

# Pastor's Pen

Deacons

***For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.*** 1 Timothy 3:13

Today we are ordaining three New Deacons to serve the body of Christ at GHBC. These three men, Michael Dance, Rich Hamilton, and Javier Owens, have been examined by the Elders and are men who meet deacon's qualifications. Today these men will be set aside to serve this body and to assist the Elders.

The first mention of men serving as deacons is in Acts 6. The Church in Jerusalem was experiencing a serious issue that needed to be addressed. There was a complaint by the Hellenists that, "arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution" ( Acts 6:1-2). So, the 12 were called upon to settle the dispute. Their response was to appoint 7 men "of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty" ( Acts 6:3).

However, their duties were not limited to just caring for the widows. Scripture makes it clear that they were serving so that the Elders of the local church could focus on prayer and preaching. This in no way diminishes what the deacons do but reinforces God's different roles in His church.

We are blessed to have nine men that faithfully serve this body in their role as a deacon, and after today we will have twelve. Your deacons are Tim Bailey, Alan Chambers, Austin Cox, Michael Dance, Rich Hamilton, Ian Hix, Javier Owens, Bill Malaney, Greg Poindexter, Paul Rutherford, Brandon Tibbetts, and Zach Turner. Please pray for them and their wives as they faithfully serve at GHBC.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

# Grace Gems

An infallible test! -Samuel Davies

**"If anyone does not love the Lord—a curse be on him!"**  
1 Corinthians 16:22

If you truly love the Lord Jesus Christ—then you earnestly study and endeavor to please Him by a life of universal obedience. Love is always desirous to please the person beloved; and it will naturally lead to a conduct that is pleasing. This, then, you may be sure of, that if you truly love Jesus—then it is the labor of your life to please Him.

The only way to please Jesus, and the best test of your love to Him—is obedience to His commandments. This is made the decisive mark by Christ Himself: "If anyone loves Me—he will obey My teaching. He who does not love Me—will not obey My teaching." John 14:23, 24

Jesus repeats this theme over and over in different forms: "Whoever has My commands and obeys them—he is the one who loves Me," verse 21. "If you love Me—you will obey what I command," verse 15. "You are My friends—if you do what I command." John 15:14. "This is love for God," says John; that is, it is the surest evidence, and the natural, inseparable effect of our love to God, "that we obey His commands. And His commands are not burdensome." 1 John 5:3; that is, they will not seem grievous to one who obeys them from the principle of sincere love.

Here, then, you who profess to love the Lord Jesus—here is an infallible test for your love! Do you make it the great aim of your life to keep His commandments? Do you honestly endeavor to perform every duty which He has required—and that because He has commanded it? And do you vigorously resist and struggle against every sin, however constitutional, however fashionable, however gainful—because He forbids it? And is the way of obedience pleasant to you? Would you choose this holy way to Heaven, rather than any other—if it were left to your choice?

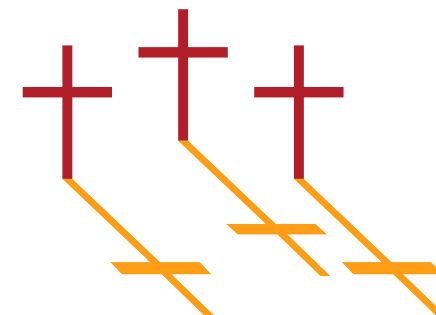
Your not loving God—if it continues, will certainly lead you to Hell. You are fit for no other place! Where should the enemies of God be—but in an infernal prison? There is the same propriety in throwing you into Hell—as in shutting up madmen in bedlam, or rebels in a dungeon! Why, you are devilized already! You have the very temperament of devils! Enmity to God is the grand constituent of a devil—it is the worst ingredient in that infernal disposition; and this you have in your hearts, and, as it were, incorporated with your habitual temperament! And what do you think will become of you? Judge for yourselves—must you not be doomed to that everlasting fire, which was prepared for the devil and his angels—whom you resemble?

**"If anyone does not love the Lord—a curse be on him!"**  
1 Corinthians 16:22

## Quote of the Week

"I am not asking whether you know things about Him but do you know God, are you enjoying God, is God the center of your life, the soul of your being, the source of your greatest joy?

He is meant to be".  
-Martyn Lloyd-Jones



# 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 01/22/2023

General Offering .....	7,533.40
Building Fund .....	733.35
Uganda .....	325.00
Uganda Mission Trip .....	1,000.00
Total .....	9,591.75
Attendance .....	247
Online .....	28

## 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 Baptist Church

Jan 29, 2023

Welcome



Grace Harvest Baptist Church  
go • gather • grow • go



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