

Pastor's Pen

The Church!

Greet also the Church in their house. Romans 16:5

When you hear the word Church, what comes to mind? A building, religion, denomination, God, or a meeting place for Christians? What about our Church's name, Grace Harvest Baptist Church? What do you believe is the most significant word in our name. When I was praying about a name for the church plant that God called me to start, I felt at complete peace, knowing that Grace would be in the name. It is by God's Grace that every believer can call Jesus Christ Lord and Savior. We settled on Harvest because I had a deep desire to see the lost come to Christ, and I knew that God would use us to bring in some of the Harvest. The word Baptist was added so that people would know what we believed. While all three words in our name are essential, they are not the most important. What makes us unique is the word Church.

The word "church" is a translation of the Greek word ekklesia, which is defined as "an assembly" or "called-out ones." The root meaning of Church is not that of a building, but people. Grace Harvest Baptist Church is an assembly of people called by God. As a member of GHBC, you have been called by God to be apart of this particular assembly of "called-out ones." You and I and every member of Grace Harvest are the Church. It is not a building or any specific place, but we are the Church where we gather as a people. We have seen God do mighty works here at GHBC, and none of it is because of the Pastors, Elders, Deacons, or the people. It is not because of any particular program or ministry. It is all the work and sovereign will of God. John MacArthur says the following about the Church:

This Church has never been led by men, though it has been served by men. It has never been led by pastors, it has been served by pastors. It has always been led by God through the Lordship of Jesus Christ, mediated by the agency of the Holy Spirit through those who serve, both men and women. It is not our Church. It is not my Church. It is not the pastor's Church. It is not the elder's Church. I have to tell you, it's not even your Church. It's Christ's Church. He ordained it; He builds it; He leads it. We are simply called into it, and He is the caller.

Christian, we are the called ones that God has put together to be Grace Harvest Baptist Church. We are one body. Paul puts it this way: "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the Grace given to us, let us use them:" (Romans 12:4-6). There are a least five purposes for the Church, worship, discipleship, fellowship, service, and evangelism. Over the next five weeks, I will focus on each one of these purposes.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Quote of the Week

"Seeing that a pilot steers the ship in which we sail, who will never allow us to perish even in the midst of shipwrecks, there is no reason why our minds should be overwhelmed with fear and overcome with weariness."

-John Calvin

Grace Gems

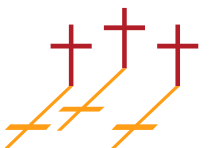
Fear living! (Charles Spurgeon)

"I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far!" Philippians 1:23

Never fear dying, beloved. Dying is the last, but the least matter that a Christian has to be anxious about. Fear living — that is . . . a hard battle to fight, a stern discipline to endure, a rough voyage to undergo. There is an essential difference between the decease of the godly — and the death of the ungodly. Death comes to the ungodly as a penal infliction — but to the righteous, as a summons to his Father's palace! To the lost sinner, it is an eternal execution — to the saint, death is an undressing from all his sins, sorrows and infirmities. Death to the wicked, is the king of terrors! Death to the saint, is the end of terrors and the commencement of glory! "Let them fear death — who do not fear sin!" Thomas Watson

Fear of God—or man?
(John Flavel)

The ungodly person fears man—not God. "An oracle is within my heart concerning the sinfulness of the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes." Psalm 36:1
The strong Christian fears God—not man. "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil." Job 2:3
The weak Christian fears man too much—and God too little."Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man." Ecclesiastes 12:13



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

New Testament
Sunday School
Sunday Morning @ 9-9:45 & 10-10:45



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Zoom Bible Study



Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM
Teaching Series (Online Only)



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.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study
AWANA @6:30PM-8PM



Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 01/03/2020

General Offering	27,760.06
Building Fund	4,213.00
Lottie Moon	500.00
Total	\$32,473.06

Attendance.....148
Online.....27

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
Security-security@ghbcva.org



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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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