

Pastor's Pen

Marks of a Believer!

Love For God

Love For His People

Obedience

Forgiveness

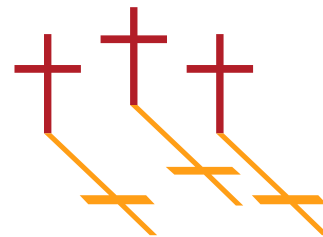
The fourth mark of a disciple of Christ is forgiveness. In Matthew 18, Jesus told the parable of the ungrateful servant to help his disciples understand forgiveness. The parable's point was to teach His disciples that the one who has been forgiven so much should be willing to forgive others who have wronged them.

When believers understand how much they have been forgiven and reflect on their vile state before Christ, forgiving others is easier. However, too many believers forget they have been forgiven and refuse to forgive others. To be unforgiving is a sin. John MacArthur notes, "When a Christian allows remaining sin to control an attitude or action, he is being wicked, because sin is always sin, whether committed by a believer or unbeliever. The sin of unforgiveness is in some ways even more wicked in a believer, because he has infinitely greater motivation and power to be forgiving than does a person who has never experienced God's redeeming grace."

A disciple of Christ should always be willing to forgive. Forgiveness means that a Christian does not hold grudges against the one who has sought forgiveness. When a brother or sister seeks forgiveness, we are to comfort them as Paul instructed the church in Corinth, "**so that on the contrary you should rather graciously forgive and comfort him, lest such a one be swallowed up by excessive sorrow**" (2 Cor. 2:7)."

To be a disciple of Christ, you must be forgiving. To graciously forgive is a blessing to all. Commenting on this passage, David Garland writes, "Paul also instructs them to comfort the offender. The verb "comfort" (parakaleō) includes many different kinds of activities. They should deal benevolently with him, support him, and encourage him (see Gal 6:1–5). In 1 Thess 2:11–12 Paul uses the verb to describe his dealing with them as a father deals with his own children, "**encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.**" "Comforting" is therefore not unrelated to spurring others to live worthily of the Gospel. It does not mean making others feel comfortable about their past sin but leading them to godly sorrow where they find God's forgiveness."

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark



Quote of the Week

"There is no greater state than to get up from your knees knowing that God has forgiven every sin you've ever committed". -R. C. Sproul

Grace Gems

This Jesus of Nazareth!- Philip Schaff, 1866

This Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms—conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon.

Without science and learning—He shed more light on things human and divine, than all philosophers and scholars combined.

Without the eloquence of schools—He spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of any orator or poet.

Without writing a single line—He set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and sweet songs of praise, than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.

Born in a manger and crucified as a malefactor—He now controls the destinies of the civilized world, and rules a spiritual empire which embraces one-third of the inhabitants of the globe.

There never was in this world, a life so sincere, modest, and humble in its outward form and condition—and yet producing such extraordinary effects upon all ages, nations, and classes of men. The annals of history produce no other example of such complete and astounding success, in spite of the absence of those material, social, literary, and artistic powers and influences—which are indispensable to success for a mere man.

Christ stands, in this respect also, solitary and alone among all the heroes of history, and presents to us an insolvable problem, unless we admit Him to be more than man—even the eternal Son of God!

"Who do you say that I am?" Matthew 16:15

"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!"
Matthew 16:16

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 06/16/2024

General Offering	8,680.64
Building Fund	1,250.00
Uganda Missions	260.50
Benevolence	50.00
Total.....	\$10,241.14
Attendance	221

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

GO GATHER GROW GO

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Grace Harvest Bible Church

June 23, 2024

