

# Pastor's Pen

## Marks of a Disciple!

Love For God  
Love For His People  
Obedience  
Forgiveness  
Serving  
**Prayer**

The sixth mark of a disciple of Christ is prayer. It is essential that a follower of Christ, one of His disciples, is a person of prayer. Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica, **"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"** ( 1 Thess.5:16-18)." This is an imperative to pray. As a disciple, it is not an option. Many Christians do not have victory because they lack a prayer life.

James Hamilton lamented that Christians do not understand our privilege to pray. "Few expressions in theology are older than that which speaks of the "privilege of prayer;" but nothing could be a greater novelty in the history of some who now hear me, than to find prayer an actual privilege." It is indeed a privilege but also a command.

When a follower of Christ realizes that God the Father hears our prayers, it brings peace and joy into their lives. Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, became a man and lived a sinless life. He went to the cross willingly and became the Lamb who took away the sins of the world. He suffered, died, was buried, and rose from the dead on the third day. He now sits at the Father's right hand and intercedes on behalf of the elect.

When Christ died on the cross, the veil in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. There is no longer a need for a high priest to intercede on the believer's half. MacArthur writes, "By rending the Temple veil, God was saying, in effect, "In the death of My Son, Jesus Christ, there is total access into My holy presence. He has paid the full price of sin for everyone who trusts in Him, and I now throw open My holy presence to all who will come in His name." We come to God before His throne when we pray. A disciple of Jesus Christ will be a person of prayer.

Your shepherd,  
Pastor Mark

# Grace Gems

Our own health, wealth, and gratification  
- James Smith, "Gleams of Grace" 1860

By nature, every man is nothing but a mass of selfishness, seeking self-gratification in a variety of ways!

The less we indulge SELF, the better. Selfishness is . . .  
the bane of our happiness,  
a bar to our usefulness, and  
renders us unlovely to both God and others.

One of the most beautiful traits in the character of our Lord and Savior, was His unselfishness. He never seemed to please Himself, or consult His own ease. He was everyone's servant, and everyone's friend. Through His whole life, His own testimony was illustrated, **"The Son of Man did not come to be served — but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."** Matthew 20:28

We are naturally selfish, and seek our own health, wealth, and gratification, as our grand end. Selfishness clings to us, and appears more or less in our whole conduct.

But the gospel calls for self-denial, and bids us take up our cross, and follow our self-denying Master. The gospel requires dedication to God, that we may live to Him and for Him; and it directs us to seek the good of others — of all that are around us. What the gospel requires — true grace produces; and it will struggle and fight with all our selfish principles until it prevails.

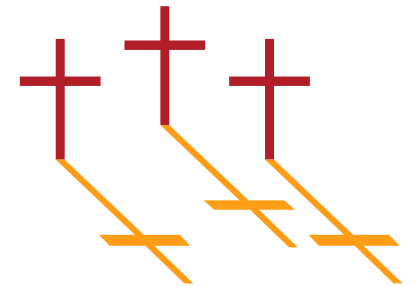
We have lived long enough for ourselves! Would not we be more happy, and profitable to others — if we were less selfish, and more thoroughly imbued with the self-denying spirit of Christ?

Do we not live too much to ourselves? Do we not think too much of our own comfort, and pleasure, and ease?

**"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus."** Philippians 2:3-5

## Quote of the Week

"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."  
—Martin Luther



# Weekly Gatherings

## Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes

Ladies Class

Young Adults Young Parents

Giving from service on 06/30/2024

Youth Surge

Sunday Morning @ 9:00AM

General Offering .....6,764.40

Building Fund .....2,182.50

Wanda Missions .....277.50

Benevolence .....100.00

Mondays | 7PM Men's Bible Study

1st and 3rd Saturday .....\$9,324.40

Women of Grace | 9AM

Attendance .....197

Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA

## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM

Please check church website

for start date and directions to each

## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and need to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address on the back of this bulletin.

## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM

Youth Study; AWANA & Surge!

## Service Times

Sunday Services 10:30AM

Sunday School 9:00AM

Children's Church @11:00AM

## 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 BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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# Grace Harvest Bible Church

July 07, 2024

Welcome