GIVING 11.01.26

General Offering	$8,350.53
Building Fund	$1,365.00
Uganda	$740.00
Benevolence	$1215.00
Total	$11,670.53
Attendance	215

> "Christ is more ready to hear than we are to pray, and more willing to give than we are to ask."
>
> — Thomas Watson

VISITORS + MEMBERS

For ALL church announcements, our church calendar, ministries for serving and small groups to join, please see our Church Center app.

ghbcva.org
9821 S Redfield Drive
Amelia, VA 23002
804.561.3742

Welcome to Grace Harvest Bible Church

11.08.26

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES
9:00am

Old Testament
Sanctuary A

Bereans - New Testament
Upstairs C

Young Adults
Downstairs B, Gray Room

College & Career
Downstairs B, Red Room

Surge (10 - 12 Year Olds)
Upstairs C

Youth (13 - 18 Year Olds)
Basement A

Children's SS
(Birth - 9 Year Olds)
Downstairs C

SUNDAY SERVICES
10:30am

Worship Service

Children's Church
(Birth - 9 Year Olds)

WEEKDAY EVENTS

Trail Life &
American Heritage Girls
Mondays 6:30pm

Men's Book Study
Mondays 7pm

Women's Walk & Book Study
Mondays 6:30pm

Worship Team Practice
Tuesdays 7:00pm

Awana
Wednesdays 6:30pm

Surge (10 - 12 Year Olds)
Wednesdays 6:30pm

Youth (13 - 18 Year Olds)
Wednesdays 6:30pm

Men's Alliance
Wednesdays 7:00pm

Family Groups
Every other Thursday
9:00am, 6:30pm, & 7:00pm

Men's Book Study
Fridays, 6:00am

Pastor's Pen

The Touch That Changed Everything!

"And Jesus said, "Who is the one who touched Me?" And while they were all denying it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds are surrounding and pressing in on You." Luke 8:45

The crowd was pressing around Jesus. Everyone wanted something from Him. Some wanted healing. Some wanted answers. Some simply wanted to see the miracle worker everyone was talking about. Then suddenly, Jesus stopped.

A woman reached out and touched the edge of His garment. She had endured a twelve-year struggle with a condition that left her physically weakened, socially isolated, and considered ceremonially unclean. Immediately, she was healed. Yet, Jesus asked what might seem an unnecessary question: ***"Who touched My garments?"*** (Mark 5:30)

At first glance, it may seem as though Jesus was searching for information. But Jesus never asked a question because He lacked knowledge. The One who knows the thoughts and intentions of the heart already knew exactly who had touched Him. The question was never about Jesus discovering her identity. The question was about the woman discovering hers. For twelve years, this woman had lived with suffering and shame. Because of her condition, the law considered her ceremonially unclean. Everything she touched was considered unclean.

She could not freely participate in worship. She lived separated from others, carrying not only physical pain but also social rejection. She came to Jesus quietly, hoping to disappear into the crowd. She wanted His power, but she was afraid of His presence. But Jesus would not allow her to walk away thinking she had only received a miracle. He wanted her to know she had received mercy. So He called her forward. Not to embarrass her, but to restore her. Not to expose her shame, but to remove it. Not because He needed to know who she was, but because she needed to know who He was. Jesus did not simply heal her body; He restored her dignity. He did not just stop her suffering; He spoke peace to her soul.

When she finally came trembling before Him, Jesus said: ***"Daughter, your faith has saved you; go in peace and be healed from your affliction."*** (Mark 5:34) Notice the tenderness of that word: ***"Daughter."*** This woman had been an outcast to society, but she was welcomed by the Savior. The crowd saw an unclean woman. Jesus saw a beloved daughter. The crowd saw someone who needed to stay away. Jesus saw someone who needed to come near.

This is the heart of Christ. He is not merely interested in fixing our problems; He desires to restore us to Himself. Sometimes we want to remain hidden. We want to receive blessings from Jesus while keeping our distance from Him. But Jesus calls us out of hiding. Not to shame us. To assure us. Not to condemn us. To remind us that His grace is greater than our past, our pain, and our failures.

Jesus never asked, ***"Who touched Me?"*** because He already knew. The question was asked so she would know something far greater: She was seen. She was loved. She was forgiven, and she belonged to Him. ***"Daughter, your faith has saved you; go in peace."*** Mark 5:34.

Your shepherd, Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Losers! Thomas Watson

"The hopes of the godly result in happiness, but the expectations of the wicked are all in vain." Proverbs 10:28

See the great difference between the death of the godly and the death of the wicked. The godly are great gainers at death, but the wicked are great losers at death. The wicked lose four things.

First, they lose the world—and that is a great loss to the wicked. They laid up their treasure upon the earth, and to be turned out of it all at once is a great loss. The things they lived for, pursued, and treasured are suddenly taken from them.

Second, they lose their souls. Jesus asked, ***"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?"*** (Matthew 16:26). The soul is more precious than the whole world. Yet the sinner's soul is lost—not because it is annihilated at death, but because it enters into eternal torment.

Third, they lose heaven. Heaven is the region of happiness, joy, and eternal bliss. It is the dwelling place of God's glory and the eternal home of His people. Yet those who reject Christ and live apart from Him will never enter into that blessed inheritance.

Fourth, they lose all hope. Though they lived wickedly, they often hoped God would be merciful. They hoped they would eventually enter heaven. But their hope was not an anchor; it was only a spider's web.

At death, their false confidence is exposed. They discover that they only deceived themselves and that their empty hopes could not save them. As Scripture warns: ***"Such is the destiny of all who forget God; so, perishes the hope of the godless. What he trusts in is fragile; what he relies on is a spider's web."***— Job 8:13-14 It is a dreadful thing to have life and hope cut off together. The Word of God declares: **"When a wicked man dies, his hope perishes."** — Proverbs 11:7 But the contrast is clear: ***"The desire of the righteous ends only in good, but the hope of the wicked only in wrath."***— Proverbs 11:23

The death of the believer is not the end of hope; it is the fulfillment of hope. But for those who reject Christ, death reveals that every earthly hope they trusted in was temporary and unable to deliver them.