



## What is a Home Community (HC)?

The focus of HCs is to develop a *family of servant missionaries that multiply*. But how can we do this like Jesus did with His disciples?

## Gospel Centered Church:<sup>1</sup> GOD moves into the neighborhood through you –

The Scriptures we look at each week have the goal to empower groups to become families serving each other and together as missionaries (in your neighborhoods and networks) to share the Gospel.

### Week 11: People not Programs (Read all of Romans 12)

1. In v. 2, Paul speaks of “transformed by renewal of your mind” & in vv. 4-5 Paul speaks of individual members interdependent as one body – how can we help each other “renew our minds” interdependent with one another in our Home Community?
2. In vv. 9-21, Paul speaks of love applied inside and outside the church – describe a time you were faced with a situation in which you were challenged to live out these principles. (Describe a success or failure)
3. In vv. 6-8, Paul speaks of various spiritual gifts. Which of these gifts do you think each other has and why? (Don’t speak of yourself, but each other.)

#### Children’s Church application questions:

1. What does it mean to be “born again”?
2. In John 3, Nicodemus was confused about what it means to be “born again” – after reading John 3:1-16, how would you explain it to him?
3. John 3:16 tells us, “God so loved the world.” What does the word “world” mean? Does this include all people?
4. So how do *you* get to heaven? Do you want to receive Jesus now?

<sup>1</sup> This sermon series is inspired by *Gospel Centred Church* by Steve Timmis & Tim Chester. The sermons are based on the Pastor’s research; the questions are from the book.

## Gospel Centered Church:

### Topic: People not programs

Teri Elliott-Hart identifies two key elements of a consumer culture:

- 1) It is an impersonal market society.
- 2) Consumerism creates unlimited needs that are insatiable.<sup>2</sup>

**Francis Chan:** “We like to think of ourselves as self-sufficient and independent, able to ‘make it on our own.’ Sadly, many Christians have adopted this individualistic mindset. Nobody is going to tell us how to spend our time or our money or tell us what to think.” – *Multiply*, 296

**Kevin Ford:** “Consumerism is individualism on steroids. It is the logical end product of living for self. Consumerism paves the way for the worship of self, and...leaves us alone with the object of our devotion.” – *Transforming Church*, 59

### *How is discipleship possible with this mindset?*

**David Platt:** “I am part of a system that has created a whole host of means and methods, plans and strategies for doing church that require little if any power from God. And it’s not just pastors who are involved in this charade. I am concerned that all of us—pastors and church members in our culture—have blindly embraced an American dream mentality that emphasizes our abilities and exalts our names in the ways we do church.

“Consider what it takes for successful businessmen or businesswomen, effective entrepreneurs and hardworking associates, shrewd retirees and idealistic students to combine forces with a creative pastor to grow a “successful church” today. Clearly it doesn’t require the power of God to draw a crowd in our culture. A few key elements that we manufacture will suffice.

“First, we need a good performance. ...someone who can captivate the crowds...

“Next, we need a place to hold the crowds that will come, so we gather all our resources to build a multimillion-dollar facility to house the performance...

“Finally, once the crowds get there, we need to have something to keep them coming back. So we...start programs—first-class, top-of-the-line programs—for kids, for youth, for families, for every age and stage.” – *Radical*, 48ff.

<sup>2</sup> Teri Elliott-Hart, “Challenges to Discipleship” in *Reaching the New Jerusalem*, 121ff.

## Two ships passing in the night

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BI: At Grace we emphasize the [gospel](#) and [people](#), not programs.

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### Romans 12:1-2 – The [gospel](#) changes people

*Romans 12:1* I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.<sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

- “**spiritual**” = reason, rational, spiritual
  - Reason: [logical or that which fits the circumstances](#).
  - Rational: [appropriate for human beings as rational and spiritual creatures created by God](#).
  - Spiritual: “[inner](#)” or “[real](#).”
- “**worship**” = service “[spiritual worship](#)” = [consecrated devotion to the service of God](#) → [your life is to be 100% devoted to God](#)
- **Conformed [pressed into a mold] vs. transformed [metamorphosis, complete change in your “inward reality”]** (v. 2)

### *Why be renewed in your mind?*

- **To test / discern God’s will = [run through the test of what the Bible says](#) → [make decisions based on biblical principle](#).**

### Romans 12:3-8 – People in [church](#) community

*Romans 12:3* For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.<sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,<sup>5</sup> so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.<sup>6</sup> Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;<sup>7</sup> if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching;<sup>8</sup> the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

- Paul is rebuking [individuals](#) & encouraging interdependence:
  - *One body* (v. 4) = [one church body](#)
  - *Many members* = [individual parts of the body](#)
  - *Members one of another* = [interdependent parts](#)

### Romans 12:9-21 – The [result](#) of people living the gospel in community

*Romans 12:9* Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.<sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.<sup>11</sup> Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.<sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.<sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.<sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.<sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.<sup>17</sup> Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.<sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.<sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”<sup>20</sup> To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.”<sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- As far as it depends on you...



## CONNECT

**Welcome to Grace!** Thanks for joining us today. Feel free to bring your coffee into worship and make yourself comfortable. Take a deep breath, clear your head, and prepare your heart and mind to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Grace Church is committed to living authentically in relationship with God and others. Together we strive to meet the needs here and around the world. To learn more, grab a booklet from the desk in the foyer.

If you would like us to follow up with you, feel free to fill out this form, tear it out and drop it at the Welcome Center or in the offering plate.

\_\_\_\_\_

today's date

\_\_\_\_\_

name

\_\_\_\_\_

I am a guest of

\_\_\_\_\_

address

\_\_\_\_\_

phone

\_\_\_\_\_

phone (cell)

\_\_\_\_\_

email

- How to begin a relationship with Jesus
- Want to know more about Grace
- Interested in joining a Home Community
- Interested in serving at Grace (if so where?) \_\_\_\_\_
- Address/info change
- Add me to the church email list
- Interested in baptism
- Interested in membership

## THIS WEEK AT GRACE

### SUNDAY, MARCH 12 - DAYLIGHT SAVING BEGINS

- 7:00 am Prayer in the Upper Room
- 8:00 am HC Leader's Meeting
- 8:30 am Women's Discipleship Group- *rm 123*
- 10:00 am WORSHIP CELEBRATION - *sanctuary*  
1st-5th will be dismissed to Kid's Church  
*Kid's bulletins available in the foyer*
- 12:00 pm RAT meeting
- 6:30 pm High School HC- Ramsell's

### MONDAY, MARCH 13

*Church Office open 9 am to 4 pm*

### TUESDAY, MARCH 14

*Church Office open 9 am to 4 pm*

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

*Church Office open 9 am to 4 pm*

- 6:30 pm Solving Problems Biblically - *rm 129*
- 6:30 pm Awana Clubs
- 6:30 pm Youth Group - *The Crowded House*

### THURSDAY, MARCH 16

*Church Office open 9 am to 4 pm*

### FRIDAY, MARCH 17

*Church Office closed*

### SATURDAY, MARCH 18

*Church Office closed*

10:00 am GriefShare - *rm 123*

### SUNDAY, MARCH 19

- 7:00 am Prayer in the Upper Room
- 8:30 am Women's Discipleship Group- *rm 123*
- 10:00 am WORSHIP CELEBRATION - *sanctuary*
- 6:30 pm High School HC- Ramsell's

#### BUDGET THRU 03/05/2017

We are -\$ 58,245.48 BELOW  
our anticipated YTD giving.  
BUDGET YTD \$414,730.44  
GIVING YTD \$356,484.90  
We are at 86% of budget

*GRACE CHURCH exists to LOVE God & people,  
PROCLAIM Christ, BUILD community,  
EQUIP the saints, MULTIPLY ministers,  
and missionally SEND out followers of Christ to  
be the Church wherever we are.*

## COMMUNITY DAY,

### SAT. MARCH 25, 9-1

Community Day is an awesome opportunity for individuals, HC groups and families to easily serve the community & steward the facility. Areas include cleaning our Adopt-A-Road, food collection for White Center Food Bank, as well as building and grounds maintenance at Grace before Easter. The day is always a joy as we work together to accomplish much in a short period of time. Equipment you could bring with you: Flat & regular shovels, gloves, weed whackers, 4' to 8' ladders, lawn rakes, wheelbarrows, hedge trimmers, etc. Lunch provided. **SIGN-UP IN THE FOYER!!**

## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

West Seattle church's will meet together for a time of worship and reflection on the most decisive turning point in history; 6:30pm, April 14 this joint Good Friday service will be at Trinity West Seattle, 7551 35th Ave SW. We hope you'll join with our pastors as we gather together with other Christians for this time to focus on the cross.

## DEDICATING YOUR CHILDREN

If you are interested in having your child or baby dedicated here at Grace, Pastor Lucas would LOVE to share with you our heart about why we do this and will work with you on how to schedule this whole family celebration. Feel free to call the church office at (206) 937-8400 or send Pastor Lucas an email at [lucasc@gracechurchseattle.org](mailto:lucasc@gracechurchseattle.org) or talk with him anytime.

## DURING THIS SEASON OF LENT

This August 2-10, a group from Grace will be serving on a short term mission trip to Nicaragua. We will be partnering with several churches there to share the gospel, meet physical needs, do minor construction, work with widows and orphans, and whatever else God may place in front of us. During the season of Lent (which began March 1), we are encouraging our church body to give up something in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice for us, and partner in spreading the love of God to Nicaragua. 10 spots still available. For more info on how to help, or if God is calling you to be a part of the team, contact Pastor Daniel Hill at the church office or [danielh@gracechurchseattle.org](mailto:danielh@gracechurchseattle.org).

## BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP

For anyone who would like to become a member of Grace Church or be baptized, please contact Pastor Ryan Faust or Janis Lemert, Community Life Director at the church office (206) 937-8400.

## ESPRESSO MACHINE

Our Espresso cart is open from 9:15am until the start of the service. And our new to us machine makes great lattes! We proudly use beans from Coffee Oasis. Beans from Coffee Oasis not only provides excellent roasted beans, but also helps support their outreach to at-risk youth. Want to support this GREAT ministry by using their coffee in your own home? Call Dave Frederick at Hope in Christ Ministries (360)377-5560 or visit [thecoffeeoasis.com](http://thecoffeeoasis.com).