

“Be courageously persistent in prayer...” Colossians 4:2



Welcome to the Grace Brethren Church of Norwalk

November 1, 2015
Services Today at Grace —

Deacons & Elders & Wives Prayer: **8:45am**

Sunday School: **9:30am**

Class: 3 - 5 yrs. old (Kinder.)
Teacher: Caroll Ann Perkins

Class: 1st - 3rd grade (KIDMO)
Teacher: Lisa Patton

Class: 4th - 6th grade (5A)
Teacher: Robin Predmore

Class: DRIVEN (Jr. & Sr. High)
Teacher: Timothy Lansing

Class: Adults (6B)
Teacher: Dave Goodwyn

Class: Adults (Conf. Rm.)
Teacher: Ron Muir

Class: Young Adults
Teacher: Vet Gonzalez

Praise & Worship Service: **10:45am**

Children’s Church for 3-5 years old & K-3rd grade after opening

DRIVEN Student Leadership Meeting: **12:30pm**

Those Serving Today at Grace —

Ushers for the month of November:

Robert Kimsey, Victor Pearce, Ron Muir, Steven Yrineo

Nursery – Today 11/1

9:15am Jessica Yrineo
Judy Torres

10:30am Janine Lansing
Roxie Barragan

Nursery – Next Week 11/8

9:15am Patty Morales
Jennifer Gonzalez

10:30am Dee Muir
Susan Klements

Happy Anniversary —

Ruben & Lilia Gonzalez November 4

Happy Birthday —

Benjamin Ramirez November 1
Tom Bickenbach November 7

Events This Week —

Good News Club: New River Tues., 2:30pm
FAMILY NIGHT: ABS, DRIVEN & ROCK Wed., 6:45pm
Good New Club: D.D.Johnston Thurs., 2:45pm
Ladies’ Psalms Study Fri., 10:00am

Events This Month —

---No Wednesday Night Services (Veterans Day) Nov. 11 ---
Women’s District Retreat – Marietta Hot Springs Nov. 13-15
Gospel Bluegrass Concert Sun., Nov. 15, 10:45am
Thanksgiving Luncheon – all invited Sun., Nov. 15, 12:15pm
---No Wednesday Night Services (Holiday) Nov. 25 ---
DRIVEN Service Night Wed., Nov. 25 6:00pm

For The Record —

Attendance Last Week:

Sunday School: 63
Morning Worship: 108

Grace Announcements —

☞ CEF NEED: We would like to collect snacks for the two clubs (50 for DD Johnston & 40 for New River). Please bring boxes of drinks and packages of cookies (must be store-bought snacks) for the clubs. All donations can be left in the church office. Thank you for your generosity.

☞ CHURCH PRAYER LETTER: If you have a request to be added for November, please fill out a tear-off tab and put in the offering. Thank you.

☞ THANK YOU: “I would like to thank my church family and friends for all the prayers that were said for me! I will have treatment on my right breast, but I thank the Lord that the cancer has not spread! God bless you all. In His love, Joyce Morrow (& Ron) – Please keep us in prayer.”



☞ Dear Church Family, Join us for a special Thanksgiving Luncheon on Sunday, November 15th right after the morning service. Won’t you please sign up for an item to bring for that day? The clip board is located in the foyer. Let’s remember to invite family and friends to join us as we celebrate the Lord’s goodness through giving thanks. Also the Gospel Bluegrass singers will be with us that day for a special time of worship. The Fellowship Commission

Wednesday Night Bible Study

“How Should A King Come?”

Isaiah’s Immanuel and the Virgin Birth in Isaiah 7-12

“The LORD Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14) Is the virgin birth really an important doctrine? What does “virgin birth” really mean? Can there be Christmas without a virgin birth of Christ? Join us on Wednesday nights as we study Isaiah 7-12, in preparation for the Christmas season. Isaiah stands at the peak of the Old Testament literary genius of the prophets and looks further into the future than any other OT writer. Isaiah’s unique “Immanuel Prophecy” tells of a great coming child ruler who will be King in Israel. These six chapters of Isaiah are critical to understanding the Virgin Birth of Christ, understanding Christmas, and understanding salvation. Please join us! Who knows, perhaps there’ll also be cookies, caroling, and wassail!

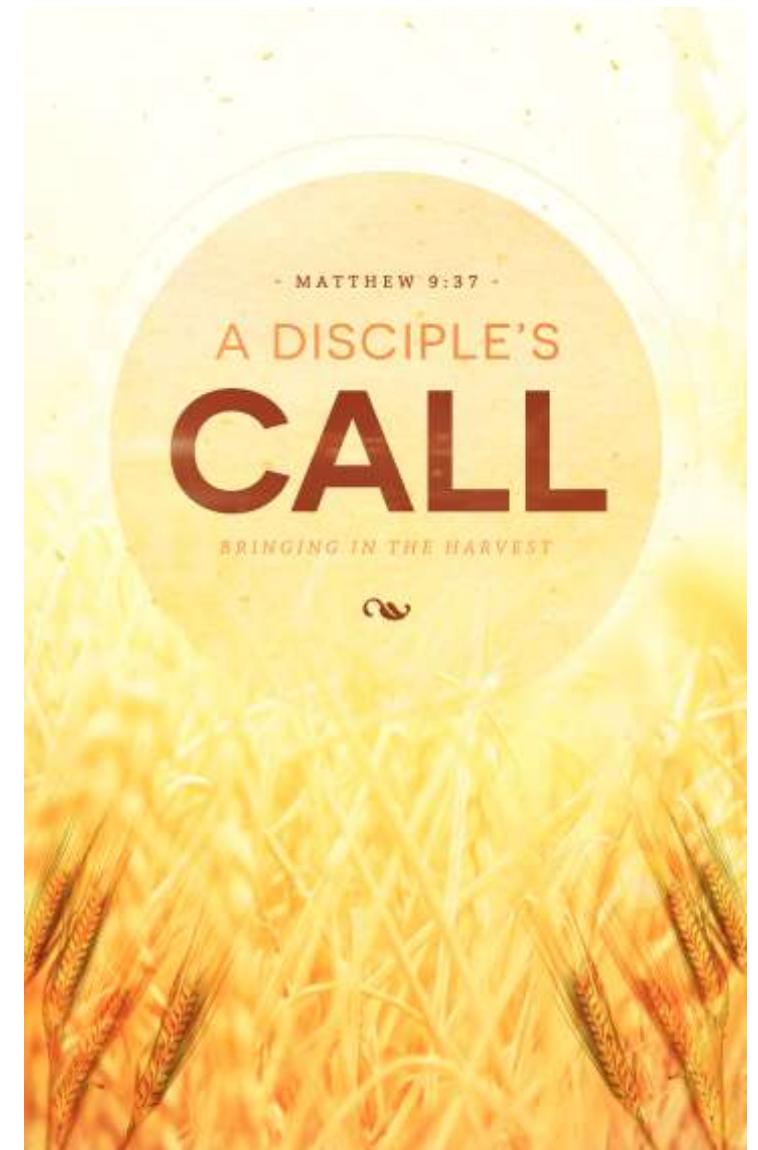


Raising the Roof! Church Roofing Project

Breaking it down! “\$60,000! We can’t do that, it’s way too much!” However, “\$335? Sure I can do that, no problem!” Big things can be accomplished when broken down into smaller pieces. The south wing needs a new roof and the estimated cost is \$60,000. A subcommittee has estimated that it is easier to approach this project by thinking of it in terms of 180 roofing tiles at \$335 per tile. Please prayerfully consider how you can give, not in place of your regular offering, but in addition to it. The church model in the foyer is being filled in with ceiling tiles as gifts are received so that we can follow the progress. You can take any questions, concerns, or suggestions to Dave Goodwyn. **SEE THE PROGRESS; CHECK OUT THE MODEL TODAY IN THE FOYER!**

“I Just Can’t Forgive Myself” A Biblical Alternative to Self-Forgiveness Part 2

Peter declared some amazing, life-changing news to a Roman soldier named Cornelius and to his whole household, in Acts 10:43, “Through the name of Jesus, everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.” And Paul commanded the Colossians, “Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you.” There is a direct relationship between God’s forgiveness and our forgiveness of others that cannot be overlooked (Ephesians 4:32). But there is a popular notion of forgiveness that is not mentioned anywhere in the Bible: self-forgiveness. When someone says, “I can’t forgive myself,” he is experiencing a legitimate painful experience, but that does not necessarily make it a biblically-founded experience. Self-forgiveness is the creation of modern humanistic psychology, not the Bible. What could it be then? In order to help someone who is struggling with “self-forgiveness,” and to offer a more biblical alternative, these six areas should be explored: 1) Perhaps he has failed to see his sin as a direct offense against God, his conscience is noisy because he has underestimated the heinousness of sin; 2) Perhaps he has failed to see the holiness and wrath of God against his sin, he has underestimated God’s hatred of sin and so tries to evaluate and judge his own sin himself; 3) Perhaps he has not grasped the depth of God’s grace in forgiving his sin; 4) Perhaps he has never truly been born again and received God’s forgiveness of his sin; 5) Perhaps he is not responding properly to the obstacles that hinder assurance of his salvation and therefore is doubting God’s forgiveness; and 6) Perhaps he has failed to put an end to some particular, specific sin and replace it with righteous thoughts and actions, and so he continues to be bound by the power of sin, which Christ completely crushed in His death and resurrection. When we struggle with self-forgiveness, it is in actuality an underlying problem of prideful self-righteousness (not low self-esteem, but actually high self-esteem). Let me explain. When I say, “I can’t forgive myself,” I am really saying, “I can’t believe I did that!” This is a form of prideful high self-esteem, to think that I am incapable of such an evil deed (Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23). It is a lack of realistic self-knowledge, which the Scriptures command us to have (Romans 12:3). Our ability to do wicked deeds shouldn’t surprise us, not if we understand the depth of depravity which reigns in the unbeliever and remains in the believer (James 1:13-15). The great Puritan John Owen said, “Any kind of sin carries within itself the seeds of total apostasy.” Practicing self-forgiveness is a dangerous endeavor, for we are trying to do two abominable things: 1) Establish my own standard of righteousness, “I haven’t lived up to my own standards,” or “I haven’t lived up to somebody else’s expectations,” and 2) Ascend to the throne and declare myself to be my own judge, “I am in the role of judge for my own behavior and I will dispense my own forgiveness to myself, I convene the court, render the verdict, and grant the pardon. All of these things belong to God and Christ alone. The Word of God provides the only accurate, hopeful, and helpful solution: rest in and revel in God’s forgiveness in Christ. He wipes away the transgression from our account and never brings them up to hold them against us, He treats us as though we had never committed any offense. We must rejoice in Christ, who paid the penalty of God’s wrath against sin in order for us to bathe in forgiveness! Our sins, failures, and weaknesses should be memorials and remembrances of the deep, deep, love of God in Christ.



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