester, here are some real keys to the classroom you probably won't find in your syllabus.

1. Thinking may be the most critical thing you ever do.

You're going to school to learn how to think, not to pass tests. Whatever Christians do with their lives, whether we eat or drink or run a company or teach second grade or develop software or change diapers, we aim to do it to the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). If you've tried it, you know it's rarely simple or obvious how that happens. It requires careful thought and discernment.

John Piper writes, "The well-educated person is the person who has the habits of mind and heart to go on learning what he needs to learn to live in a Christ-exalting way for the rest of his life - and that would apply to whatever sphere of life he pursues."

If we're going to apply God's word to the world, we need to know our world. Every chapter in a history book, every science experiment in the lab, every interaction between classmates is an opportunity to

learn about the world God created - the place he especially put us to see him, enjoy him, and help others do the same.

2. The most important book you'll read this fall is your Bible.

Because of all the assigned pages, you'll be tempted to sideline your Bible reading until the next test has passed, the next paper is done, or the next break is here. Instead, treat your time in the Bible like you treat your meal plan.

Your time soaking in Scripture will be the most fruitful and shaping time of your education. Nothing can replace the wealth you will find there, and nothing will prepare you better for life, family, vocation, or even your next class.

Again, Piper pleads, "Let us labor to memorize the Word of God - for worship and for warfare. If we don't wear it, we can't wield it. If we do not carry it in our heads, we cannot savor it in our hearts or wield it in the Spirit"

3. Someone younger than you needs you.

As a teenager, it took me several years to appreciate the influence I had over those younger than me. Sixth-graders can't wait to be eighth-graders, who can't wait to be freshmen, who can't wait to be juniors, who can't wait to be in college.

So someone younger than you is watching you, and probably wants to be like you. Whether you choose to be or not, you will be a role model. Why not model Christ-like faith, joy, generosity, and service?

If you were under the impression 2 Timothy 2:2 stops with elder-types in the church, remember that Jesus calls *all* his disciples, without distinction, to be making more disciples (Matthew 28:19).

Keep your eyes open for the guy (if you're a guy) or girl (if you're a girl) trying to find someone to look up to, and spend some time and energy to consistently point them even further up to Christ. Think creatively about ways you could invest the gospel and your life into them, and eventually show them how they can do the same for others.

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Continued from page 5.

4. Comparison in the classroom can be the birthplace of pride.

God opposes the proud (James 4:6). That's enough to know pride is dangerous, *really* dangerous. No one opposes God and survives, much less wins. Your pride will defile you (Matthew 7:20–23) and keep you out of the kingdom. Your humility, however, testifies to God's forgiveness of your sin and his grace at work in you.

The classroom naturally nurtures a culture of comparison. Pride can certainly begin before our education, but school's grades, awards, and social dynamics seem to breed the wrong kind of competition - a self-seeking kind. And this pride clashes with our Savior's sacrifice like your dad's white socks and his favorite sandals.

Your younger years are fertile ground for big dreams. Piper recently encouraged a group of young ambitious dreamers to distinguish between influence and fame. He said it is a good and honorable thing to want to change the world, but it's wicked to want to be known for it.

Let's try and be quick to celebrate others (Romans 12:10), slow to speak, especially about our own successes, and slow to think more highly of ourselves than we ought (Romans 12:3). Remember you are a sinner bought with a price (1 Corinthians 6:19–20), and that in all your good papers, projects, and tests, it is God working through you for his glory (Philippians 2:13).

5. Only the gospel saves anyone, even A-students.

Whatever the grades may say, none of us really measures up - no, not one (Romans 3:11–12). Regardless of how hard you work this year, you will fail. You may fail to serve your roommate patiently or steward your time effectively or respect your parents humbly or do your schoolwork faithfully.

Fortunately, every student who trusts in Christ has an advocate before the one with infinitely more power and authority than any teacher, dean, principal, or president (1 John 2:1). God loves you and promises to be with you and help you because his Son died for you, *not* because of how well you do in school or how many friends you have or how happy your parents are with your performance.

You might have a new computer or a new study partner or an improved living situation or some new resolve to do better, but ultimately your only hope this fall or any fall is the gospel. And that is a really, really strong place to stand and study.

So whether you're going to walk, drive, or take the bus for the first day of classes, as you pack up, prepare your heart and mind for the work. By God's merciful, student-loving grace, this year could be a breakthrough in your personal passion for him, your ministry to others on campus, and your readiness for a long life lived with and for Jesus.

Student Life Camp



MORE PICS!

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/135982369@N08/albums/72157670421786981/with/28054498830/>



STUDENT MINISTRY

This summer, we've continued in our series called "Stories", which included ministry leaders sharing their testimonies. In July, we played slip-n-slide kickball and had a pool party at the Meyerdirk's house. Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Meyerdirk for your gracious hospitality.



AUGUST DATES TO REMEMBER

- 8/7: Last Youth Meeting before school starts. Jason Carney is sharing his testimony.
- 8/22: First day of school
- 8/24: NO youth meeting. Youth Leader meeting at 6:30 pm
- 8/31: First Night of Youth! 6:30 pm
Food & drinks provided!





Sweet
Baby
Girl

Gracie Ryan

June 22, 2016

7 lbs., 5 oz.

19.5 inches

Proud Sisters: Sami and Brooklynn

Proud Brother: Jackson

Proud Parents:

Johnny and Hilda Neufield

An opportunity to bless others...



Help Kris battle Cancer again!

<https://www.youcaring.com/kris-roberts-435881>

Or Contact Tinna Hood to purchase a
t-shirt supporting the Roberts family!
903-815-4055

Prayer
Ministry

What this is: Praying for the service, for our pastor and for the church body during the Sunday morning service.

Get involved: If you would like to be a part of our Sunday morning prayer team please sign up in the kitchen this Sunday and you will be contacted with further information.

If you are interested in hearing more about the prayer ministry or have questions, please contact Keelie (903-821-3371) or Karen (972- 971-2652)

Contact Us

www.thegbf.com

Phone: 903.433.1732

Grace Bible Fellowship

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Senior Pastor: Roy Layman

Elders: Brent Wilkens, Jeff Crelia
Theron Whitley, Roy Layman

Follow Pastor Roy's blog

<http://roylayman.wordpress.com>

where he shares resources,
Grace Bible church life, and pastoral
insights from a small church pastor
in a mega-church world.

You can also access the blog
by going to the church website

www.thegbf.com

AUGUST 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am Youth @ 6:30 pm	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am	15	16	17 Elder Led Prayer and Worship 6:30 pm	18	19	20
21 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am BAPTISM SERVICE	22 HAPPY FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	23	24 GRACE KIDS LEADERS MTG 6:30 pm STUDENT MINISTRY LEADERS MTG 6:30 PM	25	26	27
28 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am	29	30	31 GRACE KIDS KICKOFF 6:30 pm STUDENT MINISTRY 6:30 pm			