

# Pastor's Pen

Father's Day

**Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:13**

Today we celebrate Father's Day. I have never viewed Father's Day as anything special. Even as a child, Mother's Day also meant more to me than Father's Day. It is not that I did not love my Dad, but he never wanted or expected any special recognition from his children. I never had to worry that he would be upset if I did not give him a card or gift (probably happy he didn't get another tie he would never wear). My father was a good man who provided for his family. He taught me how to be a man and how to treat everyone with respect.

However, there is one area that my dad failed me; he never taught me about what truly matters in this life. He never taught me to love Jesus. He was a good man, good father, and good dad but was an enemy of God. As I write this, I grieve for my father's soul, knowing that he rejected the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the last conversation I had with him.

Men, what say you this morning? How would your children describe you? Would they say that you are a good dad? Would they talk about all the things that you do for them? Would they talk about all the things you have in common, sports, hunting, fishing, etc.? Would they tell the world that their father is above everything else a believer in Jesus Christ?

It is your responsibility, men, to be your homes' spiritual leaders and guard your family against spiritual deception. You are the one to be on guard against the evil influences of the world that will try to harm your family. A godly father will stand firm in his faith in Jesus no matter what anybody else does. He will be courageous in the face of the enemy, Satan.

In these dark spiritual days, we need men to be godly husbands and fathers. So on this Father's Day, I pray that each of us would, "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong."

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

## Quote of the Week

"When God wants to judge a nation,  
He gives them wicked rulers."  
- John Calvin

# Grace Gems

O suffering saint! (John MacDuff, "The Promised Land" 1859)

**"And the days of your mourning shall be ended!"  
Isaiah 60:20**

The present world is a valley of tears — a wilderness of woe. While passing through it, we are exposed to sorrows and sufferings of various kinds. Pain and disease beset us on every side; and many, in the extremity of their anguish, wish for death rather than life.

Here we are subject to innumerable troubles; our fondest hopes may be blasted, and we may be called to survey the wreck of all that we once possessed.

Here the dearest friends are snatched from each other's embrace! The ruthless spoiler respects neither rank nor age — he tears asunder the very heart-strings of our nature, and seems to delight in trampling upon the tenderest sympathies of the soul. The parent is called to weep over the remains of a much-loved child; the husband has to mourn the loss of the partner of his life; the lover and friend are cut off by a stroke — and the desire of our eyes is taken away.

From a thousand sources, do our present distresses spring; and the streams of sorrow, in all their sad variety, follow us, more or less, through the whole course of our earthly pilgrimage. But in Heaven, all our troubles will be over! No sorrow will be there. no temptations there;

no fightings without — or fears within;

no hardness of heart — or stings of conscience;

no obscuring clouds, or contrary winds, or tossing waves, there.

No, nothing to grieve, nothing to cause a single sigh to rise from the bosom, or a single tear to fall from the eye — will be there. But joy and peace will be there; and cheerful hearts and beaming countenances will be there; and the conqueror's song, and waving palms, and harps of gold, and robes of spotless white, will be there.

O suffering saint! Think much of what is there — it will help you to bear up and to press on under your load of sorrow here. It is only for a little while, that you will have to traverse this howling desert; and then, having passed the narrow stream of death — you shall know Heaven by happy experience! "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined — what God has prepared for those who love Him!"



# Weekly Gatherings



## Bible Classes

New Testament  
Sunday School  
Sunday Morning @ 9AM



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Bible Study



## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM @ Royall's  
Every other Thursday @ 7PM  
@ Patrick's & Cox's



## 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



## Service Times

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

Giving from service on 06/13/2021

General Offering .....	8,193.53
Building Fund .....	179.60
Uganda .....	100.00
Total .....	\$8,473.13

Attendance .....	179
Sunday School .....	122
Online .....	19

## 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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