

GIVING

06.07.26

General Offering	\$11,542.41
Building Fund	\$6,682.35
Uganda	\$140.00
Benevolence	\$10.00
Total	\$18,374.76
Attendance	221



Welcome to Grace Harvest Bible Church

06.14.26

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“No one is fit to obtain pardon unless he has learned to pardon others.”

— John Calvin

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VISITORS + MEMBERS

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

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES

9:00am

Elders - 2 Samuel
Sanctuary A

Bereans - Luke
Upstairs C

Young Adults - 1 Corinthians
Downstairs B, Gray 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
(resumes July 13th)

Men's Book Study
Mondays 7pm | Fridays 6am
(resumes September 14th)

Women's Book Study
Mondays 6:30pm

Worship Team Practice
Tuesdays 7:00pm

Awana
Wednesdays 6:30pm
(resumes September 16th)

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

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

Men's Alliance
Wednesdays 7:00pm

Pastor's Pen

Must I Forgive?

"Let all bitterness and anger and wrath and shouting and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Instead, be kind to one another, tender-hearted, graciously forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has graciously forgiven you."

Ephesians 4:31-32

Must I always forgive? Yes! As Christians, we are called to forgive because we have been forgiven so much. Notice Paul's words in Ephesians 4:31–32. He does not merely suggest forgiveness; he commands it. Believers are instructed to put away bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander, and malice as though they were discarding something rotten and harmful. In their place, Paul calls us to be kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving toward one another.

The key truth is that our willingness to forgive is not based on our feelings or on whether the offender deserves forgiveness. Rather, it is rooted in the far greater reality of God's mercy toward us in Christ. Consider your own salvation. When God called you to repentance, you were not deserving of His grace. You stood guilty before Him, yet He did not wait for you to make yourself worthy. Through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, God graciously forgave your sins and reconciled you to Himself. That forgiveness becomes both the standard and the motivation for extending forgiveness to others.

Instead of holding on to bitterness, believers are called to embrace a different way of life. Paul writes, ***"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, graciously forgiving each other"*** (v. 32). Forgiveness is more than an emotion; it is a deliberate act of obedience to Christ. Forgiving someone does not mean pretending the offense never occurred, nor does it necessarily remove the consequences of sin. Rather, forgiveness means releasing the offender from a personal debt and refusing to seek revenge.

The foundation for our forgiveness is found in the final phrase of the verse: ***"just as God in Christ also has graciously forgiven you."*** Every believer has received immeasurable mercy through Christ. God did not forgive us because we deserved it; He forgave us because of His grace. When we remember the depth of His forgiveness toward us, we find both the motivation and the strength to forgive others.

So, must we forgive? According to Scripture, the answer is yes. Not because the offense was insignificant, and not because forgiveness is easy, but because Christ has forgiven us. As we extend that same grace to others, we display the power of the gospel and reflect the mercy that God has shown to us.

Your shepherd, Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Forgiveness Made Easy
Charles Spurgeon

"Forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you."

Ephesians 4:32

The heathen moralists, when they wished to teach virtue, could not point to the example of their gods, for, according to their mythologists, the gods were a compound of every imaginable, and, I had almost said, unimaginable vice. Many of the classic deities surpassed the worst of men in their crimes: they were as much greater in iniquity as they were supposed to be superior in power. It is an ill day for a people when their gods are worse than themselves. The blessed purity of our holy faith is conspicuous, not only in its precepts, but in the character of the God whom it reveals. There is no excellency which we can propose, but we can see it brightly shining in the Lord our God: there is no line of conduct in which a believer should excel, but we can point to Christ Jesus our Lord and Master as the pattern of it. In the highest places of the Christian faith you have the highest virtue, and unto God our Father and the Lord Jesus be the highest praise.

We can urge you to the tenderest spirit of forgiveness by pointing to God who for Christ's sake has forgiven you. What nobler motive can you require for forgiving one another? With such high examples, brethren, what manner of people ought we to be? We have sometimes heard of men who were better than their religion, but that is quite impossible with us: we can never, in spirit or in act, rise to the sublime elevation of our divine religion. We should constantly be rising above ourselves, and above the most gracious of our fellow Christians, and yet above us we shall still behold our God and Savior. We may go from strength to strength in thoughts of goodness and duties of piety, but Jesus is higher still, and evermore we must be looking up to him as we climb the sacred hill of grace.

Full sermon:

https://gracegems.org/Spurgeon/forgiveness_made_easy.htm