

# GIVING

05.31.26

General Offering	\$9,131.22
Building Fund	\$26,464.32
Uganda	\$190.00
Benevolence	\$60.00
Total	\$35,845.54
Attendance	266



# Welcome to Grace Harvest Bible Church

06.07.26

“

“God’s blessings are not given to make us comfortable, but to make us useful.”

-Alistair Begg

”



## 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

When Favor Stirs Resentment

**Now Israel lived in the land of Egypt, in Goshen, and they took possession of property in it and were fruitful and became very numerous.**

Genesis 47:27

Genesis 47:27 illustrates how God's favor on His people can subtly provoke resentment in others. As Egypt suffered losses of land, livestock, and freedom during the famine, Israel was experiencing increased stability, property, and growth. What appeared as mercy to one group felt like injustice to another. When people compare their losses to others blessings, resentment often follows.

This difference was unmistakable. Picture the underlying tension brewing beneath the surface. Egyptian families saw their security fade year after year, while the Israelites maintained their land, freedom, and future. What seemed like favor for Israel could easily be perceived as injustice by Egypt. Resentment tends to deepen when comparison replaces trust in God.

The Egyptians had to give up everything to survive, but the Israelites did not because God was faithful to His covenant promises. Long before the famine, God had assured Abraham that his descendants would grow into a great nation. Even in a foreign land and amidst a crisis, God was quietly fulfilling His promise. The blessing on Israel was not by chance; it was based on covenant. It was not earned but granted by grace.

The harsh reality is that when God blesses His people, those who are suffering might not rejoice; instead, they may become bitter. This often fuels envy. For example, the Egyptians might have thought, "Why them and not us?" History indicates that such unspoken envy can turn into outright hostility, leading to oppression and slavery in future generations. What starts as quiet jealousy can escalate into open resentment.

This passage reminds us that God's blessings on His people don't always simplify life—in fact, they can make our testimony more challenging. Prosperity might draw admiration, but it can also lead to accusations. Favor may result in gratitude but also grief from those who feel ignored. However, Israel's expansion in Goshen teaches us a profound truth: God's promises remain intact despite circumstances, and His plans are not dependent on others' approval.

For believers today, this is both a comfort and a caution. It is a comfort because no famine, no economy, no cultural pressure can stop what God has ordained for His people. But it is a caution because we must walk humbly when God prospers us. We dare not boast in what only grace has produced. Instead, we live with gratitude, compassion, and quiet faithfulness—knowing that blessing is meant to point others to God, not to ourselves.

Your shepherd, Pastor Mark

# Grace Gems

Unknown Mercies  
Charles Spurgeon

**The Lord will keep you from all harm--He will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going, both now and forevermore!**

Psalm 127:7-8

When I look back over the path the Lord has led me, I can trace certain mercies clearly: answered prayers, near-escapes, unexpected provisions. Yet I often wonder how many more mercies lie hidden in the folds of His providence—unseen, but no less real. How many times has His hand turned aside the danger I never sensed, hushed the accusation I never heard, or stilled the storm I never saw gathering? The psalmist calls Him "my strength and my shield" (Psalm 28:7.) Strength is felt within; the shield guards externally. I feel His strength in the hour of trial, but His shielding is mostly secret. Every peaceful night's rest, every uneventful journey, every quiet day untouched by calamity—is the fruit of His invisible mercies.

The Lord protects His redeemed people from unknown adversaries: from the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; from all the arrows that fly by day, and from all the terrors that haunt us by night. Knowing as we do that our adversary, the devil, walks about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour; our security from his hostile attacks is this—the Lord is our shield. Though earth and Hell should combine their malice—they are safe, whom God protects.

If I could read the full record of His care, I would find that many a sorrow never came, because He forbade it; and many a snare never closed, because He broke it first. Someday in glory, when the curtain of time is drawn aside, I shall behold the multitude of dangers from which He rescued me—and my praise will swell for mercies once unknown.

Until that day, I would walk quietly under His watchful eye, thankful not only for what I remember, but for what I never knew. The same hand that fashioned the stars, guards my steps upon the earth. The same Shepherd who laid down His life for the sheep, now guides and keeps them in paths of peace.