

Pastor's Pen

"If...?"

"And the tempter came and said to Him, 'If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.'" – Matthew 4:3

We live in a time when the truth is questioned. According to a poll conducted in 2022 by Summit Ministries, most young adults do not believe in absolute truth: Only 42% of American voters aged 18-29 believe in absolute truth, while 55% believe truth is determined individually. In another poll conducted by the Cultural Research Center, 58% say you get to decide what's right and wrong for yourself. However, it's not just those outside the church who think this way—it's prevalent even among those who attend evangelical churches, with 46% rejecting the idea of absolute moral truth.

In Matthew 4, we read about the temptation of Jesus by Satan. The first word out of his mouth is to question God's truth. Back in Matthew 3, when Jesus was being baptized by John the Baptist, God said, **"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased"** (Mat. 3:17). Just like in the Garden of Eden, Satan was denying Biblical truth.

When Jesus was before Pilate, this exchange is recorded in John's Gospel: **"Therefore Pilate said to Him, 'So You are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You yourself said I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.' Pilate said to Him, 'What is truth?'"** (Jn. 18:37-38)

Satan and the world would have everyone believe there is no absolute truth. That truth is subjective. The world cries, "Who are you to tell someone born a man that they can not identify as a woman?" The only absolute truth comes from God, and how do we know that truth? To know God's truth, you must know His Son as Lord and Savior of your life. Jesus declared, **"If you abide in My word, then you are truly My disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."** (Jn.8:31-32)

Christian, do not be discouraged, the world will continue to deny God's truth until there is the new Heaven and the new Earth. Until that day, live God's truth every day.

"For we can do nothing against the truth, but only for the truth." (2 Cor. 13:8)

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

The All-Sufficient Word of God- By Spurgeon

2 Timothy 3:16-17, **"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."**

In a world filled with conflicting voices, shifting opinions, and temporary comforts--where can we find unwavering truth? The answer is found in the Word of God. Scripture is not just a collection of religious writings--it is the very breath of God, wholly sufficient for guiding us in every aspect of life.

God's Word is the source of all true wisdom. The wisdom of the world is fleeting and often misguided, but the wisdom of God is eternal. Proverbs 2:6 declares, **"For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding."** When we seek direction in decision-making, relationships, or trials--we must look first to the Scriptures, for in them, God has given us everything we need for life and godliness. 2 Peter 1:3.

God's Word is the source of all true comfort. When our hearts are troubled, where do we turn? Many look for relief in entertainment, relationships, or distractions--yet true and lasting comfort is found only in the promises of God. Psalm 119:50 says, **"My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life."** The Word assures us of . . . God's unchanging love, His sovereign control over our circumstances, and His faithfulness to sustain us through every trial.

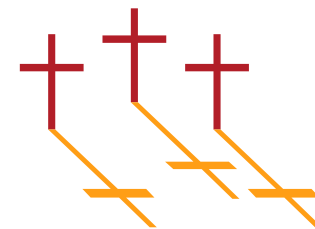
God's Word is the source of ultimate truth. In an age where truth is often subjective, the Bible stands as the unchanging, absolute truth of God. Jesus declared, **"Sanctify them by the truth; Your Word is truth."** John 17:17. The Word of God . . . exposes sin, reveals Christ, and teaches us how to live a holy life. If we neglect it, we risk being led astray by the deception of the world. We must apply God's Word to every aspect of life. James exhorts us to **"not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says!"** James 1:22. The Bible is not just for Sunday mornings or theological discussions--it is meant to shape our every decision, thought, and action. Whether in our work, relationships, or trials, we must ask: What does God's Word say about this? Then, we must humbly submit to its authority, trusting that His ways are higher than ours. Isaiah 55:9

"Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us Your perfect and sufficient Word. Help us to treasure it above all else . . . seeking its wisdom, finding our comfort in its promises, and standing firm in its truth. Give us the grace to apply it to every part of our lives so that we may glorify You in all we do."

Quote of the Week

"I am never ashamed to avow myself a Calvinist; I do not hesitate to take the name of Baptist; but if I am asked what is my creed, I reply, 'It is Jesus Christ'."

- Charles Spurgeon



Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:00AM

Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Book Study
Fridays | 6AM Men's Book Study
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA

Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
Please see website for locations

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 School 9:00AM
Children's Church 10:30AM
Sunday Services 10:30AM

Giving from service on 05/11/2025

General Offering	\$9,801.08
Building Fund	\$2,435.00
Uganda	\$190.00
Benevolence	\$145.00
HH	\$220.00
Youth Camp	\$250.00
Total	\$13,041.08
Attendance	231

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

May 18, 2025

Welcome