

# Pastor's Pen

What do you believe?

## ***I believed and so I spoke- 2 Corinthians 4:13***

Paul believed what was written in scripture. He just got through telling the Corinthians that the precious treasure of the Gospel of Jesus Christ was given to mere men and women to share with the World. The gospel is the greatest truth given to man because it is the only truth that brings eternal life with God. Through the gospel people are freed from the power of sin and death (Rom. 8:2), released from condemnation (Rom. 8:1), transformed into the image of Jesus Christ (Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18), and given eternal joy, peace, and satisfaction. Yet, amazingly, that priceless gospel treasure is contained in simple earthen vessels, you, me, and every other believer.

It is true that we are salt and light in the world and the way we live our lives can draw people to Jesus but we will never lead someone to Christ by just the way we live. Too many times I've heard well-meaning Christians say things like, "I don't like to upset my family so I don't talk about Jesus I just let them see how I live my life" or "I am an introvert and just don't like talking to other people".

In 1993, 89% of Christians who had shared their faith believed it was their personal responsibility. In a poll taken in 2018 only 64% felt it was the responsibility of Christians to share their faith. I can only surmise that it even less today in 2020. Yet, Paul reminds us that he believed in the scriptures and the Gospel and he felt compelled to preach and to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

What do you believe Christian? Do you believe the Gospel? Can you say as Paul, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16). What say you, can you proclaim as Paul, "I believed and so I spoke. That very verse is hung above my office door. Every time I preach on Sunday morning I am reminded how blessed I am to proclaim the Gospel and woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

Be encouraged by the words of Paul to the Church in Corinth, "7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. 11 For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So death is at work in us, but life in you." 2 Cor. 4:7-12.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

## Quote of the Week

"If my life is fruitless, it doesn't matter who praises me, and if my life is fruitful, it doesn't matter who criticizes me."

- John Bunyan

# Grace Gems

None of us would want to have our hearts photographed!

**"Having loved His own who were in the world—  
He loved them unto the end!" John 13:1**

A friend is one who loves—and does not cease to love. Christ having loved His people—loves them unto the end.

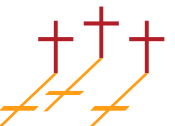
One quality of true friendship, is trust. What could be more sacred than this comfort of feeling safe with a person, absolutely safe? That is the kind of friend Jesus is. You may always feel safe with Him. You may confess all your sins to Him. You may tell Him all your faults and your failures—how you denied Him the other night, how you failed to be true to Him, and all the evil thoughts of your heart; and He will be just as tender and gracious—as if you never had sinned! He loves unto the end!

None of us would want to have our hearts photographed, and the picture held up before the eyes of our neighbors! We would not want even our best friends to see a full transcript of our secret life—what goes on within us:

the jealousies, the envying's, the bitter feelings, the impure thoughts, the meanness's, the selfishness's, the suspicions, the doubts and fears!

Yet Christ sees all this unworthy inner life—He knows the worst that is in us—and loves us still! We do not need to hide our weaknesses from Him. He never withdraws His love. We may trust Him absolutely and forever!

(J. R. Miller, "When the Song Begins" 1905)



# Weekly Gatherings



## Bible Classes

Discipleship Class  
With Brian Patrick  
Sunday Morning @ 9am



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Zoom Meeting

Tuesdays | 7PM  
Women's Zoom Meeting



## Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM  
Teaching Series



## 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.



## Children's Studies

Pastor Jamie Preschool, Elementary  
& Youth Studies with Caleb Capps



## Service Times

Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Sunday Service 10:30 AM

### Giving from service on 04.19.20

General Offering ..... 2,816.09  
Building Fund ..... 140.00  
Benevolence ..... 25.00

Total ..... 2,981.09  
Attendance ...10 present  
68 online connections

## Got Questions

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



Grace Harvest  
Baptist Church  
go • gather • grow • go

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

# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

April 26, 2020

