

Pastor's Pen

Marks of a Disciple

1. Love for God
2. Love for the People of God.
3. **Obedience**

The third mark of a disciple of Christ is obedience. We obey His commands if we love God and are indeed His disciples. Jesus said, **"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments"** (Jn.14:15)." Robby Gallaty, in his book *Growing up, Revised and Updated: How to Be a Disciple Who Makes Disciples* writes this about obedience in a Christian's life, "Unfortunately, is not a priority for many professing believers today. Too many Christians have bought into the idea that Christianity is little more than reciting a prayer or making a decision to receive Jesus, in order to secure a position in heaven."

Obedience must be a priority for disciples of Christ because, without it, they prove they do not belong to Him. When Jesus commands us to keep His commands, he is not referring to man-made legalism. Far too many false teachers try to manipulate and control people with rules and regulations. Paul addresses this in his letter to the churches in Galatia. He had planted churches in that region and was writing to correct the error of adding to the Gospel of Christ. Evil men have always tried to corrupt the Gospel by adding works to God's grace.

Obedience of a disciple of Christ is done out of love, not out of fear. When a child loves his father, he obeys because he wants to please him. How much more should a child of God desire to obey the one who saved them?

Again, we go to John's first epistle, where he writes, **"And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, 'I have come to know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;**

but whoever keeps His word, truly in him the Love of God has been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked (1Jn.2:3-6)."

In his commentary on 1 John, John Lange writes, "As having known Him is not without being in Him, obedience of His commandments must stand as the mark of the knowledge of God, while the love of God [i.e., our love to God, M.] must supervene."

A disciple of Christ will obey His commands, not begrudgingly or with remorse, but with joy, knowing they obey the one who died for them.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Why did God create the world?
- Charles Spurgeon

Can your minds fly back to the time when there was no time—to the day when there was no day, but the Ancient of Days?

Can you speed back to that period when God dwelt alone—when this round world and all the things that are upon it, had not come from His hand; when the sun flamed not in his strength, and the stars flashed not in their brightness?

Quote of the Week

"God's people [are] not redeemed by observing the law, but they were redeemed so they might obey the law." - Kevin DeYoung

Can you go back to the period when there were no angels, when cherubim and seraphim had not been born; and, if there be creatures older than they, when none of them had as yet been formed?

Is it possible, I say, for you to fly so far back as to contemplate God alone—no creature, no breath of song, no motion of wing; God Himself alone, without another?

Then, indeed, He had no rival—none then could contest with him, for none existed. All power, and glory, and honor and majesty were gathered up into Himself.

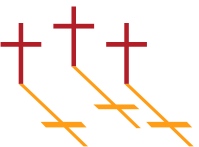
And we have no reason to believe that He was less glorious than He is now, when His servants delight to do His pleasure; nor less great than now, when He has crested worlds on worlds, and thrown them into space, scattering over the sky, stars with both His hands.

He sat on no precarious throne.
He needed none to add to His power.
He needed none to bring Him a revenue of praise.
His all-sufficiency could have no lack.
Consider next, if you can, the eternal purpose of God that He would CREATE:
He determines it in His mind.
Could any but a divine motive actuate the Divine Architect?
What must that motive have been?
He creates that He may display His own perfections.

He does beget, as it were, creatures after His own image that He may live in them; that He may manifest to others the joy, the pleasure, the satisfaction, which He so intensely feels in Himself.

I am certain His own glory must have been the end He had in view! He would reveal His glory to the sons of men, to angels, and to such creatures as He had formed—in order that they might reflect His honor and sing His praise.

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your



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 Bible Study
1st and 3rd Saturday
Women of Grace | 9AM
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA



Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
Please check church website
for start date and directions to each



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 Services 10:30AM
Sunday School 9:00AM
Children's Church @11:00AM



Giving from service on 06/09/2024

General Offering7,343.59
Building Fund 1,792.00
Uganda Missions 168.40

Total.....\$9,303.99
Attendance 213

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

June 16, 2024



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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Welcome

