

Pastor's Pen

Image Bearer!

"And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." Gen 1: 27

What does it mean that we are made in the image of God? Being made in God's image (imago Dei) refers to reflecting His spiritual and moral qualities, not just His physical form. Humans are endowed with reasoning, moral discernment, the ability to exercise judgment, and to build meaningful relationships. We can worship God, show justice, and strive for holiness. John Calvin exemplifies this, stating that humanity was created to mirror God's character through justice, judgment, and holiness.

Nevertheless, the Fall, when sin entered the world, tarnished this ideal. Sin compromised our ability to accurately reflect God's character, introducing pride, selfishness, and rebellion into human hearts. Although the image of God in humanity was not lost, it was corrupted. However, through Christ, God restores and renews His image in believers. Passages like Colossians 3:10 and Ephesians 4:24 illustrate this process, showing that in Christ, we are being conformed back to the image of God.

The idea of being made in God's image encompasses both relationships and duties. On a relational level, it enables humans to build meaningful connections with God and others, highlighting the importance of covenant relationships, family, and church community. Vocationally, mirroring God's image gives humans the authority to oversee and steward creation as His representatives. Genesis 1:28 underscores humanity's responsibility to care for the earth, exercise creativity, and reflect God's character in all they do.

Ultimately, being created in God's image has significant practical consequences. Each person has inherent worth, and how we treat others reflects this, since everyone bears God's likeness. Living ethically, pursuing justice, and showing mercy naturally follow from this understanding. Additionally, worship, obedience, and holiness are expressions of our role as image bearers, revealing God's glory and exemplifying His character to others.

Your shepherd, Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Who does He think He is? - Frank Hall

"Is it not lawful for Me to do what I wish with what is My own?" Matthew 20:15

How dare people walk their pets on leashes to control them! How dare parents force their children to obey their rules! How dare employers insist that their employees do their jobs! How dare governors rule over the people! How dare policemen take criminals to jail without their permission!

Quote of the Week

"Man was created to bear the likeness of his Maker... not in physical form, but in a unique identity that sets humanity apart from every other creature."

- John MacArthur

How dare God have His way with His creatures! How dare the Potter make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor! How dare God love and hate whom He will!

How dare God the Father choose to save whom He will!

How dare God the Son die for whom He will! How dare God the Spirit call whom He will!

How dare the Almighty have His way with all men, in all places, at all times! How dare God save and damn whom He will!

How dare God judge us! How dare God call us into question!

How dare the indisputable Sovereign of the universe do . . .
what He pleases,
when He pleases,
where He pleases,
how He pleases, and
with whom He pleases!

Who does He think He is-God?

"Our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases!" Psalm 115:3

"I know that the LORD is great, that our Lord is greater than all gods. The Lord does whatever pleases Him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths!" Psalm 135:5-6

"All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as He pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back His hand or say to Him: What have You done?" Daniel 4:35

Who does He think He is? - Frank Hall

Weekly Gatherings



Sunday Bible Classes

Elders- Old Testament (Sanctuary A)
Bereans- New Testament (Sanctuary B)
Young Adults- (Downstairs B, Red Rm.)
Youth and Surge (5th-6th)- (Upstairs C)
Children & Nursery (Downstairs C)



Weekday Meetings

AWANA—Wednesday's 6:30-8:00 pm
Trail Life—Monday's at 6:30 pm



Family Groups

All Family Groups began **Sept 25th**
Host Families: Tom & Penni Cox, Jesse &
Deborah Royall, Larry & Gina Covington,
Jeff & Bridget Brown, Alan & Leigh Anne
Chambers and Mark & Trisha Keffer



Build the Body Teams

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



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study & Surge!



Service Times

Sunday School 9:00AM
Children's Church 10:30AM
Sunday Services 10:30AM

Giving from service on 01/04/2025

General Offering	\$18,317.06
Building Fund	\$1,670.00
Uganda	\$161.00
Benevolence	\$32.00
 Total	 \$20,180.06
Attendance	238

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
Widows-admin@ghbcva.org
HH-HomeschoolHub@ghbcva.org



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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Grace Harvest Bible Church

Jan 11, 2026

