

2016 Theme Verse: "So let us Know; let us press on to Know the LORD..." Hosea 6:3

Welcome to the Grace Brethren Church of Norwalk

April 10, 2016

Services Today at Grace —

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

Praise & Worship Service: 10:45am

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

Missions Commission Meeting: 12:15pm (6B): There are lots of important events to discuss; please plan to attend today's meeting.

Those Serving Today at Grace —

Ushers for the month of April:

Richard Hurtado-Lead, Eddie Morales, Kyle Predmore, Ron Muir

Nursery – Today 4/10

9:15am Leticia Posada
Clansy Cabrera
10:30am Ruth Hurtado
Lisa Patton

Nursery – Next Week 4/17

9:15am Josie Ramirez
Stephanie Jones
10:30am Sandy Goodwyn
Marie Olmedo

Happy Birthday –

Timothy Ramirez April 15
Pat Ward April 15

Events This Week —

Ladies' Discipleship (Patton home)	Mon., 7:00pm
CEF Bible Club – New River	Tues., 2:30pm
Women of Grace	Tues., 6:00pm
FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT (Keystone Lanes)	Wed., 6:45pm
CEF Bible Club – D.D. Johnston	Thurs., 2:45pm
Ladies' Psalms Study	Fri., 10:00am
Prayer Table	Sat., 8:00am-noon

Events This Month —

Elders' Meeting	Tues., 4/19, 7:00pm
Heights of Grace	Sat., 4/23, 10:30am
1st Qtr. Business Meeting	Sun., 4/24, 12:15pm
Church Work Day	Sat., 4/30, 8:00am
CEF End of the Year Celebration	Sat., 4/30 TBA

For The Record —

Attendance Last Week:

Sunday School: 46, Worship Service: 99

Please remember to pick up the new prayer letter from **Patty Morris, our missionary to France.**

Church Announcements

GRACE BOOK CLUB will meet this Sunday, April 10th, at 9:30am in Pastor's office to begin discussing the book, Depression: Looking Up from the Stubborn Darkness by Edward T. Welch. Feel free to join us and "listen in" even if you are not reading along with us. Pastor Jeff

WOMEN OF GRACE: Our next meeting is this Tuesday at 6pm in room: 6B. All women are invited to attend. **The District WOG planning meeting for April 23rd has been postponed due to a conflict; a later date will be confirmed very soon.**



BOWLING FAMILY NIGHT: Come bowling with us this Wednesday, April 13th. **Meet at 6:45pm at the Keystone Lane, in Norwalk on Imperial Hwy. It will be \$12.00 (not \$14)** [including bowling shoes] per person with 5 lanes available for only 1 hour of play: **7pm sharp to 8pm sharp**; another bowling team starts at 8pm. We are hoping for 25 people to attend, so please don't miss out on this fun-filled evening for the whole family.

A HEART-FELT THANK YOU: *"Thank you, Church family, for your expressions of love to me and my family with cards, flowers, meals and precious prayers. My father's legacy to us is his deep love of God and we have the blessed hope in Christ!" Tracy Lansing and on behalf of all her family, Thank You!*

SAVE THE DATE for VBS 2016: The Ocean Commotion Vacation Bible School starts Sunday, June 26th and every Sunday through July 24th. See Laura Kimsey for volunteer opportunities.

URGENT NEED FOR SERVICE: Children's Ministry is in need of a teacher for Jr. Church and 2-3 helpers for The Rock. Please see Laura if you are interested in serving.

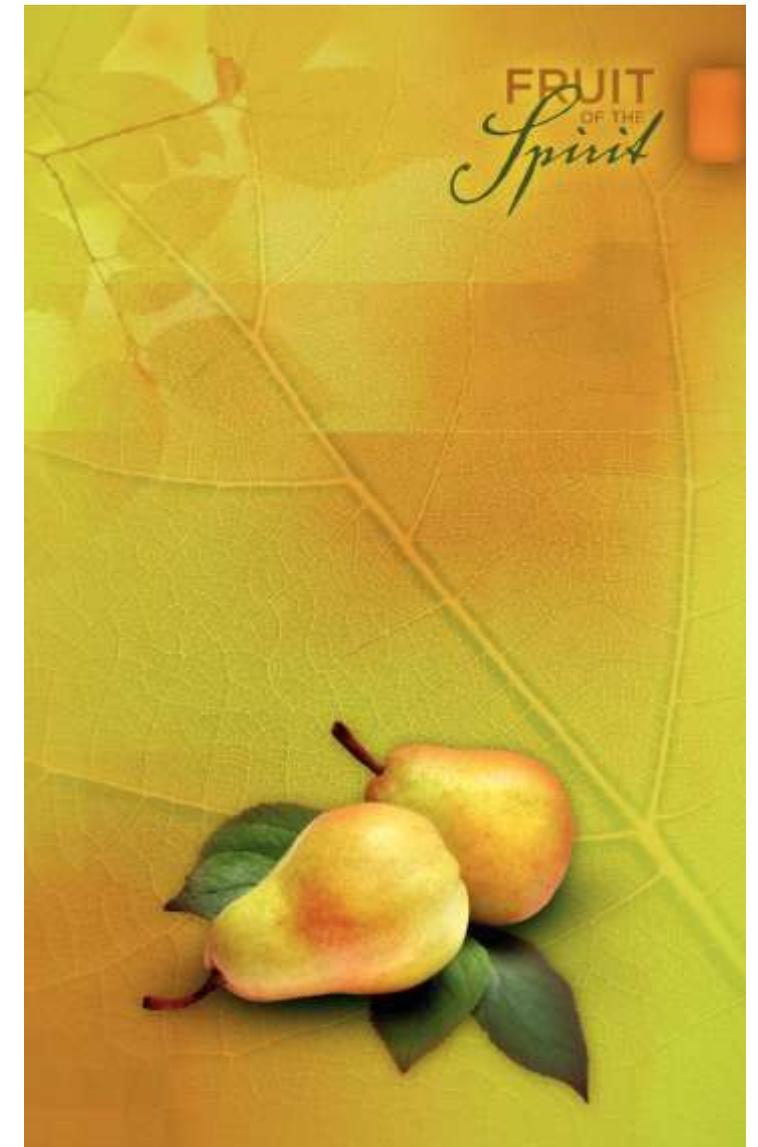
Sermon Notes
April 10, 2016

Note from Pastor:

“Addiction”

New Ways of Seeing and Walking Free, Part 11

“The unfolding of Your words gives life; it gives understanding to the simple.”
(Psalm 119:130) In this series we have highlighted some biblical metaphors for addiction (idolatry, adultery, foolishness, disease/illness, being attacked by wild beasts) to help us understand God’s perspective on the issue. The Bible makes the case that the worldly disease model to describe addiction is inadequate and does not offer true hope (For more on this please request previous installments of this series). Recently we have been emphasizing the need to “declare war” on one’s desires when they start to grow into ungodly proportions (**1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 6:11; 1 Peter 1:13**). When we think of war, we often incorrectly think of a short-lived skirmish that is quickly over. But in reality, a war is a long series of skirmishes, some won and some lost, over a long period of time; sometimes years! A proper understanding of the Holy Spirit helps us to realize that the battle is good. It is a sign that the Spirit is on the move! We have to commit ourselves to “the fight” against our sinful desires and destructive addictions for the entire war, not just for a few short skirmishes and then give up. Engaging in the battle and fighting is a sign that we are spiritually alive in Jesus, and that we are in the midst of progressive sanctification (growing in The Faith). Often times when there is not a quick victory, the addict begins to question whether the Spirit is really powerful enough to conquer his addiction, and the Bible gradually becomes something impractical, unhelpful, separated from his daily life. The real spiritual battle is something like the way the Israelites were delivered from Egypt and taken to the Promised Land. *“I the LORD have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey.”* (Exodus 3:8) This was God’s promise. He said He would bring His people out of slavery and give them their own land in Palestine. Here is a key principle that helps us fight addiction: **The land was theirs, but they still had to fight for it.** Furthermore, not all the battles were successful for them. There were even times when Israel entered into battle without the LORD! (because of their disobedience, and ignorance about how to fight according to God’s plan) We too have been promised something remarkable by God through Christ: a holy, blameless life. Then, we are told to fight for it! Just because we are born again as a gift of God’s grace through Jesus Christ, doesn’t mean we do not have to fight to “put off the old man and put on the new man.” What does Philippians 2:12-13 say? *“It is God who is at work in you to will and to act according to His good purpose. So continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling.”* God is at work in you on both the desire level and the behavior level, and so you too need to get to work! Next time we will learn more about how to get to work.



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