

GRACE NOTES

Grace Bible Fellowship

Gunter, Texas

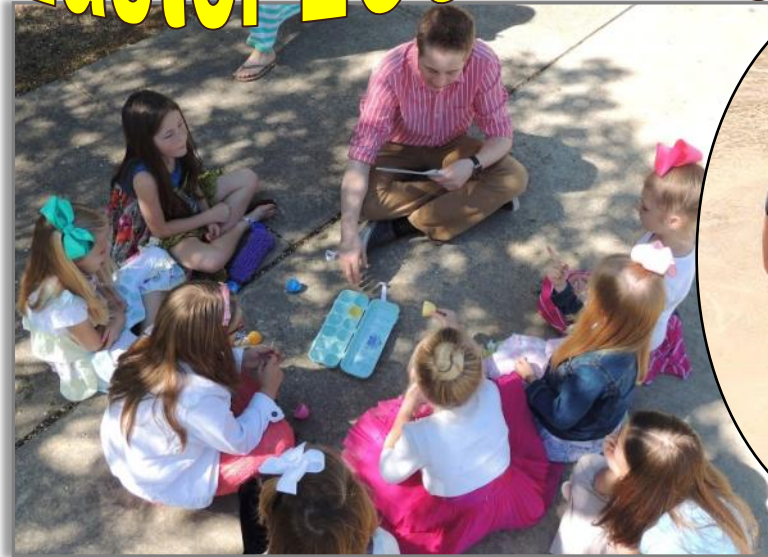
April 2015



A yummy potluck lunch was enjoyed by our church family at the Easter *Eggstravaganza* on March 29. Thank you to everyone who contributed and participated!



Easter EGGstravaganza



Joseph's Storehouse

GBF provides goods for families in need in our community through Joseph's Storehouse.

If you or someone you know could benefit from Joseph's Storehouse, please contact Tinna @ 903.815.4055 or Jason @ 903.819.8087.

Although the Storehouse is adequately supplied at this time, we graciously accept all canned goods, nonperishable food items, diapers and paper goods.

What does Baptism mean?

- It means we have turned from the old life of sin to a new life in Jesus Christ.
- It means we are publicly identifying with the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.
- It means we are openly joining the ranks of those who believe in Christ.

We will have a baptism service on Easter Sunday, April 5. If you are interested in getting baptized, contact Lara at lara@thegbf.com for details.

Welcome

New Members

*Cory and Ashley Mickelson
and their daughter, Ava.*

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

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. 1)
will hold your spot.

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

IT'S A FAMILY THING

THE MARTINS



JACE, LARA, MOX, JAROD AND LILLY

Jarod and Lara Martin have attended and served at GBF since our charter year in 2005. Jarod is employed by J. D.'s Babbitt Bearings and Lara is the part time office assistant for the church.

They have 3 children: Jace Paul, a 9 year old 3rd grader; Lilly Tin, a 7 year old 1st grader; Mox Benjamin - 2 years old; and a **4th on the way in November 2015! Congratulations!**

The Martins enjoy travelling, spending time with friends and watching their kids play sports!

Jarod and Lara are Connect Team members and leaders of a Lifeline group.



What is your favorite thing about GBF?

Jarod – The family unit that God has created through the years within this body. It is a miracle and a blessing.

Lara – I love the people of GBF! I love to look back on our lives and see the ways that God has used them to challenge us in our faith, teach us the gospel and encourage us to grow in Him. They are our family!

Jace – Singing, GRACEKIDS and having fun with my friends.

Lilly – Worship, learning new things about my Bible and my teachers, getting to be with my friends.

Mox – gum from Papa, the toys, & Grayson and Mason.

What is your favorite memory of GBF?

We loved serving in Student ministry! Lots of fun times! Our favorite would have to be the time all of the youth leaders re-enacted The Evolution of Dance.



“So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build each other up,”
(Romans 14:19, NIV)

Think about this for a second: Do you want your children to grow up to be angry? I’m talking about out-of-control, self-centered, short-fused, “I’m gonna hurt somebody if I don’t get my way” kind of anger.

Of course not.

After all, you don’t have to look very hard in communities to see the damage that kind of anger can do. It’s the reason a lady used pepper spray at a Wal-Mart to ward off a crowd of mothers Christmas shopping. It’s the reason people lose it in traffic, or the reason the issue of bullying is escalating in schools everywhere.

The truth is there are a lot of people who are walking around angry. Somehow they grew up and missed a simple principle that is critical to life. Peace.

Peace is part of God’s character and what Jesus came to do for us. God wants us to reflect peace in our relationships with others. We define **peace** like this: **proving you care more about each other than about winning an argument.**

It’s interesting that peace almost always requires some type of sacrifice. I can almost guarantee there will be a time in every relationship when you will have to give up something you care about to make peace. Peace will cost you something.

When sin entered God’s magnificent paradise, our relationship with Him was broken. God’s love for us was so great that He was willing to sacrifice to restore the relationship. God proved He cared about peace when He sent His Son to pay for our sins.

Peace is more than just “not fighting” and saying the right things to keep people happy. Peace is living in a way that shows you care more about others than about being right. It’s about building strong relationships through mutual trust.

Working at those relationships is hard work. It will cost us something. It will take time, swallowing our pride, and often will mean walking away from the chance to prove we’re “right.” That’s why we start by getting everyone to memorize something Paul said in the book of Romans. **“So let us do all we can to live in peace. And let us work hard to build each other up,” (Romans 14:19, NIV)**

Think about the significance of that phrase. Paul is challenging us to do all we can to live in peace. He stresses how important it is for us to do everything in our power to build a bridge - to fix what is broken - between us and someone else.

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GRACE KIDS

SMALL GROUP LEADERS FOR

APRIL

Pre-k/K:

Emerson E. & Ashlynn W.

1/2:

Taylor and Ben C.

3/4 Boys:

Matty G.

3/4 Girls:

Rebecca M & Lacy D.

Congratulations to
Jeremy and Annie Salazar

on their marriage in Arizona
on February 28, 2015.

Jeremy is one of our closest friends from Pine Hill Church, our partner church on the Navajo Reservation. A couple years ago Jeremy left the reservation for ministry training at The Master's Seminary in California. Since then, the doors for ministry have opened wide for him.

Soon, Jeremy will be working as a full-time church planter in the Spokane Washington area along with his beautiful new bride Annie.

God is so faithful!



Jesus was on earth for 33 years loving, healing, glorifying God in all he did.

The entire reason for Jesus being on earth was to be the human sacrifice for all our sins. That is too often taken lightly. It is nonchalantly mentioned in Sunday School and sort of hit on in the Church service.

Jesus took on all our sins..... all. our. sins.

Our? EVERYONE that has ever walked the planet or will ever walk the planet.

Imagine just the weight of one person's sin.

The suffocation of sexual sins.

The embarrassments of addiction.

The hurt of lying.

The shame in adultery.

The emptiness of pride.

The falsehood of stealing.

The obsession of hate.

The insecurities of gossip.

Homosexuality.

Cheating.

Gluttony.

Bitterness.

Anger.

The list can go on and on. Anything that is not of the Lord.

IT WAS ALL SLAMMED ON JESUS.

Not just one person. ALL OF IT.

He was beaten to a pulp.

Spit upon.

His side was stabbed with a sword.

His hands and feet were nailed to a splintery tree.

Thorns were smashed into his head.

It wasn't a chill, attractive, dignified death.

He also had a crowd laughing, mocking and encouraging the soldiers.

It makes me sick to my stomach just thinking about it.

He was a pure man who walked the earth and never sinned.

Not even once.

Yet He sacrificed his very being in order for us measly humans to be liberated from death's chains.

The Lord cannot stand the presence of darkness and so He had to turn from Jesus on that cross.

Jesus cried out "My Father, why have you left me!" and he took his last breath.

Dead. Done.

Sad story, right?

The good news is the grave couldn't freaking hold Him!

The other good news is God is all about big endings.

Three days after they put his beat body in the tomb, He busted out of there like nothing had happened.

RESURRECTED.

Death couldn't conquer Him.

There's even more brilliant news.

The Bible says that since our sick sinful bodies were buried with him in his death, we will certainly rise with him in his resurrection. (Romans 6:5)

Our flesh is dead. We are redeemed!

We have risen with him...as soon as we surrender our lives we are NEW.

We sometimes don't feel it because Satan tells us we are still the old us but ,

WE ARE NEW.

Sin can't hold us down because Jesus has already taken a large beating for our sin.

The Sacrifice has been paid. There is nothing we have done or ever will do to earn this love and redemption.

We just have to believe and surrender our sick selves.

It's hard to comprehend but that makes it even more brilliant and mysterious.

He is good. and risen. and loving. and pursuing.

Because of this...We get to spend forever and ever and ever and ever and ever in His presence.

I can't help but beam at the thought.

Embrace His love.

Praise Him.



STUDENT MINISTRY

BREAKAWAY : MAY 2 - 3

Breakaway Weekend will be May 2nd-3rd at Collin County Adventure Camp in Anna.

The sign-up sheet will be located at the back of the church on Sunday mornings and in the youth room on Wednesday nights.

What: Breakaway Weekend is a time for students to grow closer to God, to each other, to their leaders, all in a setting that is fun for everyone involved! In short, it is a time for students to break away from the influences that discourage them as young Christians, and a time to be encouraged by the love of God, their leaders, and one another.

Where: We will meet up at the GBF parking lot at 8:00 am on May 2 and get back in the morning on May 3 to attend our church service.

Cost: The cost will be \$45. This covers overnight stay, food, t-shirt, access to the high ropes course, zip-line, and rock climbing wall.

What to Bring: Bible & Journal
Sleeping Bag & pillow
Towel
Tennis Shoes
Weather appropriate clothing

Please be in prayer for the search team to find an Associate Pastor of Youth and Small Groups at GBF.

The team consists of Jon Stovall, Justin Ferguson, Price Ferrell and Lara Martin.

They are actively praying, meeting and pursuing the man that God would have lead the students of GBF. Your prayers are needed and appreciated!

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

469-401-3614

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.

Parenting teens: A challenge worth facing

I'm a parent of teenagers. My older 2 kids are 16 and soon to be 14. I'M SO...OLD!?!? Parenting teenagers is an adventure to say the least. Mark Twain once said, "When a boy turns 13, seal him in a barrel and feed him through a knot hole. When he turns 16, plug the hole" Haha. That's a funny quote, but I truly enjoy parenting my teenage kids! I agree with author Paul Tripp who refers to the teen years as an "age of opportunity." It's a great privilege to be a part of these formative years of their lives, filled with great challenges but also, great joys.

This is a learning process for me, but one thing I know for sure is that teens STILL need parenting. To watch many of today's TV shows aimed at teens, you'd think that you spend age 13-18 constantly surrounded by friends your age with a bottomless Frappuccino in your hand. Not the case.

Obviously, the role of a parent is different during teen years, not necessarily less, but definitely different. "Helicopter parenting" will frustrate and drive a wedge between us and our teens. *We have to embrace our ever-changing role without abandoning it.*

Paul told young Timothy to "flee from youthful lusts." The Apostle Paul acknowledged that there are sinful lusts unique to youth, and they are to be avoided. The notion that teens need to "sow wild oats" is not from God. The thing about sowing anything is that it grows.

What teens do today and the habits they form, those things matter, a lot. They matter for their current life, their future, and most importantly, to God and eternity. As parents we get to be a part of guiding students away from destructive behaviors and pointing them towards a god-glorifying, self-sacrificing, service oriented, joy filled life that God desires for them.



QUINTEN, ROY AND TRINITY



Charles Spurgeon said the following, and I believe it is as true when our kids are 15 as it is when they are 5... "Parental teaching is a natural duty—who is better fit to look to the child's well being as those who are the authors of his actual being? To neglect the instruction of our offspring is worse than brutish. Family religion is necessary for the nation, for the family itself, and for the church of God." The teen years are an opportunity to glorify God by being good stewards of HIS children that he has temporarily entrusted to us. What a privilege!?!?

<https://roylayman.wordpress.com/>

Making Sense of Scripture's 'Inconsistency'



Ever been frustrated when you hear someone say something like “Christians pick and choose what parts of the Bible they obey. Why don’t Christians abide by all of the Old Testament rules about cleanliness?” Or maybe you have been confused yourself about this topic.

The post by Tim Keller at the link below addresses this topic in a very clear, concise way. Definitely a read worthy of your time!

<http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/making-sense-of-scriptures-inconsistency>

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



JANE
ROBINSON
1953 - 2015

A fight to survive ends in a peaceful reunion with our Lord. On March 20, Jane Robinson was involved in a head-on collision leaving her in critical condition and was the beginning of the fight for her life. After several surgeries and dozens of transfusions, her time here on earth ended 6 days after the accident. Thursday, March 26, 2015, Jane joined our Father in Heaven for eternal life.

Jane’s daughter and son-in-law, Lauren and Dylan Shafer attend GBF.

Memorials for Jane may be donated to the Gunter Parks Foundation in remembrance of her love for children and support of the Gunter community.

<http://www.gunterparksfoundation.com/>



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

April 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm Student Ministry 6:30-7:45 pm 	2	good friday our sins washed away GISD School Holiday	4
No Grace Kids on Easter Sunday, April 5						
5  Baptism Service- FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm	6	7 Men's Bible Study, 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm	8 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm Student Ministry 6:30-7:45 pm	9	10	11
12 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm	13	14 Men's Bible Study, 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm	15 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm Student Ministry 6:30-7:45 pm	16	17	18
19 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm	20	21 Men's Bible Study, 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm	22 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm Student Ministry 6:30-7:45 pm	23	24	25
26 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am HS & College Student Bible Study, 6 pm	27	28 Men's Bible Study, 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm	29 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm Student Ministry 6:30-7:45 pm	30	1 	2