



"From the Core to the Crowd" – Joel Comiskey

Building Family in Home Community (HC)

The focus of HCs this fall is developing a *Family of Servant Missionaries*. Through our activities and meetings let us think through: *How can we build a family environment like Jesus did with His disciples?*

Ephesians: to help become a *Family of Servant Missionaries*, we will study Ephesians. The questions will focus on basic Bible study methods: Observation, Interpretation, and Application.

Our goal each week is the Application of God's word in community.

Ephesians 1:1-14

1. **Observation** – what words are repeated?
2. **Interpretation** – what is the importance of the repeated words?
3. **Application** – If Satan's strategy is to get you: (1) to question GOD's character; (2) to talk about GOD instead of to GOD; (3) to isolate yourself from others; (4) to mistrust GOD and people; and (5) to live independently → In what ways have you seen Satan's strategy at work in your life in the past month? And how does this passage help you stand against the devil's scheme?

Children's Church application questions (to be used in children's small groups during HC): 2 Samuel 15:1-12; 17:1-12; 18:1-18

1. What did Absalom do to conspire against his father David so he could be king instead of his father? How did he get the people to like him?
2. Why is a self-centered / selfish attitude wrong?
3. Name a time you were self-centered this past week? How could you have not been selfish in that situation? Think of how you can turn it around to honor people in the future.

GOSPEL awareness

The Strategy of the Spiritual Forces Opposed to GOD:

- A. Question GOD's [character](#)
- B. Talk [about](#) GOD instead of [to](#) GOD
- C. Isolate [you](#)
- D. Create mistrust
- E. Live [independently](#)

[Paul wanted Christians to stand aside from conflict in a hostile society to contemplate God's overall design for the church and the world.](#)

Theme of Ephesians: GOSPEL awareness – background



GOD aware



[Self-aware](#)



GOSPEL aware



[Others](#) aware



Spiritually aware

"He sought to relate his vision to the practical demands of Christian living in a hostile society." – A. Skevington Wood

Ephesians 1:1-14 – the emphasis is [GOD](#) awareness –

Paul's goal in this first chapter? To lead you to praise GOD...

Ephesians 1:1-2

Ephesians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:
² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⊕ In Him / In Christ → intimate union between Christ & His people

⊕ Grace – unmerited favor (synonym of rejoice)

⊕ Peace – spiritual prosperity (shalom, all is well)

⊕ GOD – originator of grace & peace (source of Joy & Shalom)

Paul's goal of Ephesians 1:1-14 is that you praise GOD...

Why? Because you who believe in Christ have been **Elected by the Father, Redeemed by the Son, Sealed by the Spirit (repeat)...**

Ephesians 1:3-6 – Elected by the Father

Eph. 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.



Become GOD aware / Self-aware:

- (1) From eternity to eternity GOD has a perfect plan. **GOD works all things according to His perfect plan. All history, all people, all that exists in heaven and on earth are included in His purpose...**
- (2) GOD's plan is accomplished in Christ.
- (3) **The goal of revealing GOD's purpose is very practical**, GOD's people praising Him for His glorious grace.



Ephesians 1:7-10 – Redeemed by the Son

Eph. 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Become Self-aware / GOSPEL aware:



Firstly, Christians need to realize that their faith rests completely on the work of God and not on the unsteady foundation of anything in themselves. There is no place for human boasting.



Secondly, God has chosen us that we should be holy and blameless before Him. Election is not simply to salvation, but to holiness of life.

Ephesians 1:11-14 – Sealed by the Spirit

Eph. 1:11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

BI: GOD aware, Self-aware, **GOSPEL awareness** makes you secure in Christ.



GOSPEL awareness:

“This *theological* truth—that believers find security in their identity in Christ—is foundational for the book of Ephesians... Standing on this theological truth enabled the Ephesians to stand firm against the schemes of Satan. Likewise, the healthy church must first have a theological foundation based upon knowing God and who they are individually and corporately in Christ.” – Chuck Lawless

SATURDAY, OCT 1st 9-1PM

COMMUNITY DAY



LOVE God & people

PROCLAIM Christ

BUILD community

The focus will be on the stewardship of the facility God has given us, neighborhood clean up and prayer for our community. Anyone can come help! Lunch included.

Sign ups begin Sunday, September 18th in the foyer. Love God, People, and Build Community! You can stay all day or for just an hour or two. Don't miss it!

LOOKING AHEAD

- September 19.....MOPS Kick-off Registration Day 7 Playdate- 9:30am
- September 21.....Membership class begins - 6:30pm
- September 21.....Financial Peace University begins - 6:30pm
- October 1.....Community Day
- October 4.....MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) 9:30am
- October 5.....SHIFT class for parents - 6:30pm

LOVE God & people by praying for: Margie Frye (Corneal Transplant Surgery Recovery), Johana Martinez (physical, emotional and spiritual health & wisdom for the doctors), upcoming Men's Roundup Retreat, Margie Bowman (infection recovery), Debbie Fry (surgery recovery & ongoing appendiceal cancer treatment), Debbie Hinton (seizures), **and the ongoing health needs of:** Bill Hall, and Kim Smith (seizures), and Martha Miller.

Pastor Ryan Faust
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SOFTEN AMARANTHUS

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 Group
- 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, SEPTEMBER 18

- 7:00 am Prayer in the Upper Room
- 8:30 am Fall Kick-Off & Potluck Breakfast- *foyer*
- 10:00 am WORSHIP CELEBRATION - *sanctuary*
1st-5th grade will be dismissed to Children's Church
Kid's bulletins available in the foyer
- 6:30 pm High School Home Community

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- Church Office open 9 am to 4 pm*
- 9:30 am MOPS Registration Playdate - *playground*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Church Office open 9 am to 4 pm

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- Church Office open 9 am to 4 pm*
- 6:30 pm Youth Group - *Crowded House*
- 6:30 pm AWANA
- 6:30 pm Financial Peace University- *srm 120*
- 6:30 pm Membership class - *rm 129*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Church Office open 9 am to 4 pm

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Church Office closed

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- Church Office closed*
- 10:00 am GriefShare - *rm 123*
- 1:00 pm Fran Lowe's 100th Bday - *foyer*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- 10:00 am WORSHIP CELEBRATION - *sanctuary*

BUDGET THRU 9/11/16

We are -\$ 24,373.84 BELOW
our anticipated YTD giving.
BUDGET YTD \$126,723.19
GIVING YTD \$102,349.33
We are at 81% 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.*

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Wednesdays Sept 21 & 28 we will have our next Membership Class. This is a great class to get your questions answered, hear about why we do what we do and you, and this is a requirement for membership, specifically to shepherd, teach, lead, or minister at Grace. We encourage all regular attendees to pursue membership as scripture speaks to Christians "devoting themselves" to a local fellowship. Hope you'll join us.

MOPPETS NEEDED

1st and 3rd Mondays: 9:15a-11:30a

Moppets are volunteers who provide childcare to Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS). Age groups are nursery (0-24 months), 2's & 3's, and 4's & 5's. If interested, call Heather at (206) 853-9389 or heather@impulseaudiovideo.com.

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

You are welcome to join a women's Bible study class beginning next Sunday at 8:30am for the study of Women of the Old Testament. There is no child care. See Barb Stuart for info. (206) 932.7459.

HOME COMMUNITY GROUPS

If you've been searching for a place to connect, join a Home Community group! Groups meet almost each day of the week. Contact the church office or you can find info on Home Community Groups in the Fall Booklet.

FREE BIBLES AVAILABLE

Free used NIV Bibles are available for anyone. Please see Jerry Buell for details.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SHEPHERD THE HEART IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Mentors & Mentor Assistants for small group times on Sundays in elementary church time (once a month OR one month on/2 months off rotation).

OTHER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

- Sunday Nursery Volunteer 1x a month
- Sunday 2's & 3's Lead or Assistants monthly or once a month rotation
- Sunday 4's & 5's Assistants one month or once a month rotation

See Pastor Jerry or Tim McMonigle for questions or to volunteer.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Whether you're struggling to make ends meet or you're a millionaire, FPU has something for you. Classes meet beginning Sept. 21st at 6:30 for nine weeks. **Join us THIS Wednesday!**

COMMUNITY DAY OCT 1

Join us for Community Day, Saturday October 1. come anytime between 9-1p. There is something for everyone to do. Sign up in the foyer today!

ONLINE GIVING

For those giving their tithes and offerings online, we ask you to set up a bank transfer rather than a debit or credit card for your online giving. As we work to be good stewards of the funds you donate, the actual costs to process cards can be anywhere from 2% to over 4% per transaction. With a bank transfer, it is only 1% plus .29 per transaction. Thanks for your consideration in this matter.