

# Pastor's Pen

"But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman," Galatians 4:4

As we gather today and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, let us also, as we do every Sunday, celebrate the His resurrection. It is fitting that on this special day, we will gather around the Lord's table, break bread, and drink the fruit of the vine as we remember that Jesus was born to die on the cross to redeem His elect.

As we gather today with those we love let us never forget what we are celebrating. John MacArthur writes,

"If we could condense all the truths of Christmas into only three words, these would be the words: "God with us." We tend to focus our attention at Christmas on the infancy of Christ. The greater truth of the holiday is His deity. More astonishing than a baby in the manger is the truth that this promised baby is the omnipotent Creator of the heavens and the earth!"

Within in the lyrics of Mary Did You Know is the following:

Mary did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?

Mary did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand? Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? And when you kiss your little baby, you have kissed the face of God.

Mary held the creator of heaven and earth in her arms and kissed the face of God. She held in her arms the Lamb that would take away the sins of the world. Let us never trivialize Christmas as a mere holiday but let rejoice that on that Christmas morning so many years ago our Savior was born, *"so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons (Gal. 4:5)."*

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

## Quote of the Week

"The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God."

- C.S. Lewis

# Grace Gems

## A SAVIOUR WHO MADE US RICH

In January of 1956, Jim Elliot and four other missionaries gave their lives in Ecuador in their effort to reach the Waodani (Auca) Indians. This fierce group was known to attack any outsiders, but the vision for reaching them with the gospel compelled these young men to take the risk. Not long after they set up camp near the Waodani village they were attacked by warriors. Refusing to defend their lives with force, the missionaries were killed. The news flashed around the world, and the story of courage and sacrifice challenged many to take up the missionary cause. Even today Elliot's words live on: "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

In a very real sense, Jim Elliot and his missionary friends were living the spirit of Christmas. They were willing to give up the comforts of home and promising careers and to ultimately lay down their lives to take the gospel to those who had never heard. They could have fought back to defend themselves, but they chose not to.

This is what Jesus did for us in coming to Earth. Paul wrote, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9).

Nothing of lasting significance and importance for God is ever accomplished without great sacrifice. Whether it is our time, our talent, our treasure, or even our lives, we must be willing to give up what is temporary for the sake of what is eternal. When we do, we are following the example and pattern of Christ and walking in His steps.

Source: Jim Elliot, Kathleen White



# Weekly Gatherings

## Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes  
Ladies Class  
Young Adults    Young Parents  
Youth            Surge  
Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Bible Study  
1st and 3rd Saturday  
Women of Grace | 9AM



## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM  
every other week @ Chambers, Cox's,  
Patrick's, Brown's and Royall'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 and AWANA!



## Service Times

Sunday Services 8AM & 11:00AM  
Sunday School 9:30AM  
Children's Church @11:00AM



Giving from service on 12/18/2022

General Offering .....	12,563.03
Building Fund .....	12,204.00
Uganda .....	1,945.00
Benevolence .....	150.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>26,862.03</b>
Attendance .....	232
Sunday School .....	167
Online.....	24

**\*\*SOS Matching Grant so far 2022....\$5,505.00**

**\*\*SOS Matching Grant 2021....\$14,500.00**

## 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



Grace Harvest  
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# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Dec 25, 2022

Welcome