

GRACE NOTES

Grace Bible Fellowship

Gunter, Texas

March 2015

Daylight Saving Time
Sunday, March 8, 2015



DON'T FORGET TO
SPRING FORWARD
one hour

Set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 7th!

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.

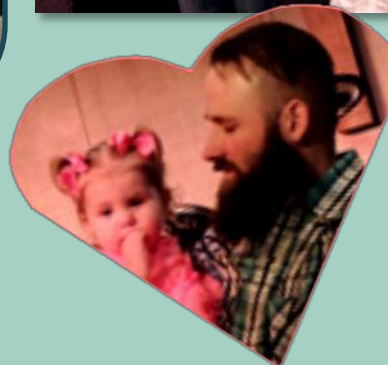
You can also access the blog
by going to the church website
www.thegbf.com

CHILD DEDICATION



Charlotte

Daughter of
Jeff and Rebecca Egger



The children of Major and
Lauren Lewis:

Park
Sailor
Rhys
River
Journey

Mark your calendars for the
8th Annual Women's Ministry



SATURDAY, MARCH 28
5:30 - 8:30 pm

We are looking for consignment quality
donations for our auction with all proceeds going
to support GBF's Women's Ministry!

Furniture Tools Services
Gift Certificates Home Décor
Sports Memorabilia

BBQ COOK-OFF IS OPEN TO ALL CONTESTANTS.

We look forward to your entry!
Contact Amy Celia @ 214-558-1276

**Volunteers are still needed
to make coffee before
Sunday worship!**

You can sign up for just one
Sunday a month or
as it fits your schedule!

Contact Kris Freeny
903 - 815 - 8859

NEW SERMON SERIES

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN,
'THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE'

"...**that you may believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." John 20:31

If you missed sermons in this series that began on February 15, you can find the audio here:
<http://thegbf.com/resources/sermons/>

I truly believe God is going to bring LIFE to this series as we are faithful to His Word. Our church seems to find a stride when we are working through a particular book of the Bible week after week.

Below are some follow-up questions from the first message.

Questions for John 1:1-5:

- Who is the Word that John refers to in 1:1-2? (hint John 1:14)
- Why did John refer to him as the Word? Why not just say "Jesus is God"?
- I once saw a t-shirt that read "Jesus is my homeboy." How does a statement like that look when compared to the description of Jesus in John 1:1-5?
- How has a close look at John 1:1-5 make you think differently about Jesus?

For further reading, spend some time in Colossians 1:15-20.

Roy

GBF F.A.M. (Foster and Adoption Ministry)

Interested in Foster Care or Adoption or just want information?

Please attend
Buckner Be A Family
Meeting

Sunday, March 1

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Grace Bible Fellowship



“Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.” James 1:27

For more information please contact Jason or Nikki Waligura 214-287-1427 or nrw_2000@hotmail.com

Sunday worship, who we are & a new worship song

<https://roylayman.wordpress.com/2015/02/25/grace-bible-sunday-worship-who-we-are-new-worship-song/>

I LOVE our time of congregational worship at Grace Bible. I sit on the front row so I can sing LOUD and not hurt anyone's ears :) AND, I can hear the beautiful voices of our church family, singing together behind me. It's GLORIOUS.

Our worship leader, Byron Baird, does a great job of leading us in songs that are gospel-centered and congregational. Byron, as well as the rest of our praise team are talented people, but they're not the focus, Christ is. The result, is a reflection of what we see in *Colossians 3:16: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

Congregational worship is a way of expressing the worth of Christ together. That's why each Sunday, we come together, and sing like we can't live without Him! As you know, at Grace Bible, God has assembled a group of flawed people, who are desperate for Jesus.

We are keenly aware of our NEED Jesus Christ. No man made religion will do. We're over, and passed going through the motions and jumping through hoops to give the appearance of being "good church people". We're learning more and more that all of our efforts are just that, our efforts. We've seen the mess we make of life when we mistakenly think we're in charge. So we're not interested in what we can do, but we are increasingly consumed with seeing what Christ can do.

I know these things about our church, not just because I am the pastor, but because I am a part of our church. I'm desperate too. Redeemed and being redeemed. Saved by grace alone. Walking in His mercy. Learning His truth.

I wanted to give you all a chance to familiarize yourself with a song that is a HUGE dose of encouragement for a people who are desperate for Jesus Christ. Listen to the lyrics of the song, The Table, by Chris Tomlin, as it reminds us of all that's afforded to us in Christ Jesus...and check out the last few words, "Come just as you are, to His table." That's us Grace Bible, "come as you are!"

Grace Bible, I look forward to us singing this song together, soon!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=peeqJ1bmT_w#t=15



As followers of Christ, “I can trust God no matter what” is a phrase we all say. And for the most part we sincerely believe it and live it out. We trust God to provide for our basic needs, for our safety, even for our health and well-being. But there are certain moments when trusting God seems just a bit more difficult - often those are the times when we’re forced to wait.

Throughout our life, we will face times when we’re not where we once were, but we’re not yet at our final destination. Instead, we’re somewhere in between. Put simply: we’re waiting. And it’s in the waiting that our faith is tested.

Which is why allowing God to develop **patience** in us is important. Not only is patience a Fruit of the Spirit, it is a foundational way that we can reflect God’s character. From the very beginning God has shown patience with people. When Adam and Eve broke God’s rule, He could have killed them on the spot. Rather, He showed them grace. Yes, there were consequences, but God had a plan for their rescue. All throughout the Bible we see God showing patience in order that more people could come to know and believe in Him.

God’s patience is continually focused on relationships with people. Even after we sinned, He still pursued us. He sent Jesus, His own Son to make a way for us to be with Him. He waited time after time for people to repent and make things right. Something He still does today.

When we demonstrate patience, we are less likely to hurt our relationships with others. We are more likely to trust that God has something better for us in the future. And when we trust God with our future, even when we’re “in-between” on life’s journey and asking Him “Are we there yet?” we can have patience knowing that His plan and His timing are always better than our own.

The Bible is full of stories and principles that help us realized the importance of how to **be patient**.

- Week 1: When you think you can’t wait, think twice.**
- Week 2: When you think you can’t wait, think about what’s true.**
- Week 3: When you think you can’t wait, don’t lose your cool.**
- Week 4: When you think you can’t wait, talk to God about it.**
- Week 5: Remember that God’s plan is bigger than yours.**

While we’re discovering what God has to tell us about patience, we’ll be memorizing **Psalm 27:14**: “**Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the Lord.**”

GRACE KIDS

SMALL GROUP LEADERS FOR

MARCH

Pre-K/K:

Caroline and Sydney

1/2 grade:

Cade and Q

3/4 grade girls:

Buffy

3/4 grade boys:

Devon

C
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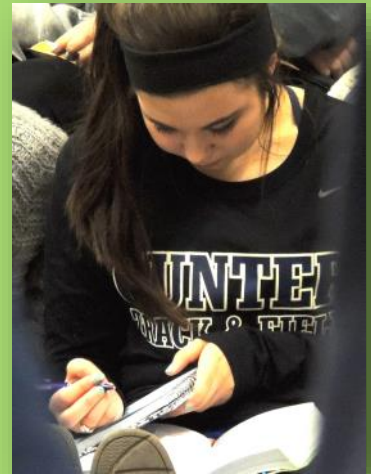
STUDENT MINISTRY

BREAKAWAY will be May 2-3 at Camp Copass in Denton!

More details will come later!

Genesis 1-11 Study for High School and College students!

<http://roylayman.wordpress.com/.../new-study-for-high-school.../>



A Lifeline group is a small group of people, meeting in a home on a regular basis, for the purpose of authentic community and spiritual growth.

UPDATED



Below is a list of Lifeline Groups, the leaders, meeting dates and topic of study.

Please contact any of the leaders for more information.

More groups are forming and information on those will be available as soon as possible.

STUDY OF RELIGIONS

Tinna Hood

903-815-4055

704 N. 8th Street

Tues. @ 6:30 pm

EXPLICIT GOSPEL

Jason & Nikki Waligura

214-587-1427

82 Forest Hills Circle

Sun. @ 5:30-7:30 pm

PRODIGAL GOD

Jarod & Lara Martin

903-815-0562

413 Autry Blvd.

Sun. 3:30 - 5 pm

JESUS'S FAMILY

Shelly Baird

903-819-2074

105 Forest Meadows Dr.

Fri. @ 9-11 am

MINGLING OF THE SOULS

Devon & Nikki Mize

214-592-7291

101 Falls Creek Lane

Sun. @ 4:00-5:30 pm

TO LIVE IS CHRIST

Jason Carney, Jon & LeAnn Stovall

903-819-8087

107 Arrowhead Dr.

Sun. @ 6 pm

MEN'S STUDY

Roy Layman

roy@thegbf.com

GBF

Mon. @ 6 am

TO LIVE IS CHRIST

Rick & Nancy Nevil

469-401-2615

699 Wallace Road

Wed. @ 6:30 pm

A LIFE WELL LIVED: ECCL.

Brent & DeeDee Wilkins and Gane & Kris Roberts

903-815-1182

515 Kerfoot Drive

Sun. @ 6 pm

TO LIVE IS CHRIST

Brian & Marci Ross and Tom & Jane Mrozinski

903-814-7799

3000 Bennett Rd., Howe

Sun. @ 6:30 pm

These Lifeline groups are nearly FULL!

We are in need of Lifeline Leaders and Host Homes.

If you are willing to lead and/or host, the study materials, training, and guidelines will be provided.

Commitments can be as short as 6 weeks.

Email Lara@thegbf.com if interested.

Please be in prayer for these groups and for new leaders.

Church can learn small group principles from AA

By Pastor Roy <https://roylayman.wordpress.com/2015/02/25/grace-bible-sunday-worship-who-we-are-new-worship-song/>

Recently, I had the privilege of visiting an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. My purpose for going was to learn. I have been told on several occasions that the church could learn some things from AA, especially in small group settings.

I attended the meetings with my uncle Chris who has been clean and sober for 20 years now. Chris was the “old friend” I referred to in my 2/5/25 blog. When I was a kid, I thought Chris was the coolest guy in the world, because he could play just about every Tom Petty song ever written on his guitar. Hey, I’m old now, and I still think that’s pretty cool! :-)

Here we go, four things we, the local church, can learn from AA meetings. I’m sure there are a lot more than this. But these came to mind.

1. A culture of humility and gratitude in a group setting.

You may know that in AA, attendees begin sharing by saying “My name’s _____ and I’m an alcoholic” and then everyone says “Hi _____.” Quite a humbling statement, right? But did you know that when a person is finished sharing they say “thanks for letting me share” and

then the group responds “thanks for sharing”? When someone finishes reading aloud, they say “thanks for letting me read” and the group responds “thanks for reading.”

What if our church small groups included an opening (true) statement “I’m Roy and I’m a sinner saved by grace alone”? And when we share a thought or experience in small group Bible study, wouldn’t it be encouraging to hear someone say “thanks for sharing” rather than having to wonder if we are being criticized in the minds of your group? Humility and gratitude are powerful things. The opposite of these would pride and entitlement. Ugly words.

2. Authenticity. People in AA meetings are REAL. It’s sad that such bold transparency caught me off guard! But I very quickly appreciated it. Oddly enough, even as an outsider, I felt pretty relaxed in the meetings I attended! It’s not only that people are REAL, it’s that it’s OK to be REAL. Like a breath of fresh air.

3. Unity amid diversity. Addiction knows no boundaries. It affects people from all different backgrounds, races, and walks of life. People seeking to walk in recovery need other people to walk the journey with them. They don’t care what color they are, or

their annual income. Their common bond is their need. I pray that our churches would see our common need as our point of unity.

We are all sinners in need of Christ. Part of the beauty of the church ought to be different people coming together with a common goal, fleeing sin, and pursuing Christ.

4. Commitment, not only to *personal* sobriety, but the sobriety of *others*. People in recovery don’t just go to meetings for themselves, they go to support others. They know how much the shared experiences of others have helped them, and they don’t want to withhold their knowledge, encouragement, and experience from others.

Church has become a bit consumer driven. Many times we have a, “what’s in it for me?” attitude. We would do well to see the value in going to a small group or church worship service, simply to encourage others in their walk. After all, even the Son of man came not to be served but to serve. (Mark 10:45)

I hope I get to the opportunity to attend more AA meetings. I still have a lot to learn.

(Information on AA can be found at: <http://www.step12.com/texas.html>)



Please join us for a celebration honoring Bride-to-be

Claire Goodman

Saturday, February 28 at 1 pm

The Baird's House: 105 Forest Meadow Drive

Hosted by Nikki Waligura, Keebie Ferguson, Nan & Chloee Goodman, Ansley, Hailey, Lauren, Shelley, & Judy Baird

RSVP to Shelley at 903-819 2074 or
bairdmusicstudio@gmail.com

Registries at Bed, Bath & Beyond,
Crate & Barrel and Target



You're invited to wish them luck
at a **Going Away Party!**
Sunday, March 1 4:00 - 5:30 pm
GBF

Contact Us

www.thegbf.com

Phone: 903.433.1732

Grace Bible Fellowship

101 West Pecan, P.O. Box 96

Gunter, Texas 75058

Senior Pastor: Roy Layman

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

It's that time again....

**CAMP
KIDJAM**

Sign up NOW for
Camp KIDJAM 2015

Date: July 22 - 25.
Slots are limited.

Who: Kids entering the 3rd,
4th, 5th and 6th grades in the
Fall of 2015.

Cost: \$300. A \$75 deposit (due
no later than Feb. 1st) will hold
your spot.

Please sign up at [http://
www.thegbf.com/event/688204-2015-
07-22-camp-kid-jam/](http://www.thegbf.com/event/688204-2015-07-22-camp-kid-jam/)

March 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-----------|---|--|-----------|--|--|
| 1 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am Be A Family Mtg. 2-3:30 pm HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm | 2 | 3 Men's Bible Study, 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Set your clocks ahead 1 hour when you go to bed! |
| 8  FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| GISD SPRING BREAK  | | | | | | |
| 15 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm | 16 | 17 Men's Bible Study, 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm  | 18 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm Student Ministry 6:30-7:45 pm | 19 | 20  <i>The First Day Of Spring</i> | 21 |
| 22 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm | 23 | 24 Men's Bible Study, 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm | 25 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm Student Ministry 6:30-7:45 pm | 26 | 27 | 28 Chili Cook-Off and Auction 5:30 pm |
| 29 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm | 30 | 31 Men's Bible Study, 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm | 1 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm Student Ministry 6:30-7:45 pm | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| We will have a baptism service on Easter Sunday, April 5. Sign up in the back of the sanctuary, email lara@theqbf.com , or sign up online from the homepage rotator. | | | | | | |