

# Pastor's Pen

Inconceivable!

**"Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a love of the brothers without hypocrisy, fervently love one another from the heart," 1 Peter 1:22**

In the movie, *The Princess Bride*, Vizzini, Fezzik and Inigo Montoya have kidnapped the princess bride. They are on the ship and the hero, Westley, is in pursuit. Over and over, Vizzini keeps using the word inconceivable to describe that he cannot believe the hero is gaining on them. Inigo's rebuttal to Vizzini's constant bewilderment is, "I do not think that word means what you think it means."

The word inconceivable is defined as not capable of being imagined or grasped mentally; unbelievable. It is inconceivable that anyone who claims to be a follower of Christ does not love His church. I would go as far as to say that any individual who holds that view is a very immature believer or not one at all. How can one claim to be a follower of Christ and not love His bride, the church (2 Cor. 11:12, Eph. 5:25-27 Rev. 19:7-9)?

What is the church? The word church is a translation of the Greek word *ekklesia* and is defined as "an assembly" or "called-out ones." If you ask most people, they will define church as a building where people meet. Romans 16:5 says, "Greet the church that is in their house." The church is not a building or a home. It is a body of individual believers that come together to worship and serve one another. In Acts 2:42, we see a description of the early church, "And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers." Paul goes further in explaining the role of every believer to the church in Romans 12:4-8,

"For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another, but having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: whether prophecy, in agreement with the faith; or service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with generosity; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness."

For a Christian to say, he loves God, but not the church is inconceivable. To not gather with fellow believers to fellowship, worship, and be taught God's word by His shepherds is inconceivable. To belong to a local body of believers and not use your gifts for the church is inconceivable. It is inconceivable that anyone calling themselves a Christian would say that they love God but not the church, His Sons bride. Jesus died for His bride the church, and one day the bride will come to Him.

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband." Rev. 21:1-2

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

## Special Thank You

Mike & Sharon Dance sent the following thank you card to her church family. With special thanks to all of you.

***"We would like to thank everyone for the love and support that was given for the passing of Mike's mother. Especially, the women of Grace Harvest who prepared the food, and the countless of others for their thoughtful condolences. It was a difficult time for the family and we were truly touched. We love our church family"***

## Quote of the Week

"Trials are intended to make us think,  
to wean us from the world,  
to send us to the Bible, to drive us to our knees."  
- J. C. Ryle

# Grace Gems

Is Sin Subdued in You?

**"He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21**

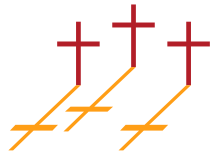
Many people, if they are asked what they understand by salvation, will reply, "Being saved from hell and taken to heaven." This is one result of salvation, but it is not one tenth of what is contained in that blessing. It is true our Lord Jesus Christ does redeem all His people from the wrath to come; He saves them from the fearful condemnation that their sins had brought upon them; but His triumph is far more complete than this. He saves His people "from their sins"—a complete deliverance from our worst foes.

Where Christ works a saving work, He casts Satan from his throne and will not let him be master any longer. No man is a true Christian if sin reigns in his mortal body. Sin will be in us—it will never be utterly expelled till the spirit enters glory; but it will never have dominion.

There will be a striving for dominion—a lusting against the new law and the new spirit that God has implanted—but sin will never get the upper hand so as to be absolute monarch of our nature. Christ will be Master of the heart, and sin must be mortified. The Lion of the tribe of Judah shall prevail, and the dragon shall be cast out.

Professing Christian, is sin subdued in you? If your life is unholy, your heart is unchanged; and if your heart is unchanged, you are an unsaved person. If the Savior has not sanctified you, renewed you, given you a hatred of sin and a love of holiness, He has done nothing in you of a saving character. The grace that does not make a man better than others is a worthless counterfeit. Christ saves His people not in their sins but from them "... for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord." "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity." If not saved from sin, how shall we hope to be counted among His people? Lord, save me now from all evil, and enable me to honor my Savior.

- written by C. H. Spurgeon,
- revised and updated by Alistair Begg



# Weekly Gatherings

## Bible Classes

Old Testament  
New Testament  
Young Parents  
Young Adults  
Sunday Morning @ 9AM

## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Bible Study  
Every other Saturday:  
Women of Grace | 9am

## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM @ Royall's  
Every other Thursday @7PM  
@ Patrick's & Cox's

## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.

## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study  
AWANA @6:30PM

## Service Times

Sunday Service 10:30AM  
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 2/06/2022

General Offering .....	6,125.85
Building Fund .....	1,170.00
Uganda .....	131.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$7,426.85</b>

Attendance .....	180
Sunday School .....	105
Online .....	43

## Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org  
Security-security@ghbcva.org



ghbcva.org | 804.561.3742  
9821 South Redfield Drive, Amelia, VA 23002

# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Feb 13, 2022

Welcome