

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . . . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship Service (WVLC) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 1 Jan 09, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

It hardly seems possible that we are beginning our TENTH YEAR of "Grace and Glory". They haven't been consecutive years (I published the "Jefferson Road Journal" and the "Shiloh Sentinel" between volumes 2 and 3), but they have kept hundreds of people in many states aware of all the activities of a small church in Lake City.

Many people have wondered about the newsletter name. For a number of years the church sponsored a weekly radio broadcast entitled "Glory to HIS Name". When we began publishing a newsletter I wanted to incorporate news about Grace FWB Church as well as "Glory to HIS Name". Hence, the name "Grace and Glory".

We have seen God's Blessings on this ministry from the beginning, when we had to use every name we could think of to reach 200 people a month; to today, when our goal is to reach ONE MILLION people a month thru the various "branches" of the Outreach work.

All of it possible because of the prayers and support of the Church, and a number of friends. And all with complete trust in God for funds and for direction. As you will see from the financial

report on the back, God has done exceedingly abundantly above all we could ask or think!

December was Great at Grace. In the midst of colds and flu, the Lord Blessed in marvelous ways and I praise Him for His goodness.

The Christmas Program was simply great! Everyone worked hard and I appreciate all the extra work they put into the program. We had a church full and I appreciate all the kind comments from our visitors (Video tapes are available if you'd like to share the Blessing).

Our WHITE CHRISTMAS OFFERING for the Church Building Fund was also exceptional- over \$5000 !! What made this even more noteworthy was the fact that it came after an \$850 offering for Missionary Carlisle Hanna and a \$1500 Christmas Gift to the Pastor earlier in the month (And you thought I was just talking when I say "Grace People are GREAT People").

The New Year has begun on a very good note as almost every family in the Church has joined in "Reading the Bible Thru in 1992".

[Continued on Back]

### To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

Grace FWB Church

P O Box 1003

Lake City, SC 29560

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In fact, I began by ordering 2 dozen Bibles. Almost immediately I had to add another dozen; and I just ordered 2 more dozen last week! So far, we have had a Wednesday Night and a Sunday Morning Discussion time on what they've read and the discussion has been super. Inspiration,

insight, and thought provoking questions have all contributed to increasing enthusiasm by everyone. I think we're in for a year of great Nine O'clock services as we learn about God's word together.

Join us THIS week.

The economy looks bad. The one world government is approaching by leaps and bounds. The work we're going to do for the Lord must be done while it is day; for the night fast approaches when no man can work. May God give us the wisdom to do everything we can to reach people with the Gospel.

## 1991 FINANCIAL REPORT

Over 70 individuals, families, and organization gave over \$11,000 to the Outreach Ministry during 1991!! Some were widows who gave out of their want, some were couples on fixed income, some were memorials and honorariums, some gave thru their companies, and even 1 Church put us in their budget (Gilead FWB Church).

This income allowed us to write, print, and distribute thousands of newsletters and books. It also allowed us to record and give away thousands of audio and video tapes of the services at Grace FWB Church. It also provided the means to write and distribute hundreds of newspaper articles that reached thousands of people each week. A little over 11% of it was also used to help widows pay bills, feed hungry people, and supply fuel for families living in the cold.

We also purchased another computer and printer that has already more than paid for itself in the money it's saved in printing books and compiling information for distribution.

When you consider that most FWB Churches in the state have a budget of \$25,000 to \$100,000 dollars a year. And then consider the fact that this \$11,000 dollars allowed us to reach more people than all the FWB Churches in South Carolina put together(!); it makes you want to praise the Lord for His goodness.

INCOME:	
January-	\$ 1104
February-	771
March-	691
April-	942
May-	647
June	1371
July-	1243
August-	1377
September	256
October-	1029
November-	329
December-	<u>1472</u>
TOTAL----	\$11232

EXPENSE:	
Books . . . . .	\$ 1854
Postage . . . . .	1582
Printing . . . . .	1137
Tapes . . . . .	1915
Computer . . . . .	2619
Tithe . . . . .	1250
Mis . . . . .	<u>192</u>
TOTAL . . . . .	\$ 10549
Net Income . . . . .	\$ 683
Bal 1-1-91 . . . . .	<u>273</u>
Balance 1-1-92 \$	956

We start 1992 with "Miracle Messages" Vol III almost ready for the printer and with enough money to print it. GLORY!

Hope to mail it by early February.

THANKS to everyone who helps in this ministry with prayers, work, or finances. I couldn't do it without you.

. . . Preacher Mike

MEMORIAL Gifts were received in December for Timmy Teal by Jack and Devonne Hanna; Billy Hanna by Josie Poston Family and Damon Runion Family.

Gifts in HONOR of Mr and Mrs O Z Thrasher's 50th Anniversary were given by Betty Lou Thompson, Robin Poston, Mr and Mrs Damon Runion, and Rev and Mrs Mike Jones

## LADIES AUXILIARY HOSTESS LIST

1992

(Second Monday of each Month)

JANUARY . . . . . Dot Sullivan, Sylvia Gowdy.  
 FEBRUARY Betty Lou Thompson, Billie Ard, Wilma Gaskins  
 MARCH . . . . . Miriam McAllister, Anne McKnight  
 APRIL . . . . . Althea Coker, Jenene Brown  
 MAY . . . . . Paula Jones, Susan Spring, Janice Runion  
 JUNE . . . . . Marjorie McAllister, Hope Frye, Kathy Lewis  
 JULY . . . . . Jackie Lowder, Eulalia Jordan, Devonne Hanna  
 AUGUST . . . . . Dot Sullivan, Sylvia Gowdy  
 SEPTEMBER Betty Lou Thompson, Billie Ard, Wilma Gaskins  
 OCTOBER . . . . . Miriam McAllister, Anne McKnight  
 NOVEMBER . . . . . Althea Coker, Jenene Brown  
 DECEMBER . . . . . Christmas Party

## REFRESHMENT LIST

Sun, Jan 5 . . . . . Eulalia Jordan & Anne McKnight  
 Sun, Jan 12 . . . . . Patricia McKnight & Mary Wilkes  
 Sun, Jan 19 . . . . . Teresia Coleman & Paula Jones  
 Sun, Jan 26 . . . . . Susan Spring & Leila Thrasher  
 Sun, Feb 2 . . . . . Brenda Sullivan & Jenene Brown  
 Sun, Feb 9 . . . . . Janice Runion & Jeanie Taylor  
 Sun, Feb 16 . . . . . Dot Sullivan & Connie Mathis  
 Sun, Feb 23 . . . . . Devonne Hanna & Kathy Lewis  
 Sun, Mar 1 . . . . . Sylvia Gowdy & Ruth Langley  
 Sun, Mar 8 . . . . . MISSION DAY  
 Sun, Mar 15 . . . . . Marjorie McAllister & Lila Tisdale  
 Sun, Mar 22 . . . . . Althea Coker & DeBe Miles  
 Sun, Mar 29 . . . . . Hope Frye & Billie Ard  
 Sun, Apr 5 . . . . . Jackie Lowder & Brenda Lowder  
 Sun, Apr 12 . . . . . Miriam McAllister & Betty Lou Thompson  
 Sun, Apr 19 . . . . . EASTER BREAKFAST  
 Sun, Apr 26 . . . . . Roxanna Young & Paula Jones  
 Sun, May 3 . . . . . Eulalia Jordan & Susan Spring  
 Sun, May 10 . . . . . MOTHER'S DAY  
 Sun, May 17 . . . . . Janice Runion & Mary Wilkes  
 Sun, May 24 . . . . . Anne McKnight & Leila Thrasher  
 Sun, May 31 . . . . . Patricia McKnight & Kathy Lewis

## NURSERY WORKERS

Nov 17 Anne McKnight, Sylvia Gowdy  
 Nov 24 Michelle McAllister, Teresa Young  
 Dec 1 Hope Frye, Billie Ard  
 Dec 8 Eulalia Jordan, Jenene Brown  
 Dec 15 Miriam McAllister, Paula Jones  
 Dec 22 Kathy Lewis, Devonne Hanna  
 Dec 29 Betty Lou Thompson, Dot Sullivan  
 Jan 5 Roxanna Young, Marjorie McAllister  
 Jan 12 Susan Spring, Althea Coker  
 Jan 19 Teresa Young, Billie Ard  
 Jan 26 Hope Frye, Michelle McAllister  
 Feb 2 Paula Jones, Betty Lou Thompson  
 Feb 9 Sylvia Gowdy, Althea Coker  
 Feb 16 Susan Spring, Anne McKnight  
 Feb 23 Kathy Lewis, Dot Sullivan  
 March 1 Devonne Hanna, Jenene Brown  
 March 8 Marjorie McAllister, Miriam McAllister  
 March 15 Roxanna Young, Eulalia Jordan

## SIGN CHANGERS FOR 1992

(Changed before each Sunday in the Month)

Jan-----Damon Runion  
 Feb-----Kathy Lewis  
 March----Marjorie McAllister  
 April----Roxanna Young  
 May-----Anne McKnight  
 June-----Marion Coker  
 July-----Billie Ard  
 August---Jack B Hanna  
 Sept-----Hope Frye  
 Oct-----Jenene Brown  
 Nov-----Susan Spring  
 Dec-----Rev Mike Jones



# Grace F.W.B. Church

January 5 - February 15, 1992



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8 7:30pm Charles McKenzie S & K Prason Ministry	Jan 9	Jan 10	Jan 11
Jan 12	Jan 13 Mildred Lowder Birthday 7:30pm Ladies Aux Meet 7:30pm Denson's Meet	Jan 14	Jan 15 Church Conf	Jan 16 Sylvia Gowdy Birthday	Jan 17 Carl/Eulalia (A)	Jan 18
Jan 19 Lynn Young Birthday 5:00pm Ralph Byars	Jan 20 Arnold/Jackie (A) Tracy Lowder Birthday 7:30pm Rick Cason	Jan 21 Ruth Ann Langley Birthday 7:30pm Theron Scott	Jan 22 7:30pm Earl Hanna	Jan 23 Robbie Gowdy Birthday Ann Gowdy Birthday	Jan 24 S.C. Annual Conf	Jan 25 Pastor Article in FMN
REVIVAL						
Jan 26	Jan 27	Jan 28	Jan 29	Jan 30 Charlie Purvis Birthday	Jan 31 OZ Thrasher Birthday	Feb 1 Sam Taylor Jr Birthday Pastor Article in FMN
Feb 2	Feb 3	Feb 4	Feb 5	Feb 6 Preacher Mike/Paula (A)	Feb 7	Feb 8 Jack B Hanna Birthday
STATE ASSOCIATION						
Feb 9 9:00am Gideon Speaker	Feb 10 Thelma Odum Birthday 7:30pm Woman's Aux	Feb 11	Feb 12 7:30pm Valentine Banquet	Feb 13	Feb 14	Feb 15

Let People attend Grace Church EVERY Week

1/8/1992

## BECOMING

The heart desire of every Christian is to become more like Jesus each day. But even the Apostle Paul knew that this is not a one moment event but a life to be lived- Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus (Phil 3:12).

It is a continual process of "Becoming" more and more like Christ. How can we become what we are supposed to be?

I. YOU BECOME WHAT YOU THINK- For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee (Prov 23:7).

Sow a thought, reap a deed

Sow a deed, reap a Habit

Sow a Habit, reap a character

Sow a Character, reap a destiny



A) The Wrong Thoughts- Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; (2 Cor 10:5) Some Wrong Thoughts that we surrender to are:

WORRY- We worry about the weather report while Jesus slept in a boat in a storm! We worry about curtains for our home while Jesus did not have a place to lay His head!

LUST- Lust of the Mind- There can no woman or man be as perfect in real life as they are in our fantasies (Real life is full of bad breath, rejection, and physical disabilities). Because of that we more and more want to live in a "Dream world" and refuse to deal with reality.

PRIDE- For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith (Rom 12:3).

B) The Right Thoughts- EIGHT THINGS TO THINK ABOUT: Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things (Phil 4:8).

C) The Changing of Thoughts- And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; (Eph 4:23).

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God (Rom 12:2).

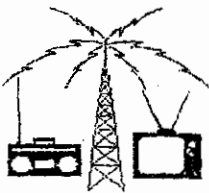
Change your thought patterns so that you Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: (Phil 2:5). (The mind of Christ knew that the Will of God is the most important thing to consider. That made Him become Humble unto death, even the death of the Cross).

II. YOU BECOME WHAT YOU LOVE AND WORSHIP- That's why young people dress and talk like rock star "idols". That's why Adults wear the latest fad clothing and have the latest fad appliances; they're trying to "keep up with the Jones".



The thing we love is the thing we look for. Lot loved Egypt and when he saw that the valley of Sodom was like Egypt that's where he went. He became a "chief man" in Sodom and enjoyed the "onions of Egypt" but in the city of Sodom he lost his testimony, his riches, his family, and his wife.

This wrong Love can even lead to departure from the Lord- *For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia* (2 Tim 4:10).



III. YOU BECOME LIKE THE THINGS YOU LIVE WITH-

A) Accent- That's why Yankees talk so funny

B) Food- The Jones Family has Oyster Stew at Thanksgiving and at Christmas because we think it's great. Some families have crazy things like Turkey and Dressing and Bar-B-Que!

C) Attitude- If you live in an attitude of Love and Trust you will develop Love and Trust. If you live in an attitude of Hate and Strife then it will show in your life.

We must develop Contact without contamination-

Joseph in Egypt lived Pure

Daniel in Babylon lived pure

This must be Separation not isolation - The Blessed man of Psalm 1 did not fellowship with Sinners but he was a Witness to them.

Jesus dined with "Publicans and Sinners" often but He did not partake of their sins.

If we are to Become the person God wants us to be then we must learn to:

Think like Jesus

Love and worship Jesus

Live like Jesus

WHAT ARE YOU BECOMING???

# WALKING TOGETHER

Luke 24:13-32

What a strange story for God to put in the end of the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been crucified, the resurrection has taken place, and the great commission is about to be given. Why, then, would God take the time and space in the Bible to tell us this little story??

Let's come back to a BASIC BIBLE PRINCIPLE- the only real thing we can give God is our Love. How it must break His heart, then, when we walk beside Him and fail to recognize Him. Let's see what "Walking Together with God" really means.

I. COMPATIBILITY- Can two walk together, except they be agreed? (Amos 3:3) We must agree with God about the manner of our life, about the methods we use, and about the manifestation of our works that the world sees (You must decide whether you want man's praise now or God's praise later).

You must agree that God is the leader and you are the follower. Have YOU agreed with God about your life or are you constantly "fighting your fate"? Stop Fighting and start following.



II. CONFIDENCE- Fear forbids fellowship but Perfect love casts out all fear! I don't know what Tomorrow holds but I know who holds tomorrow! (A Little boy said he wanted to go with his Granddad but then he asked his Granddad where he was going. The Granddad just walked off. Later the boy asked the Granddad why? The Granddad said, "If you want to be with me it doesn't matter where I'm going!").

This means we must follow God by Faith- II Cor 5:7 *We walk by faith, not by sight.* I Cor 13:12 *For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.* You must follow even when you don't know how, when, where or what. Look at the example of Paul- Acts 20:22 *And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:*. Paul did not know what God had in store for him as he traveled the road God had "staked" out (and what he did know was not very reassuring- vs 23 *the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me*). But Paul was Committed to the Task God had given him and nothing would stand in his way- vs 24 *But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.*

Sometimes this fellowship causes us to walk through the valley of the shadow of death. But even there we learn to fear no evil.

You must accept the fact that the walk will be filled with "unknown" obstacles as well as wonderful Opportunities. That's when you learn to trust God THRU the Obstacles and FOR the Opportunities.

Are you Walking IN FAITH as well as BY FAITH??

III. CONTINUED- Until the Rapture--And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him (Gen 5:24). We must commit to walking with God until we die or He takes us home. Christianity is not a product we try but a life we accept. Don't allow the weeds of the world to come in and choke you into becoming fruitless.

If Jesus decided to walk along with you in your daily living tomorrow; would you recognize him?? Have you agreed with God on the way you will walk? Are you trusting God in the paths you walk?? Are you walking as close today as you did a year ago?

Is God your Partner on your Path?

## FELLOWSHIP AS THE CHURCH

*Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me (John 17:20-21)*

Christ came to save INDIVIDUALS and then put these individuals into the BODY of Christ- Fellowship is not just a part of the Christian life; it IS the Christian life. What would you think of a Soldier who said, "I belong in the Army but I refuse to become part of any unit!"? This "lone wolf" Soldier may survive on his own but he would not help the rest of the army meet it's objective. His mission would become centered on SELF instead of SERVICE for the Saviour.

That's why Followers become part of the Fellowship. The qualifications of the members of this Fellowship of Believers are:

I. Loyalty- The example used over and over in the Bible to represent the Church is the married relationship. The main requirement in that relationship is FAITHFULNESS (Only grounds for divorce. I used to stress the fact that the physical act of adultery was the only grounds for divorce. I'm becoming more convinced that loving alcohol, drugs, or money more than your mate is just as bad- "Love not the world, neither the things of the world").

II. Confidence- "Speaking the Truth in Love". We must be truthful and tactful with one another. We must believe that the Pastor reproves us for our good. We must trust the words and actions of fellow believers.

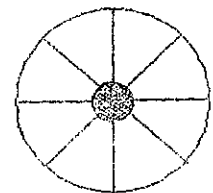
III. Responsible- a Church, like a business, cannot function if no one is willing to do the necessary work. I try not to ask you to do something that I haven't done before you (I've even sung a special before! That wasn't faith, that was foolishness!). When you see a need, look for a way you can meet that need.

On a football team the quarterback gets most of the credit but the other 10 players do most of the work; and if they don't do their part the quarterback gets in deep trouble!

IV. Forgiveness- The Church is not a fellowship of perfected saints, but of forgiven sinners. We must learn to "Forgive as we have been forgiven".

V. Love- *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another (John 13:35).* The "cement" that binds together Christians as building Blocks is LOVE. This love cares for one another's privacy as well as their problems. It lends a hand in persecution and shares a tear in pain.

Develop a love for Christ and you will develop a love for fellow believers. As in the spokes of a wheel, the closer we approach the hub (Christ) the closer we get to one another.



What should you do??

1. Join the Church
2. Dedicate yourself to the work of God here at Grace
3. Find your place and practice your profession! (Some are cooks, some are artillery, some are snipers, some are builders, etc).

We don't want you to join a "club" we have here. We think you ought to be part of the Church here that's serving the Lord Jesus Christ. We have a well defined mission (To get everyone to Know and to Show Christ), Great Members, and a marvelous Ministry of prayer.



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Vol X Num 2 Jan 30, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

God sure was good to us during Revival! Lots of adverse circumstances-- sickness, surgery, and even snow; but the attendance was very good, the preaching was great, and the singing was super. No one but God can get the Glory but I do thank all the people of Grace who prayed so much and worked so hard during this Revival. I also appreciate the MANY preachers and visitors who attended the services. And Special THANKS to the New Town FWB Church who brought their Wednesday Night service to our Revival.



Video and audio tapes of the services are available for anyone who wants to share the Blessings. We're already given away dozens but we'll gladly give as many more as needed.

You'll especially want to hear the testimonies of various members of the Church during the Revival Services. They were a blessing and a challenge to everyone.

The church was in such a good mood after Revival until they decided to purchase a \$4000 dollar piano Sunday! Just Kidding. The Deacons and Musicians had been

consulting for several weeks about purchasing a new piano for the Church and putting the present Church piano in the Fellowship Building. We decided to go with a Baldwin studio model that has the same sound board as a baby grand. It carries a 25 year warranty and, very important to us, will fit in the new Church when it's built.

With this new piano, and the new choir members who joined last Sunday, we hope our great sounding choir will do even better. It's exciting to see how God is working in the Music Ministry of the Church now.



A new edition of Miracle Messages Volume ONE is off the press and we hope to have it assembled this week. Volumes TWO and THREE are at the Printers and we hope to have them available early in February. And work has already begun on Volume FOUR.

Continue to pray. Our goal is to reach a MILLION people a MONTH. We know they need to be reached. We know God can open the doors. Help us pray that God will give us wisdom to do our part.

. . . Preacher Mike Psalm 16:11

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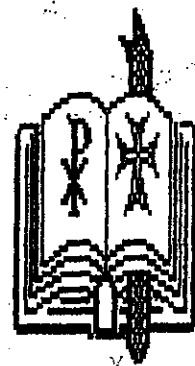
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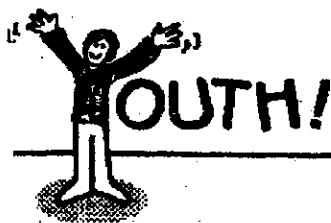
Our program of "Reading the Bible Through in 1992" is off to a very exciting start. So far the questions and insights shared during the 9 o'clock service have been very interesting. And person after person has commented on how much more they enjoy reading the Bible when they can discuss the same passages with other Church members and then ask questions when they come across something puzzling.

This week we enter the tabernacle building program in Exodus and from there go to the Laws of Leviticus. This is usually the area that people begin to lose some of their excitement. I pray that God will give us insight enough to show the practical applications of all the facts and figures we will be studying. (An excellent time for the Teen Class to construct a model of the Tabernacle for display so that everyone can more easily visualize what they're reading. HINT HINT).



Speaking of knowing the Bible, Below is a puzzle I made up when I pastured Shiloh FWB Church in Bratt, Florida. It contains 21 books of the New Testament. They are listed backward, frontward, up or down. Can you find them?

W	E	H	T	T	A	M	X	F	A	E	O	N	D	B	C	A	J	O	H	N	
C	Y	A	C	L	E	A	C	T	R	S	P	W	T	M	S	D	T	K	B	C	N
P	A	W	Y	R	O	R	F	I	R	S	T	J	O	H	N	R	T	K	K	B	E
H	L	L	C	K	Y	K	O	R	E	V	E	L	A	T	I	O	N	C	J	S	
I	D	K	S	S	H	E	X	N	U	F	E	P	H	E	S	I	A	N	S	N	
L	B	X	N	B	W	J	U	D	E	J	Q	M	F	Z	P	Q	R	J	A	A	
I	D	E	A	J	K	D	P	R	E	T	E	P	I	E	J	H	Z	I	I	I	
P	Q	T	I	C	S	W	O	H	G	G	L	H	E	B	R	E	W	S	H	N	
P	F	U	S	K	E	J	I	D	J	A	I	I	Y	Y	S	F	T	J	W	O	
I	U	B	S	S	M	L	G	J	E	L	O	L	Z	C	Q	I	G	H	E	L	
A	M	R	O	M	A	N	S	P	B	A	K	E	R	D	R	I	H	N	K	A	
N	Y	M	L	W	J	A	N	O	C	T	I	M	O	T	H	Y	H	T	U	S	
S	N	M	O	E	P	O	A	C	I	K	O	D	X	O	E	F	L	L	S		
A	X	R	C	N	C	F	C	U	B	A	Y	N	Q	N	I	G	Q	M	S	E	
Z	D	L	A	J	M	N	Q	N	B	N	L	M	M	H	W	P	E	Z	O	H	
C	O	R	I	N	T	H	I	A	N	S	X	P	Q	T	P	S	U	T	I	T	



Thanks to the Burden and work of Mrs Kathy Lewis, Mrs Jeanie Taylor, and Mrs Roxanna Young; the Youth Work of the Church is beginning to take on new life. Mrs Kathy invited the youth director of Horse Branch FWB Church, Todd Parrish to conduct a Youth Workers Seminary recently and he did an excellent job. We were also privileged to have many of the youth workers from Gilead FWB Church in attendance.

A number of ideas were presented and many of them have already begun to be implemented. This is a needed area, and one we have prayed about for a long time, and I praise God for the dedication these ladies are showing to this task.

Another area that continues to be a Great Blessing is the Object lesson Mrs Althea Coker gives every First and Third Sunday during the Nine O'clock service. And the Puppet Presentation by Connie Mathis and Billie Ard on the Second and Fourth Sunday is Super.

We're trying to reach young people for Christ. Come Join us.

## PURSuing A GOAL FOR GOD

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Phil 3:13-14).

As we begin a new year, we, like Paul, need to determine to accomplish God's will for our lives in 1992. Let's look at several guidelines to help us as we Pursue our Goals for God.

1. DOES THE GOAL GLORIFY GOD?- Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God (1 Cor 10:31). Many of the goals we want to accomplish will glorify our selves- lose weight, be better workers, etc. Do you have a Goal that will glorify God and make you a better Christian??

2. IS THE GOAL GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE? David wanted to build the temple but God wanted Solomon to do that. Paul wanted to go to Asia and preach to the Jews. God wanted him in Europe preaching to the Gentiles. Is it God's Plan or your plan??

3. WILL THE GOAL DRAW YOU CLOSER TO GOD OR TEMPT YOU TO STRAY FROM GOD'S PLAN FOR YOU. Can you stand the stress and temptation of the accomplishing the Goal? Some people want to work with drug addicts but they would be tempted to take drugs. God may use you to help drug addicts but in an entirely different area than you want.

4. WILL THE GOAL BUILD UP OTHER PARTS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST OR ARE YOU BUILDING YOUR OWN LITTLE KINGDOM? The man who made the world famous Stradivarious Violins couldn't play in concert but he could build great violins. (Most church divisions come from people building their kingdom instead of God's kingdom)

5. ARE YOU DEVELOPING AS THE GOAL DEVELOPS SO THE GOAL WILL HAVE A FOUNDATION OF STABILITY? Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; (Isa 54:2)

6. DO OTHER PEOPLE ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR GOAL AS GODLY? Not public Opinion but confirmation by other brothers.

7. ARE YOU WILLING TO WORK ON YOUR GOAL UNTIL IT'S TIME FOR FRUIT? And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. (Gal 6:9)

8. ARE YOU WILLING TO QUIT YOUR GOAL IS DIRECTED BY GOD? Don't let your goal become your God.

9. DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH FAITH IN YOUR DREAM TO MAKE IT PUBLIC? Have a Dream, Tell a dream, do a dream. Public proclamation.

10. IS YOUR GOAL SOMETHING YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED BY? By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh (Heb 11:4).

Are you just running thru life or are you pursuing a Goal for God? What a horrible thing to come to die and then find you've just been spinning your wheels.

# COMMIT

The word "Commit" is used 2 main ways in Scripture-

- 1) "To do something"- as in to Commit Adultery (Used this way more than with anything else).
- 2) "To entrust for care"- as in to commit someone to a hospital (for their safety and healing).

We are going to use the second form of "Commit" in today's message. We are going to look at 7 things we Entrust (Commit) to the Lord and then see the results of trusting God with these things.

Let's begin with several basic, but very important, principles:

- 1> God expects us to commit some things to Him- That is the basis of a loving Relationship- Trust.
- 2> God will take care of what we commit to Him- Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you (1 Pet 5:7).
- 3> God will multiply what we commit to Him- He that ministereth seed to the sower will both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness (II Cor 9:10)

## COMMIT THESE 7 THINGS TO THE LORD:

I. CAUSE: I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause: (Job 5:8).

A) For Justice: Shall not the judge of all the earth do right? (Gen 18:25). Don't trust in schemes; trust in God.

B) For Vengeance: Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord (Rom 12:19).

II. WAYS: Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass (Psa 37:5). Get on God's Path for your life

III. WORKS: Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established (Prov 16:3). God takes the worry out of works when we trust Him. When you follow God's leadership you find a peace that passes understanding as you trust in God's care and guidance.

IV. RICHES: If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? (Luke 16:11)  
Be careful how you handle money. It will show who you really trust.

V. GOSPEL: And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also (2 Tim 2:2). Throw a "rock of testimony" into the pond of life and watch the ripples fan out.

VI. SPIRIT: Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth (Psa 31:5). Jesus committed Himself to God's will; so should we.

VII. SECURITY OF SOULS: Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator (1 Pet 4:19). Pain or problems can't separate us from the Love of God. I have committed to God; and God is committed to me ! Glory!

Are you trying to carry life's burdens on your own. Commit them to God. You can trust Him, now and forever.

## Why People Get Sick At Christmas!



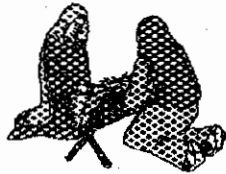
Every family in the Church seems to have just gotten, or just gotten over, a case of the flu (We can almost sniff and cough in chorus now!). Instead of being able to enjoy the Christmas season we all seem to have gotten sick and feel bad. Why would God allow such a thing? Why do people get sick at all; and especially at Christmas?

**I. STRESS-** Who among us is willing to claim that the Holiday Season is not stressful- Even the kids have to be good for a week to get a present! This stress tends to break down our resistance and enable sickness to attack. Then as we get sick we become irritable which brings on more stress!



**DO CHRISTIANS HAVE A WAY WE CAN DEAL WITH STRESS??**

*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (John 14:27)*



**II. CIRCUMSTANCES-** Joseph faced a strange set of circumstances. He was told to marry a woman who would be the mother of the Son of God. Then about the time the child was to be born he lost his job, became homeless, had to travel a great distance with a pregnant wife(!), and ending up in a stable instead of a hospital.

We face difficult circumstances today also. These circumstances weaken our bodies and sap our spirit; which invites sickness to move in on us!

**WHAT DO CHRISTIANS KNOW ABOUT CIRCUMSTANCES-** Rom 8:28

**III. CROWDS-** Crowded Inns, Everyone to be taxed; sounds like Saturday at the Mall! And in the "spirit of the season" everyone seems to be sharing their colds with everyone else!

**HOW CAN CHRISTIANS BE SOCIABLE WITHOUT SPREADING SICKNESS-** *Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away (Prov 4:14-15).* Use common sense- phone, don't spread cold yourself, don't "tempt" sickness.

IV. SIN- And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return (Gen 3:17-19). Sin has changed the human body into a corruptible body where sickness is a part of life.



It is clearly true that Christians suffer sickness just as Sinners do, but it is also clear that God has provided ways to lessen it's impact on us- Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth (3 John 1:2).

Why do we have these troubles??

I. To Get People where God wants Them.

A) Physically- Troubles moved Joseph to Bethlehem, Egypt, and then Nazareth. Your cold may allow you to leave a "Miracle Message" book in the Doctor's waiting room. That book may then reach some lost person or encourage some saved person.

B) Spiritually- The Shepherds greatly Feared when the angels came but, before long, they were greatly rejoicing.

I wonder if more REAL praying goes on in hospitals than in Church!!

C) Financially- Joseph had to leave Bethlehem in a hurry with a wife and very young child. The Wise Men's Gifts provided the funds necessary to travel and set up house in Egypt.

I'm surprised about the number of job decisions that are made while on sick beds. Some times people just plod thru life until something makes them stop and examine their situation.

II. To Stir Commitment to God- It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes (Psa 119:71).

A) Bethlehem had no room for the Savior but had plenty of room after the babies were killed. Do you think anyone prayed??

B) The Shepherd didn't know they would be preachers but they have preached more sermons in more plays than any other group of people.

Sickness and troubles can help us to bear witness; or make us unbearable. Which one are you?

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship Service (WVLC) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 3 Feb 13, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

What a great Valentine Banquet we had last night. I don't know how most of the couples in our Church ever got married since no one seems to know who proposed to who!! but somehow they managed to get together! (I wonder if that's why God says we neither marry or are given in marriage in Heaven- to keep down the quarreling!).



The Soup Supper was great. We're going to have to have a "Desert Supper" sometime soon, however, because I couldn't eat any of all those delicious deserts after making a pig of myself tasting all the soups! I appreciate everyone's participation in the activities and in the supper.



Be sure and be here this Sunday morning for the 9am Service. Brother Damon and Brother Ronnie Wallace will be singing several specials. Our Sunday Night service at 9AM is Great. Enjoy the Blessings with us this week.

As you can see from the calendar on the back of this page, we will begin a SINGING SCHOOL this Sunday. Brother David Cable from Leicester, NC will be teaching the classes and I believe it will be a help to ANYONE who wants to learn more about singing.



The classes will be from 6-8pm on Sunday Night and from 7-9pm Monday through Friday. EVERY night will be important but the first Three nights are especially important since they will lay the foundation for everything else.

Brother David is a very good teacher and he will spend as much time as you need in an area before he goes on to the next area.

The question I'm asked most often is, "Will he make me sing a solo?". NO. He will not embarrass you or single you out. The school is based on teaching people to sing TOGETHER with others.

It has already helped our Great Grace Choir and we look for God to use this week to make our good choir even better (You should have heard the choir sing Sunday. It was enough to make a Baptist shout!).

. Preacher Mike Psalm 16:11

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

Grace FWB Church

P O Box 1003

Lake City, SC 29560

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# GRACE FWB Church



February 16 - March 28, 1992

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 16 SINGING SCHOOL - DAVID CABLE	Feb 17 SINGING SCHOOL - DAVID CABLE <i>President's Day</i>	Feb 18 SINGING SCHOOL - DAVID CABLE	Feb 19 SINGING SCHOOL - DAVID CABLE	Feb 20 SINGING SCHOOL - DAVID CABLE	Feb 21 SINGING SCHOOL - DAVID CABLE	Feb 22 Ladies Aux District <i>Washington's Birthday</i>
Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25 <i>Josh Frye Birthday</i>	Feb 26	Feb 27	Feb 28 <i>Marion Lowder Birthday</i>	Feb 29
Mar 1 <i>Hope Frye Birthday Mike McGee Birthday</i>	Mar 2	Mar 3	Mar 4 <i>Harold/Debe (A) Ash Wednesday</i>	Mar 5	Mar 6	Mar 7 <i>Leila Thrasher Birthday</i>
Mar 8	Mar 9 <i>7:30pm Woman's Auxiliary</i>	Mar 10	Mar 11 <i>Joe Henry/ Brenda (A)</i>	Mar 12	Mar 13	Mar 14
Mar 15 <i>Danny/Beth (A)</i>	Mar 16 <i>Paula Jones Birthday</i>	Mar 17 <i>St. Patrick's</i> 	Mar 18 <i>Teresa Coleman Birthday</i>	Mar 19 <i>Danny Broach Birthday Emly Lewis Birthday</i>	Mar 20 <i>Brenda Lowder Birthday Jennifer Lowder Birthday Spring begins</i>	Mar 21
Mar 22 <i>Sandra Taylor Birthday</i>	Mar 23	Mar 24	Mar 25	Mar 26	Mar 27	Mar 28



# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . 10:00am  
Worship Service . . 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 4 March 5, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

Do you remember the story about the boy who cried "wolf" so often until no one believed him when he really needed help? That's a little like my situation today. The Lord is so good to our Church and gives us so many Great activities until people start taking "great" for granted. But I've got to at least try.

The SINGING SCHOOL

WAS

**GREAT!!**

Brother David Cable did a superb job of teaching the basics of Four Part Harmony and the results keep getting better every week.



The participation from neighboring Christian Union Churches was very good (15 Churches were represented) and attendance was between 70 and 100 each of the five nights. And when you get 100 people singing 4 part harmony from their heart it will send cold bumps down your spine!

It has helped turn our good Choir into a Great Choir. And you don't have to take my word for it. Come any Sunday and see if God doesn't minister thru their music.

In fact, A Sunday you might want to mark on your calendar is Sunday, March 15. Brother David is going to come back and work with our Choir again on Saturday, March 14, and then lead them during the 11am Worship Service on Sunday. I don't know about you but I can hardly wait.

**MUSIC  
DIRECTOR**

Sadly, it appears we won't be able to broadcast this service over Radio. The local AM Station that has broadcast our Morning Worship Service for a number of years closed down as of March First. There is a possibility that a Christian Network will re-open this station in the near future. We ask you to join us in prayer about that.



Until then, we invite those who have been listening on Radio to visit us in person or request a tape of the services.

All of the activities with the Choir has encouraged others to become active also. (see Back)

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

Grace F W B Church

P O Box 1003

Lake City, SC 29560

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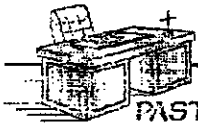
Several of our ladies have formed a Youth Committee (Kathy Lewis, Sylvia Gowdy, Jeanie Taylor, Roxanna Young, and Hope Frye) and have begun a number of activities for our Youth. Several of the projects are still in the working stages but I can tell you about a few things.

(1) Beginning in April, Children's Church will move from Sunday Morning to Wednesday Night and will involve 2 Wednesday Nights a month. On the first of these Wednesday's, one group of Youth will have a Bible Lesson while the other learns new songs. Then the next time they meet the groups will reverse activities. This will eventually lead to a Youth Choir as well as at least one planned activity for our Young People each month.



(2) Beginning with the next Sunday School Quarter (First Sunday in June) we will begin an Intermediate Class (ages 12-14) to bridge the gap between the Teen and Junior Class. This will allow us to plan more specialized lessons and activities for these age groups.

A list of needed volunteers will be put in the Bulletin soon. We hope many people will be willing to help in this exciting new Youth Ministry.



The OUTREACH MINISTRY continues to progress very well. Miracle Messages Volume Three was held up because we were busy with the Singing School but my wife and I spend 8 solid hours putting together all 2000 volumes yesterday. The printer has them now and should finish stapling and trimming them soon. We hope to mail them next week.

Several people have requested permission to reprint articles from the Miracle Message series in bulletins and newsletters. I am always willing to grant that, and Thank the Lord that this multiplies the Ministry even more.

I have given away several hundred dollars worth of audio and video tapes recently. Audio and Video tapes of the Singing School were (and still are) greatly in demand. We have also given away large numbers of several special Testimony tapes; and the tapes of our services (with our good singing) have been greatly used recently.



I am also in the process of re-working and re-printing one of the most popular of our Study Books- the Prayer Book. The first half of this book is a study on Biblical Praying; while the last half is a practical prayer guide. It's available to anyone requesting it.



All of this ministry is available because many people are willing to help meet it's needs. THANKS. A lot of work is added to your money to reach as many people as possible with the Gospel. We see a lot of results already but I believe only Heaven will show us what's really been accomplished. And that's what I'm looking forward to.

Children's Ministries, Choir Specials, and Commitment to the Word of God. You can find it all at Grace PWB Church.

Join us this week.

Preacher Mike Psalm 16:11



# GRACE FWB Church



March 1 - April 11, 1992

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Mar 1</b> Hope Frye Birthday Mike McGoo Birthday	<b>Mar 2</b>	<b>Mar 3</b> Bert Sullivan Birthday	<b>Mar 4</b> Harold/Debe (A) Ash Wednesday	<b>Mar 5</b> Eric McKnight Birthday	<b>Mar 6</b>	<b>Mar 7</b> Leila Thrasher Birthday
<b>Mar 8</b>	<b>Mar 9</b> 7:30pm Woman's Auxiliary	<b>Mar 10</b>	<b>Mar 11</b> Joe Henry/ Brenda (A)	<b>Mar 12</b>	<b>Mar 13</b>	<b>Mar 14</b> Robin Poston Birthday Jim/Marjorie (A) 5:00pm DAVE CABLE/ CHOIR
<b>Mar 15</b> Danny/Beth (A) <b>DAVID</b> <b>CABLE/</b> <b>CHOIR</b>	<b>Mar 16</b> Paula Jones Birthday	<b>Mar 17</b> St. Patrick's	<b>Mar 18</b> Teresa Coleman Birthday Robert Young Birthday	<b>Mar 19</b> Danny Broach Birthday Emily Lewis Birthday	<b>Mar 20</b> Brenda Lowder Birthday Jennifer Lowder Birthday Spring begins	<b>Mar 21</b> Michelle McAllister Birthday
<b>Mar 22</b> Sandra Taylor Birthday	<b>Mar 23</b>	<b>Mar 24</b> Zachary Newell Birthday	<b>Mar 25</b>	<b>Mar 26</b>	<b>Mar 27</b>	<b>Mar 28</b>
<b>Mar 29</b>	<b>Mar 30</b> Jack Gaskins Birthday	<b>Mar 31</b> Harold Miles Birthday	<b>Apr 1</b> April Fools Day	<b>Apr 2</b> Bonnie Lee Birthday	<b>Apr 3</b>	<b>Apr 4</b>
<b>Apr 5</b> Miriam McAllister Birthday Daylight Savings	<b>Apr 6</b>	<b>Apr 7</b>	<b>Apr 8</b>	<b>Apr 9</b>	<b>Apr 10</b>	<b>Apr 11</b> Sully Sullivan Birthday

You are Always WELCOME at Grace FWB Church

3/3/92

We are beginning a series of Study in our Adult Sunday School Class about The Doctrine and Beliefs of our Church. The Following Sheets show some of the main History and Doctrine. Hope you will join us at 10am each Sunday for this special series.

## FREE WILL BAPTIST THE BEGINNING

The Free Will Baptist denomination is a fellowship of evangelical believers united in extending the witness of Christ and the building of His Church throughout the world. The rise of Free Will Baptist can be traced to the influence of Baptist of Armenian persuasion who settled in the colonies from England.

The denomination sprang up on two fronts in America at almost the same time. The Southern line, or Palmer movement, traces its beginnings to the year 1727 when Paul Palmer organized a church at Chowan, N.C.. Palmer had previously ministered in New Jersey and Maryland, having been baptized in a congregation which had moved from Wales to a tract on the Delaware River in northern Pennsylvania.

The Northern line, or Randall movement, had its beginnings with a congregation organized by Benjamin Randall June 30, 1787, in New Durham, New Hampshire. Both lines of Free Will Baptist taught the doctrines of Free Grace, Free Salvation, and Free Will; although there was never an organizational connection between them.

The Northern line expanded more rapidly in the beginning and extended its outreach into the West and Southwest. In 1910-11 this body of Free Will Baptist merged with the Northern Baptist denomination, taking more than half the 1,100 churches and all the denominational property, including several major colleges. The remaining churches met on Dec. 28, 1916 at Pattonsburg, Missouri and formed the Cooperative General Association of Free Will Baptist.

Free Will Baptist in the southeastern United States, having descended from the Palmer foundation, had often manifested friendly relations with Free Will Baptist of the Randall movement in the North and West but the slavery question and the Civil War prevented formal union between them. The churches in the Southern line were organized into various associations and conferences from the beginning, and had finally organized into a general Conference by 1921. These congregations were not affected by the merger of the northern movement with the Northern Baptist.

The remnants of the Randall movement (the Cooperative General Association) and the Palmer movement (The General Conference) met in Nashville, Tenn. on November 5, 1935 and organized the National Association of Free Will Baptist. Fifty years of Growth has given us 2,400 churches in 42 states and 14 foreign countries. We now have 4 Bibles Colleges (Virginia, Tenn., Okla., and Calif.), numerous Bible Institutions, 3 Children's Homes (S.C., Tenn., and Ala.), and a Budget of over \$11 million dollars in 1992 for all the various departments. (Executive Office, Executive Church Bonds Free Will Baptist Bible College, Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Master's Men, Retirement and Insurance, FWB Foundation, Sunday School and Church Training Board, and Radio and Television Comm.). All of these Departments are headquartered in Nashville, Tenn.

Free Will Baptist Churches in South Carolina belong to the National Association of FWB by virtue of belonging to one of Seven (7) Conferences which make up the South Carolina State Association of FWB-- Beaver Creek (29 Churches), Central (25 Churches), Eastern (13 Churches), Great Commission (2 Churches), Palmetto (4 Churches), South Carolina Conference (43 Churches), and True Life (7 Churches).

# ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE**- The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.
2. **GOD**- There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.
3. **CHRIST**- Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Savior and Lord.
4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT**- The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.
5. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD**- God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.
6. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN**- Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.
7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST**- The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and is the grounds of salvation by faith.
8. **THE TERMS OF SALVATION**- The conditions of salvation are:
  - 1) Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it.
  - 2) Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God.
  - 3) Continuance in faith and obedience until death.
9. **ELECTION**- God determined from the beginning to save all who would comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by Faith in Christ men become His elect.
10. **FREEDOM OF THE WILL**- The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.
11. **SALVATION FREE**- God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.
12. **PERSEVERANCE**- All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of Salvation.
13. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES**- 1) Baptism: the immersion of believers in water, and (2) the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. 3) Feet-washing, an ordinance teaching humility, is of universal obligation, and is to be ministered to all true Believers.
14. **TITHING**- God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (1 Cor 16:2a)
15. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH**- The Divine Law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.
16. **RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, AND FINAL RETRIBUTION**- The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. they that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## FREE WILL BAPTIST

# CHURCH COVENANT

### THE REASON FOR THE COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

- A) Our Salvation
- B) Our Dedication

### THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE COVENANT

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to provide things honest in the sight of all men.

- A) Obeying God
- B) Avoiding Evil

### THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COVENANT

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

- A) Attending the Services
- B) Giving to the Ministry

### THE RELATIONSHIPS OF THE COVENANT

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

- A) Correctable
- B) Careful
- C) Concerned

### THE REDEMPTION IN THE COVENANT

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

- A) Evangelism is our goal
- B) Prayer is our life blood

### THE REACH OF THE COVENANT

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world.

- A) Education
- B) Outreach

### THE REQUEST FROM THE COVENANT

And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- A) Holy Living
- B) Righteous Dying

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . 10:00am  
Worship Service . . 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 5 April 2, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

I am humbled and thankful for the tremendous response we have received so far from Volume 3 of Miracle Messages. Request continue to come in for new or additional copies (We have already given out over 1000 copies) and I pray God will use it to speak to hearts.

We have also reprinted Volume 1 and Volume 2 so order any copies you need today.

Last week the Outreach Ministry reached over 300,000 people with our messages about Christ. That puts us over the Half a million mark for March. We still haven't reached our goal of A Million a Month but I know it's coming.



Be sure and be here this Sunday. (Remember that we will "Spring forward" an hour so be here on time). In addition to our normal services, we will have **SPECIAL MUSIC** by Debra Poston and Jennifer Caraway. Come share a Blessing with us.

I think it will be as good as the 9am Service last Sunday. Six "Volunteers" took each day of our Daily Bible reading and shared what it meant to them. It was wonderful.

A number of new projects have been completed in the past week. We have finished paving the 8 additional parking spaces at the end of our present parking lot (We saw the need for this during our Singing School when it was difficult to find a parking space).

And, Thanks to the work of Ken Knight, we have new receptacles in the fellowship building; The Hot water heater is now on it's own socket (So it won't trip the breaker each time we plug in more than one coffee pot. Glory!); And we have a new movement sensor light on the porch of the fellowship building so people can see how to get to their cars after service. "Little" things, but we are very thankful they're done.

I want to close by saying a special word of **THANKS** to those of you who contribute to this work. The opportunities for outreach are increasing almost daily and your prayers and support are vital. Many people give regularly and sacrificially and I praise God for you. Without your help we would have reached a hundred people last week instead of hundreds of Thousands! Thanks....Preacher Mike

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

Grace FWB Church  
P O Box 1003  
Lake City, SC 29560

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## ANOTHER GENERATION

The people served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had seen all the great things the LORD had done for Israel. -- Judg 2:7  
After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel. -- Judg 2:10 (Page 347)

The one thing that stands out in Judges is the fact that the "Cycle of Sin" was a real problem and a continuous problem. We will deal with the reasons for this "Cycle of Sin" in individual lives during the 11am service. Right now, I want us to see how horrible it will be on our children if we do not teach them to love and serve the Lord. I don't want our children to become "another generation" that knows not God nor what He has done.

### I. THE OLDER GENERATION'S FAILURE -lack of Dedication and Education.

- A) Failure to Conquer the enemies- Failure to stand for the right in this Generation will come back to haunt you AND THE NEXT GENERATION.
- B) Failure to Instruct- About Past Miracles and Present power. Where are our Dedicated Teachers? Do our Child hear testimonies of answered prayer as often as they hear request for prayer??

### II. THE YOUNGER GENERATION'S PROBLEMS

- A) Divided Love- Wanting to be like the World, they forgot God
- B) Divine Displeasure- Israel had to deal with the Heathen Nations. Our Young People have to deal with Drugs, divorce, and Deadly diseases. God leaves these problems for specific reasons today, just as He did for Israel:
  - 1. To Punish Israel- Now therefore I tell you that I will not drive them out before you; they will be thorns in your sides and their gods will be a snare to you." (Judg 2:3).
  - 2. To Prove Israel- I will use them to test Israel and see whether they will keep the way of the LORD and walk in it as their forefathers did." (Judg 2:22)
  - 3. To Provide Israel with experience in warfare- (he did this only to teach warfare to the descendants of the Israelites who had not had previous battle experience): (Judg 3:2).
  - 4. To Prevent land from becoming a wilderness- The LORD your God will drive out those nations before you, little by little. You will not be allowed to eliminate them all at once, or the wild animals will multiply around you. (Deu 7:22).

### HOW CAN WE AVOID THE ERRORS? Is it Possible to save our Kids?

- A) The Bible says the Church will become lukewarm
- B) The Bible says the World will wax worst and worst.
- C) The Bible says because Iniquity shall abound the Love of many shall wax cold.

### HERE IS WHAT WE MUST DO: DEAL WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE-

- 1. As Individuals- God saves people one at a time.
- 2. By the Gospel- Classes, Activities, etc must point to Christ
- 3. With Effort- Instruct, Memorials, Lead (Judges kept in Check)

We can't let "Another Generation" grow up without the Knowledge of God's Pardon and Power. We aren't out to just entertain them; we want to evangelism them! And it's going to take EVERYONE WORKING TOGETHER.





# GRACE FWB Church

March 29 - May 9, 1992



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 29	Mar 30 <i>Jack Gaskins Birthday</i>	Mar 31 <i>Harold Miles Birthday</i>	Apr 1 <i>April Fools Day 7:30pm Youth Meet</i>	Apr 2 <i>Bonnie Lee Birthday</i>	Apr 3 <i>7:30pm SC Conference</i>	Apr 4
Apr 5 <i>Miriam McAllister Birthday Daylight Savings</i>	Apr 6 <i>7:30pm Woman's Aux</i>	Apr 7	Apr 8	Apr 9	Apr 10	Apr 11 <i>Sully Sullivan Birthday</i>
Apr 12 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Apr 13	Apr 14 <i>Buddy/Bonnie (A)</i>	Apr 15	Apr 16 <i>7:30pm EASTER COMMU- NION</i>	Apr 17 <i>Dorothy Sullivan Birthday Good Friday</i>	Apr 18 <i>Passover</i>
Apr 19 <i>Easter 7:00am Sunrise/ Breakfast 9:00am SS/Easter Worship</i>	Apr 20 <i>Jackie Lowder Birthday David Wilkes Birthday</i>	Apr 21	Apr 22 <i>7:30pm Youth Meet</i>	Apr 23	Apr 24	Apr 25
Apr 26	Apr 27	Apr 28	Apr 29	Apr 30	May 1	May 2 <i>Donna Sullivan Birthday</i>
May 3	May 4	May 5 <i>Connie Mathis Birthday</i>	May 6 <i>Marion Coker Birthday</i>	May 7 <i>Mary Wilkes Birthday Deanna Lowder Birthday</i>	May 8 <i>Lew Gowdy Birthday</i>	May 9

You are Always WELCOME at Grace FWB Church

3/30/92

## WHAT IS SIN ?

I Sam 7:2-6 (Page 392)

The nation of Israel had turned away from God and had turned to the sins of Canaan. God punished them in order to bring them to repentance (Not from spite). It took a long time (20 years) but the results were finally realized. Samuel told the people to repent of sin by searching their heart, putting away their sins, and turning again to God with their whole heart.

When the people came together with fasting and prayer, their confession to God and fellow man was "WE HAVE SINNED". That is the missing ingredient in Churches and among Christians today; willingness to admit they were wrong.

You see, that is the very essence of sin- wrong standing with God. This wrong standing can be the result of actions we do, or fail to do, or attitudes that rebel against God's control of our life.

### I. WHAT SIN IS: Rom 3:10-12

1. Failure in Righteousness (vs 10) - Our **STANDING** with a Holy God is broken resulting in Condemnation.

2. Failure in Reasoning (vs 11a)- "none Understandeth"- Our **MINDS** have become Polluted and incapable of right reasoning (Controlled by Pleasures, or Passions).

3. Failure in Reverence (vs 11b)- "none seek God"- Our **ATTITUDE** is Proud instead of Repentant.

4. Failure in Right living (vs 12a)- "They are all gone out of the way"- Our **PURPOSE** in life has vanished.

5. Failure in Responsibility (vs 12b)- "They are together become unprofitable"{like spoiled Milk}- Our **ACTIONS** are Harmful instead of Helpful.

6. Failure in Reformation (vs 12c)- "There is none that doeth good, no, not one"- Our **BEING** is corrupt. Man achieves neither innocence before God or positive good (All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags).

The whole of man's inner being is controlled by sin:

His **MIND**- None that understandeth

His **HEART**- None that seeketh after God

His **WILL**- None that doeth good

### II. WHAT SIN DOES

A) Drives us from God- Our Failures should drive us TO God but instead we run FROM God! Gen 3:8-10, Luke 15: Luke 19:10

B) Destroys Our PEACE with:

1> Others-

Their throat is an open sepulchre- graveyard mouth  
With their tongues they have used deceit- forked tongues  
The poison of asps is under their lips- deadly words  
Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness- foul mouths  
Their feet are swift to shed blood- Look for trouble

2> Ourself- Destruction & misery are in their ways; The way of peace have they not known

3> God- There is no fear of God before their eyes

**WHAT SIN BRINGS**- We become people who Tolerate, then Spectate, and finally Participate in Sin until the Wrath of a Holy God falls upon us. We end up wallowing in the "Hog Pens" of sin instead eating at the Father's House.

Sin will Contaminate you, Control you, and Condemn you- Abandon Sin today and accept God's offer of forgiveness by Faith in Christ.

# Leprosy as a Picture of Sin

Lev 13:-, 14:1-9

The only way many of us can picture the dreaded disease of Leprosy today is to equate it to Cancer or AIDS. Like Cancer or Aids, Leprosy was painful and fatal. It also offered a good picture of how sin can be discovered in a life; as well as describing how sin destroys a life. That is what I want us to see today.



**I. THE WAY LEPROSY PICTURES SIN** Lev 13:1-8 (Page 280) The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "When anyone has a swelling or a rash or a bright spot on his skin that may become an infectious skin disease, he must be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons who is a priest. The priest is to examine the sore on his skin, and if the hair in the sore has turned white and the sore appears to be more than skin deep, it is an infectious skin disease. When the priest examines him, he shall pronounce him ceremonially unclean. If the spot on his skin is white but does not appear to be more than skin deep and the hair in it has not turned white, the priest is to put the infected person in isolation for seven days. On the seventh day the priest is to examine him, and if he sees that the sore is unchanged and has not spread in the skin, he is to keep him in isolation another seven days. On the seventh day the priest is to examine him again, and if the sore has faded and has not spread in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean; it is only a rash. The man must wash his clothes, and he will be clean. But if the rash does spread in his skin after he has shown himself to the priest to be pronounced clean, he must appear before the priest again. The priest is to examine him, and if the rash has spread in the skin, he shall pronounce him unclean; it is an infectious disease. -- Lev 13:1-8

**Like Leprosy, Sin:**

**A) Is Deeper than the Skin-** Leprosy was not a surface rash but a real problem. Sin is not just a mistake you make because you are not trying hard enough. It goes to the very Heart of a person (The heart of the problem is the problem of the heart!). Pharisees worried about washing their hands while Jesus taught about cleaning their hearts.

Like Leprosy, Sin works beneath the surface- See it at work in Lust, Anger, Bitterness, Hate, etc.

**B) Spreads-** The Priest looked to see if the disease spread because that was a sin of it's seriousness. Sin affects our Attitudes. Attitudes are manifested in Actions. Actions become a way of Life (The example of the pitcher, Perez, who allowed Drugs to destroy his reputation and his \$2 million a year job)

**C) Defiles-** The person with such an infectious disease must wear torn clothes, let his hair be unkempt, cover the lower part of his face and cry out, 'Unclean! Unclean!' As long as he has the infection he remains unclean. He must live alone; he must live outside the camp. (Lev 13:45-46) (Page 282- Rules for Sick). The Stain of Sin corrupts your Character, your Reputation, your family.

**D) Isolates-** The Leper must get out of the camp and warn everyone when he approached- "Unclean, Unclean". Sin breaks up families, Ruins careers, drives you into the desert of despair without help or hope.

## II. THE CLEANSING OF THE LEPROSY OF SIN- Lev 14:1-9

(Page 253) The LORD said to Moses, "These are the regulations for the diseased person at the time of his ceremonial cleansing, when he is brought to the priest: The priest is to go outside the camp and examine him.

If the person has been healed of his infectious skin disease, the priest shall order that two live clean birds and some cedar wood, scarlet yarn and hyssop be brought for the one to be cleansed. Then the priest shall order that one of the birds be killed over fresh water in a clay pot. He is then to take the live bird and dip it, together with the cedar wood, the scarlet yarn and the hyssop, into the blood of the bird that was killed over the fresh water. Seven times he shall sprinkle the one to be cleansed of the infectious disease and pronounce him clean. Then he is to release the live bird in the open fields. "The person to be cleansed must wash his clothes, shave off all his hair and bathe with water; then he will be ceremonially clean. After this he may come into the camp, but he must stay outside his tent for seven days. On the seventh day he must shave off all his hair; he must shave his head, his beard, his eyebrows and the rest of his hair. He must wash his clothes and bathe himself with water, and he will be clean.



A) The Priest goes to the "Sinner"; without the camp- Jesus came to us without the Camp (Left Heaven, Included Gentiles). Soul Winning is SEEKING the Lost.

### B) The Symbols of the Savior-

1. One Bird Killed over fresh water in a Clay Pot- Christ came to earth and took an "earthen Vessel". He lived a sinless life (Pure water) and was slain for our sins.

2. The Living Bird represents the RESURRECTED SAVIOR. This resurrected Savior "healed" the sinner by the application of Blood. The Blood was also applied to Cedar wood, Scarlet yarn, and Hyssop. (Dedication, Faith, and Sacrifice)

3. The Blood was sprinkled on the Leper- Without Shedding of Blood is no remission

4. The Leper Washed and waited 7 days. Representing Sanctification and Service. Not Cheap Easy Believism but Commitment

5. He brings His sacrifice to the Priest- The Burnt Offering for Dedication, The Sin Offering for Conviction, and the Trespass Offering for the fact that we have Dishonored God

6. The Blood is applied to areas of Service:  
Right Ear- Listen to God  
Right Thumb- Work For God  
Right Toe- Walk for God

Would God find the leprosy of sin at work in your life? Admit your need, accept Christ's payment of sin (Blood), and Commit to serve God today. Let God give you a NEW LIFE free from the contamination of Sin.

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . . . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship Service . . . 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 6 April 23, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

I guess you could say "Pay Day" came Sunday. All the work and practice the Choir has done in recent months came to a glorious peak as they gave their Easter Cantata Sunday. It was SPECIAL.

In fact, the whole day was special. Attendance was very good, the men did another outstanding job with Easter Breakfast, and the Spirit of God was evident in all the services. Thank God for the Great Grace people who work so hard to advance the cause of Christ.

Speaking of the Choir, They will be interested to know that David and Glenda Cable have a new 9lb Girl (Allisha Michelle). Everyone is doing fine and David hopes to be back on the road with Singing Schools soon. We pray God's Blessings on his ministry.



Almost everyone in the Church continues to be faithful in "Reading the Bible Thru in 1992". Our readings have invoked some "interesting" discussions and a much better insight into how God works thru imperfect vessels to accomplish His will.

Request for the Bibles has been so great until I have just ordered the 9th Dozen today (I thought 4 dozen would be enough when we first started. Thank the Lord, I was wrong!).

We have just completed re-publishing "Nehemiah: Learning to Work and Worship Together". This is an excellent Study book to use if a Church needs Revival or is contemplating a Building Program. Send for your free copies today.

I have several more books I need to republish as soon as possible and then I want to publish "Grace Gleanings" (The testimonies and writing of some of our Grace People- See back two pages for a sample). As soon as that is completed, I want to publish something on the order of "Miracle Messages but with an Evangelistic, instead of a Devotional, Theme.

Many people request copies of "Miracle Messages" to give Friends and Family. Others give them out in Hospitals and Jails. We reach thousands of people. I want to see more of them saved.

Your prayers and support enable us to do all these things- THANKS. I'm grateful to be partners with you in this vital work for God. May God Bless You----Preacher Mike

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

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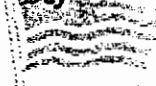

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# GRACE FWB Church

April 26 - June 6, 1992



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 26	Apr 27	Apr 28	Apr 29	Apr 30	May 1	May 2 Donna Sullivan Birthday
May 3	May 4	May 5 Connie Mathis Birthday	May 6 Marion Coker Birthday Youth Meet	May 7 Mary Wilkes Birthday Deanna Lowder Birthday	May 8 Lew Gowdy Birthday	May 9
May 10 Jeff Ard Birthday  Mother's Day	May 11 7:30pm Woman's Auxiliary	May 12	May 13 Janice Runion Birthday	May 14	May 15	May 16 Armed Forces Day 
May 17	May 18 Teacher Training Course Oak Grove	May 19 Teacher Training Course Oak Grove Stacy Thompson Birthday Lela Mae Wise Birthday	May 20 Teacher Training Course Oak Grove Janice Brown Birthday Robert Lowder Birthday 7:30pm Youth Meet	May 21	May 22	May 23 Theresa Young Birthday
May 24 Jason Lewis Birthday Lila Tisdale Birthday Honor Graduates	May 25 Lew/Sylvia (A)  Memorial Day (Observed)	May 26	May 27 Debbie Mack Birthday	May 28 Jack/Devonne (A)	May 29 Don/Kathy (A)	May 30
May 31 Jimmy Langley Birthday	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6

## "I JUST CAN'T DO THAT"

Janice Runion



Every time I leave my house I have to drive by the high school to get to town or church or almost anywhere else. I'm going. I can't pass that school without a lot of memories of my school days. For the most part they are wonderful memories but if I could go back I'd sure do a few things different. Also things have changed so now that I'm not at all sure I could handle it. When I was in school, in our homeroom we had devotion every morning. It was such a blessing.

Going down the rows, which were in alphabetical order, we'd take our turn reading from the little "Daily Bread", "Open Windows" or which ever book the teacher had. Then we would all say the Lord's Prayer together. I loved it, at least I loved it until it was my turn!

I tried so hard to take my turn but every time, I'd start crying when I tried to read it, I was so nervous and so scared. For awhile I'd pretend I was sick so I could stay home from school, I'd usually have myself worked into such a state that I was sick.

I finally told Mama what was going on and she loved me so good she would let me stay home from school on the day it was to be my turn. She understood so well because she had the same problem. All through school she had a very hard time getting up in front of people too. She graduated next to the highest in her class and had to write a speech and give it at graduation. She worked long and hard on it, not just hours but weeks, writing and then memorizing it. She knew it by heart but on the night she got up to give the speech she was so scared and so nervous she looked at the floor and gave the speech. Needless to say everyone thought she had read it. So you see she did understand!

Now I have to be very careful because I am not being critical of Mama, I loved her too much for that. But oh how I wish she had not understood so good. How many times now do I wish she had knocked me over the head and told me I could do it! Then maybe by now I could do it! I've got a part Sunday morning at church and I know I've said the first part of Romans 8:28 a million times: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I am also praying not to have a full fledged heart attack. This is a sincere plea to parents everywhere, I implore you, don't understand, make your children take a part as early as possible. It'll do something to your heart, seeing those little angels doing their part for Christ.



## "MY BIG FEET"

Janice Runion

A small person, I'm not. I've been small before and I prefer being small and I still say there's a small person in me trying to get out. All the girls in my family got Mama's small feet, that is, all except me. I got Daddy's feet! I am not complaining, now....But there was a time it affected my whole life. In the sixth grade I felt like everybody was looking at my feet. I never, never told anybody, but I was so ashamed of those BIG feet... Size 9 and in the sixth grade! What could be more horrible. They wouldn't even fit under my desk, I tried so hard, but they wouldn't go. Believe me, there's no where to hide feet that big when you're in the sixth grade. It was so terrible.

I developed an attitude problem, and believe me that is putting it nicely. I turned into a tomboy and got into so much trouble. Hardly a day went by I didn't get into a fight with one of the boys in my class. I always wore jeans and saddle oxfords, you don't even try to dress nice when you've got feet like that!

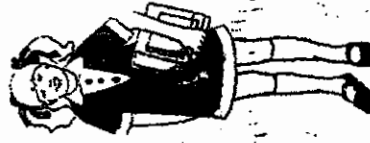
On one particular day, I'd gotten into a fight, a really bad one, we rolled down the coal bin, (full of coal) during that fight. I remember when the bell rang and we had to go back into class, how my teacher looked at me. She was such a good teacher and I knew I had disappointed her again. Ronnie (the boy I fought with) and I had to go to the sink in the back of the class to try to get cleaned up. Take my word for it, coal don't wash off easy! I was a dirty, filthy mess! My teacher must have reached the end of her rope. She called my Mama to come and get me and they talked.

When we got home, Mama talked! (I don't remember getting to say a single word). What could I have said anyway? My feet are BIG!!

But they were big and I felt everybody was laughing at them and it was terrible. I was told that day, in no uncertain terms, that from now on I would be a lady and I would wear a dress to school. I knew the world was ending. I had to clean myself up and polish my saddle oxfords, after I finally got all the coal off of them. The next day when I went to school I wore a dress, one of my sister's dresses. It had pink and gray roses on it, my saddle oxfords were polished, and she even made me wear my hair down, I couldn't even wear it in a pony tail like I always had.

Everybody was so nice, they all told me I looked nice. They treated me different. I never picked another fight, I never tried to hide my feet again. They never even knew I had big feet. They didn't care what size my feet were. I was the only one it ever bothered. People don't walk around checking the size of your feet, they have so much on their on minds they are worrying over. Most of the time if you don't point out a flaw, no one will never even notice.

Today I wear a size ten shoe and I am so thankful for my feet. God knew the paths I would go down, he knew where I was going, and He knew the size feet I'd need to get me there. I know if every hair on my head is numbered, my feet are just as important to Him. It is my continued prayer that I will always use my big feet to go and do only things that will please God and to always remember, it's what inside my heart that counts.





## "GOD HEARD ME"

Janice Runion

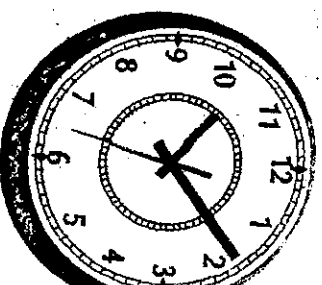


It was during revival at our church, a little girl came down and sat on the row in front of us. That was fine, I'd never seen her before, she must have been visiting. She was around nine or ten years old. Well, she didn't sit in front of us to listen to the preacher, she kept her head turned around staring at my child (who is confined to a wheelchair and subject to seizures) and she just kept right on staring! The longer she stared the more nervous my child became. When the preacher started the opening prayer, she was still staring, so while the preacher was praying, I prayed too. I said, "Lord, I'm glad that little girl is here and Lord, I don't want her to leave, but Lord, I sure wish you would make her sit somewhere else." As I opened my eyes when the preacher said Amen, the little girl stood up and went to sit somewhere else. It took everything in me not to say "Well, Glory " but of course I didn't, I just silently thanked Him.

God works out so many details for us when we ask Him to. He hears prayers, no matter how small or how large. This was so important to me, I couldn't lean over and tell the little girl to turn around and stop staring but God could, and God did. Isn't He Wonderful!!!!!!

## "WEE SMALL VOICE"

Janice Runion



Sunday mornings can get rather hectic around here. Trying to get the different ones straight and trying to have lunch at least two-thirds ready for us when we return from church. I only had a few minutes left, and I can't be late, (one thing I can't handle is going in anywhere late). I had to wrap the roast in foil so it would stay warm and not dry out. I turned the oven off and wrapped up the roast, then realized I'd let all the heat out of the oven. I then turned the oven "wide open " to get as much heat in there as quickly as possible...It was time to leave... I had to hurry!

I saw my skirt was full of static electricity so I had to spray that with static guard. I gathered up our Bibles and Sunday School books and we were finally on the way to the car. The wind was blowing so hard and it was so cold. Our hair turned completely upside down. I was fussing about that and my child was fussing, just to be fussing.

We were down the road about two houses down, a dozen things were going around in my head when it happened, it was almost audible, "GO TURN YOUR OVEN OFF!" A weakness I can't describe came over me, there really isn't any way to describe it. I put on brakes and turned around, I didn't remember, but God did! The oven was up to 450 degrees and rising, all the coils, upper and lower, were red.

I stood in my kitchen and thanked Him because He kept my house from burning down that Sunday. I felt so dearly cared for, it's a wonderful feeling and I am so truly thankful he does take care of us. I am so grateful to be HIS child.

These articles were written by Janice Runion. Janice is a fine Christian lady who does a tremendous amount of work for the Church and for the Lord. I wonder sometimes how she finds the time to accomplish all that she is involved in.

In addition to her duties as Wife and home maker, she also provides excellent care for her precious daughter, DEBBIE, who is confined to a wheel chair.

She is faithful to the Church and it's activities. She makes sure the supplies for the Church kitchen are restocked (a BIG job). She cuts out and catalogs the Pastor's newspaper articles each week. She has listened to and listed all the tapes of the Church ministry. She is active in securing meals during times of sickness and death. And I always seem to find something else she has done to improve the looks of the Church.

Now she has added the writing of Inspirational Articles to her list of accomplishments.

It's a joy to see God at work among His people; and it's a special joy to see these people want to share these Blessings with others. I hope you will enjoy the articles and God will use them in your life.

I try to encourage everyone to write something about God's work in their life. This helps extend their witness far beyond the walls of the Church. It also provides a witness that last far beyond their words.

Thanks God for the fine members of Grace Free Will Baptist Church. I pray He will continue to use their considerable talents to reach as many people as possible and help each of them KNOW Christ as Savior and then SHOW Christ in their changed life.

*Preacher Mike*

Pastor Mircheal Jones  
Grace Free Will Baptist Church  
P O Box 1003 348 Lawrence St  
Lake City, S C 29560 394-3725

## "HE GOT BY WITH IT"

Janice Runion

I'd just approached the stop sign and the car on the other side of the road turned left in front of me. He really ought to have waited because there was a car coming, kinda close to us, down the Myrtle Beach Highway. He scooted out and he made it, he scared me almost to death, but he made it.

The car coming down the beach highway turned on his siren and flashing blue light. It was an unmarked highway patrol car. The car that turned in front of me just pulled off onto the side of the road. You could almost see the car sink down into the grass. How many times have you seen that or done that? You hear the siren and you know you're guilty and you just pull off the road.

This particular highway patrolman just kept going, he didn't stop. The man knew he was guilty, he knew he was caught, but HE GOT BY WITH IT!

How often have we done or said something we know we shouldn't have and because nothing bad happened to us immediately we think we've GOTTEN BY WITH IT.

God is everywhere, there is nothing we do or say that he is not aware of. In Psalms 139 it tells us everything we do and say is recorded in heaven. He knew us before we were even born. How is your record? You can change it now, today!



# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship Service . . . 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 7 May 5, 92

"If we bite and devour one another; take heed that you be not consumed one of another". Last week we saw the horrible results of the moral cancer that has eaten at the heart of America for years. Burning, looting, and killing are simply signs of a sick society that has lost it's bearing and now feeds on it's own flesh.

The only hope America has is Real Revival. That will only come when God's People repent of sins and seek the face of God. This Thursday we have a chance to make a beginning.

All Christians are asked to join us for this very Special Time of Prayer for our Country.

Thanks to the diligent work of Rev Larry McAlister, all Churches in the community have been invited to participate in this special Prayer Service.

Join with us at the monument in front of City Hall and help us

show the world that we believe that God is America's only hope (If you cannot attend, please make an effort to send this time in Prayer).

Prayer Works. Let's Pray . . . . . Preacher Mike

### MEET AT CITY HALL

### DAY OF PRAYER FOR AMERICA

Thursday May 7, 1992

12:20 - 12:40pm

**WELCOME**-Rev Larry McAlister (Gilead Free Will Baptist Church) If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (2 Chr 7:14)

**PRAYER FOR GOVERNMENT**- Rev John Alsbrooks (Wesley United Methodist)

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. (1 Tim 2:1-2)

**PRAYER FOR FAMILIES**- Rev Matthew Brown (Faith United Methodist)

Pray one for another, . . . The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (James 5:16)

**PRAYER FOR ECONOMY**- Rev Mike Jones (Grace Free Will Baptist Church) And it yieldeth much increase unto the Kings thou hast set over us because of our sins; also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we are in great distress. (Neh 9:37)

**PRAYER FOR REVIVAL**- Rev Jimmy McKenzie (Lake City Pentecostal Holiness Church)

Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee? (Psa 85:6)

**DISMISSAL**- W C Sauls (Paran Baptist Church)

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We also want to invite you to attend the Special MOTHER'S DAY SERVICES this Sunday. We begin at 9:00am (Sharp) with a Video presentation of the Ministry of Jesus. Filmed entirely in Israel, this video will enable you to see the Physical, as well as Spiritual, impact of Jesus' Earthly Ministry.



Then at 10:00am we will have Hardee Biscuits for everyone (This will give the ladies the day off from having to prepare refreshments).

Then during the Adult Sunday School Class we look for a VERY INTERESTING LESSON as the men of the Church tell the ladies "5 Things We Should Expect from a Wife/Mother" (I will be available for Marriage Counselling all next week!!).

The 11:00am Service will allow us to honor all mothers present as well as determine what would make "The Best Mother's Day Present".

Join us this week and allow God to do something special in your life as we honor a very Special Person.



We congratulate Mrs Billie Ard on the birth of her latest Grandson, Cameron Reed. Mother and Child are doing fine. Grandmother is all excited! (Mrs Billie is part of our Puppet team that Blesses our heart every other Sunday during the 9am Service [Mrs Althea's Object Lesson alternates Sundays with them]. She is faithful to the Church and to the Lord; and I thank God for her continued work for the Lord and for the Outreach Ministry- She is one of my best book distributors).

I personally thought Volume Three was by far the worst of all the "Miracle Message" Volumes but, in spite of that, God has greatly used these little volumes to minister to many hearts. Almost every where I go in town people ask about obtaining copies. Phone calls and letters from other towns and states continue to request "Miracle Message" or Bible Study Books. It is overwhelming to see how God is using these unworthy efforts to speak to so many hearts about their relationship with Christ.



Even more thrilling to me is to see how God reaches across denominational and racial lines to minister to multitudes of people who will probably never come to our Church (Although many people I meet say they plan to visit our Church so they can see the fine Grace People I brag about. Our Welcome mat is always out).

Of course, there are some Problems that come with all these Pluses. Time is a very precious commodity if I am to accomplish the work of each week now. That doesn't allow a lot of time for me to sit and drink coffee with the members; which is really needful sometimes (Remember Jones 16:4 "Everyone needs a little petting every now and then").

Where we used to struggle to publish Hundreds of books, I now must think in terms of publishing Thousands at a time. Where I used to be satisfied with simply publishing my meager efforts; I must now work with the realization that people use our publications for personal devotions, prayer meetings, Bible Studies, and evangelistic outreach. No wonder my grey hairs are abandoning ship!

The Task is big; but God is bigger. Continue to pray that God would help build our Church here as we try to build HIS Church in the world. "It's yet to be seen what God can do with a person completely dedicated to Him". Let's see!

HOPE TO SEE YOU SUNDAY

# RESURRECTION REALITIES

John 20:2-17 (Page 1478-1479)

There are a lot of things we don't understand about:

1. Death and Dying- Why some, not others; Suffering/Pain, Time, etc
2. The Resurrection- Times (Pre, mid, Post), events (Why couldn't Mary touch Jesus when the other ladies were allowed to?), etc.

There are some realities that come into play about the Resurrection, however, that we need to keep in mind:

**I. FAITH IN THE RESURRECTION IS VITAL TO CHRISTIANITY-** 1 Cor 15:12-21 (Page 1546-47). Like the Disciples, we see and believe; even when we do not understand (John 20:10) everything.

A. This faith will effect the way we live- If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die. Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners (1 Cor 15:32-33).

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. (1 John 3:2-3)

If you know there is a JUDGEMENT TO COME then you will live accordingly (Notice how women clean their homes when company is expected).

B. This faith will effect the way we view death- So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor 15:54-57).

Death for Christians is simply separation. We miss them but we look forward to seeing them again.

**II. FAITH IN THE RESURRECTION EFFECTS OUR FAITH IN GOD:** It changed the Disciples from scared fishermen into world shaking preachers.

A. The Resurrection shows God's Power- Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage (Heb 2:14-15). God is the Master of every Problem- Frederick Nolan was a believer in North Africa. During a time of Persecution He was fleeing from torture and death. Pursued over hill and valley, he fell exhausted into a wayside cave. He knew his enemies would find him soon but he was too exhausted to continue.

As he awaited his death, he saw a spider weaving a web. Within minutes, the creature had woven a beautiful web across the mouth of the cave. The Pursuers arrived and started to examine the cave. When they saw the spider web across the entrance they assumed no one could be inside and continued their hunt.

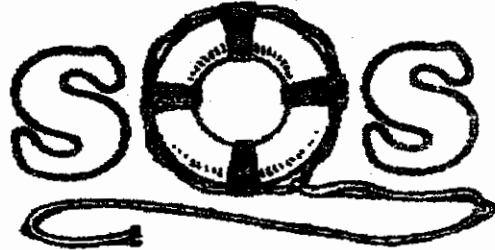
Having been spared, Nolan exclaimed, "Where God is, a spider's web is like a wall, Where God is not, a wall is like a spider's web!"

There is NO ENEMY GOD CAN'T CONQUER!! Come to the ROCK and find Shelter from life's storms.

B. The Resurrection show God KEEPS HIS PROMISES! The entire Bible is about the first and second coming of Christ. First to die for our sins and second to establish His Kingdom on earth. The First coming has no meaning without the resurrection. The Second Coming is not possible without the Resurrection!

When we see God keep His Promises through out the Bible then it encourages us to trust Him in our daily Living. Sometimes we become like the disciples at the Cross; discouraged because we forget God's promise of Resurrection.

Gary Oliver tells about a time he went swimming at the beach with some of his friends. He didn't realize the weather was changing and suddenly a rip tide formed and sucked him under the water. The tide carried him under the water until he was completely out of breath. Finally, he was able to fight his way to the surface but he was completely exhausted. Trying desperately to stay afloat, he suddenly saw a life preserver land beside him. He grabbed the preserver and a lifeguard towed him to safety on the beach.



The Lifeguard told him that he had seen the change in the weather and knew the rip tide was coming. When Gary was sucked up the water the life guard was already on his way to help him.

In the same way, God looks ahead and sees the dangers we are about to face and makes preparation before we even know there is a danger.

God's Care is Everlasting. What a rock to Cling to in the storms of life.

I was reading an article recently about a scene from the movie "Mary Poppins". In the scene, the children beg Mary Poppins to never leave them. Then they say, "Will you stay if we PROMISE to be GOOD?". Mary Poppins replies, "That's a pie-crust promise, easily made, easily broken."

God's promises to us weren't easily made, and they have never been broken. The empty tomb is God's assurance that He is conqueror of Death, Hell, and the Grave. That's a Promise you can live, and die, with.

Do you know the REALITY of the Resurrection?? Are you a Born Again Believer? Has your life, and death, been effected by Trusting in the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ??

## LIVING WITH LIES

That day David fled from Saul and went to Achish king of Gath. But the servants of Achish said to him, "Isn't this David, the king of the land? Isn't he the one they sing about in their dances: "'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands'?" David took these words to heart and was very much afraid of Achish king of Gath. So he pretended to be insane in their presence; and while he was in their hands he acted like a madman, making marks on the doors of the gate and letting saliva run down his beard. Achish said to his servants, "Look at the man! He is insane! Why bring him to me? Am I so short of madmen that you have to bring this fellow here to carry on like this in front of me? Must this man come into my house?" (1 Sam 21:10-15) (Page 415-416)

We have just past "April Fool's Day", when it is acceptable to tell "Little white lies". I thought it would be beneficial to see what the Bible really says about lies.

I want us to see HOW WRONG LIES ARE, HOW DEADLY LIES ARE, and then I want to point you to the Way, THE TRUTH, and the Life- Jesus!

Not only is Christ the Truth (Jn 14:6), He is God and it is impossible for God to lie (Heb 6:18)- And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he is not a man, that he should repent. (1 Sam 15:29)

God's Commands to His people about Lying are very clear- Exo 20:16- Thou shall not bear false witness. Eph 4:25-Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another. Col 3:9-Lie not one to another, seeing that you have put off the old man with his deeds. Lev 19:11-ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another;. Ps 101:7-He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house; he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight. Prov 19:5-A false witness shall not be unpunished; and he that speaketh lies shall not escape. Rev 21:8-But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

It's Important HOW a lie is told:

Tell someone the same lie 100 times and they will begin to believe it.

Tell that lie on the news 10 times and people will begin to believe it.

Tell that lie as a rumor 1 time and it will be believed instantly!

It's Important ABOUT WHOM a lie is told: Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue (Psa 120:2).



That seems pretty clear and straight forward; but what are we going to do with the examples in the Bible of men of God who "Lived with Lies"- Abraham lied about his wife (a "White" lie, She was a half sister) and that led his son Isaac to tell a "Black" lie about his wife being his sister! What would cause people to Lie?

## I. THE CAUSE OF LYING

### A) Fear

PHYSICAL FEAR- (Little Boys lie about stealing Cookies because they fear consequences). Abraham lied about Wife being sister from fear. David lied to Priest and King from fear. Peter lied at camp fire.

PRIDEFUL FEAR- (Fishermen). Never ask a lady how old she is or how much she weighs. Everyone thinks Bigger and Better is best so we "exaggerate" in order to be bigger and better. Churches lie about attendance.

### B) Falsehood- To Mislead People

1. You like the Thrill of mis-leading people. It's easy for these people to become "Addicted" to Lying. You find yourself unwilling to tell the truth even if it doesn't hurt you.

2. You want to be like the world but you don't want people to know what you're really doing- called Hypocrite.

## II. THE CONSEQUENCES OF LYING

A) Defilement- Oil on Clothes gets dirt on everything it touches. Lying does the same thing. It strains your reputation and reliability.

B) Dishonesty - Live the life of a Hypocrite. Never at peace with yourself or around others. Unable to have a good relationship with your family, your friends, or God.

Jesus said their graves were full of dead men's bones- pretty outside but stinking to high heaven inside.

C) Defeat - Be sure your sins will find you out (David didn't know people would read about his actions). Magic Johnson found there is pain as well as Pleasure.

Satan's lie is that:

1. You can make it without God and the Church

THE TRUTH: You can't make it without CHRIST to save you!!

2. You won't enjoy being saved

THE TRUTH: You receive an Abundant life knowing that if you die you go to Heaven and if you live God will care for you!!

3. There's too many Hypocrites in the Church

THE TRUTH: Better to worship with them in the Church that be tormented with them in Hell!!

4. Maybe Tomorrow would be a better day

THE TRUTH: Today is the day of Salvation; Tomorrow may be too late!!

The Devil is a liar and the father of lies. His lie to you today is that you can find what you are looking for in the world. What he doesn't tell you is the results of your riotous living- Famine in this life and Fire in the next. Come to Christ TODAY.



# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship (WWFN 100.1) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 8 June 2, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

The Teacher Training Course at Oak Grove FWB Church went very well. Brother Roger Johnson has a fine group of people and they treated me almost like I have some sense (In Spite of the way I act)!

We were also glad to have many of the folks from the Socastee FWB Church visit in these services. Rev Billy Poe Jones is the Pastor.

Many many books were given away and a large number of new addresses to our Newsletter were added. This gives us a whole new area to minister in and I hope we can reach multitudes for Christ.

It also almost depleted our supply of several books. That means I may have to re-publish several books before I begin anything new. Hopefully, we can accomplish this during June. Pray that God would give direction.

We are also thankful for the people of Grace who are willing to serve as Teachers and Officers. The new list is included later in this newsletter.

These people work hard to teach their class how to KNOW Christ as Savior and then SHOW Christ in their Christian Life. I commend them for their effort and dedication.

As most of you know, we lost the Radio Broadcast of our 11AM Service March 1st when the station we had broadcast on for years went off the air. Like everything else we do, we have been looking for a way to turn this Obstacle into an Opportunity.

Now God has graciously opened the door for us to broadcast our service over an FM Station- WWFN "Fun 100" 100.1 (Something we have prayed for for years).

The only "problem" was the cost. The station is giving us a very good rate but we are looking at several new ministries in the Church and I did not feel it appropriate to endanger them by requesting money for this.

God has always met the needs of any Outreach Ministry we undertake so I knew He would for this also. I asked for, and within three days received, Faith Promise Offering from members of the Church to completely cover the cost of this Ministry (GLORY!).

We are set to begin Broadcasting on Sunday, June 14 at 11am. You can help by telling Sick and Shut-in people to tune in. You can also pray for the people who have been willing to trust God to supply the (Continued on Back)

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

Grace FWB Church  
P O Box 1003  
Lake City, SC 29560

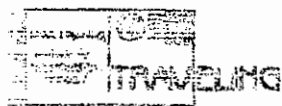
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money for this ministry each month. This can be a life changing time for them as they see God miraculously provide the money they have pledged each month. Which is part of our Goal- To build People while we seek to reach People.

[It may be informative for the new people who are receiving our newsletter to know that the Outreach Ministry operates on a completely separate budget from the Church. ALL of the books, tapes, and materials we give are paid for from the Outreach Ministry. All of the equipment and supplies for these ministries are paid for by the Outreach Ministry. The Outreach Ministry promotes the Church while it's telling the world about Christ but it doesn't cost the Church anything. In fact, well over half of the income for the Ministry comes from people outside this Church.

Many of these contributors I have never met or have met for only a brief time. Yet, God always sends in exactly the right amount at exactly the right time and the work continues to progress and expand. Praise God for His Goodness!].



If you plan to vacation in our area this summer we'd be glad to have you visit our services. You'll find friendly folks and some very good singing; and, thanks to Brenda and Jennifer Lowder, some very pretty flowers at the Church door and around the Church sign.

Come see us. . . . . Preacher Mike Ps 16:11

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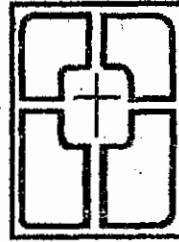
#### OFFICERS AND TEACHER for 1992-1993:

SUPERINTENDENT	Ralph McAllister
Assistant	Howard Frye
SECRETARY	Michelle McAllister/Theresa Lowder
ADULT	Rev Mike Jones/Damon Runion
TEENS (15-18)	Connie Mathis/Brenda Lowder
INTERMEDIATE (12-14)	Sylvia Gowdy/Hope Frye/Kathy Lewis
JUNIORS (9-11)	Anne McKnight/Dot Sullivan
PRIMARY (6-8)	Paula Jones/Susan Spring
BEGINNERS (3-5)	Althea Coker/Jenene Brown
NURSERY (0-2)	Billie Ard/Miriam McAllister

#### REFRESHMENT LIST

Sun, June 7	Paula Jones & Glenda Jones
Sun, June 14	Brenda Lowder & Debra Poston
Sun, June 21	FATHER'S DAY
Sun, June 28	Jeanie Taylor & Connie Mathis
Sun, July 5	Jackie Lowder & DeBe Miles
Sun, July 12	Miriam McAllister & Robin Matthews
Sun, July 19	Dot Sullivan & Eulalia Jordan
Sun, July 26	Devonne Hanna & Leila Thrasher
Sun, Aug 2	Sylvia Gowdy & Brenda Sullivan
Sun, Aug 9	Hope Frye & Ruth Langley
Sun, Aug 16	Marjorie McAllister & Theresa Lowder
Sun, Aug 23	Althea Coker & Mary Wilkes
Sun, Aug 30	Paula Jones & Betty Lou Thompson
Sun, Sept 6	Janice Runion & Billie Ard
Sun, Sept 13	HOMECOMING
Sun, Sept 20	Susan Spring & Teresia Coleman
Sun, Sept 27	Jenene Brown & Michelle McAllister
Sun, Oct 4	Kathy Lewis & Jeanie Taylor
Sun, Oct 11	Anne McKnight & Brenda Lowder
Sun, Oct 18	Dot Sullivan & Patricia McKnight
Sun, Oct 25	Eulalia Jordan & Connie Mathis
Sun, Nov 1	Sylvia Gowdy & Debra Poston
Sun, Nov 8	Paula Jones & Lila Tisdale
Sun, Nov 15	Hope Frye & Glenda Jones

Our YOUTH COMMITTEE- Kathy Lewis, Sylvia Gowdy, Jeanie Taylor, Hope Frye and Roxanna Young- are doing an OUTSTANDING JOB. The Committee has shown much wisdom in their decisions and firm convictions in their standards and I'm behind them 100%. I Appreciate their effort and look forward to this VITAL MINISTRY growing and prospering in the days to come. Our Young People need Training and Christian Activities and I expect the entire Church to lend a hand whenever and wherever they're needed.



**YOUTH  
FELLOWSHIP**

Our First Major Activity will be Friday, June 17 here at the Church. All of the details aren't "nailed down" yet but it will be a night to remember for Adults as well as our Young People.

Future activities will include the Young People inviting the rest of the Church to go with them on a camping/canoe trip and other special activities for the Youth. We also plan to schedule some Youth Speakers during our "Sunday Night Service" at 9am.

Every activity will be geared to promote Christian Fellowship and, as much as possible, each will include Bible Study and Christian Development time.

THANKS Youth Committee, for your commitment and time. You're doing a great service for the Church and for the Lord.

### CHRISTIAN QUIZ

1. When did you become a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Was there a time of "backsliding" in your life in which you did not attend Church, pray regularly, or have a close relationship with God? \_\_\_\_\_. If so, Why do you think that happened? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What do you think is the biggest change in your life as a result of being a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What areas in your Christian life do you consider the least effective (Where do you think you fail God the most)???  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What do YOU like the most about being a Christian??  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. the least?? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What do you consider your part in the body of Christ??  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What gift has God given you? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is your favorite book in the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What area of normal living gives you the most trouble as a Christian (What is your biggest temptation)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

We are in the process of Cataloging our Audio Cassettes so we will be able to supply them to people who request them. This is a preliminary page of some of the early tapes. They are available to anyone desiring them simply by requesting them.

Please make your request by Title and Date so Brother Russel will know where to look in our files for the Master. (These are OLD tapes, recorded under a vast variety of circumstances so we can't guarantee the quality will be as good as those we presently distribute)

TITLE	SPEAKER	TEXT	DATE
"Mad Man Meets the Master	Rev Mike Jones	Mark 5	6-23-74
"Do you Know Jesus?"	Rev Bobby Parker	REVIVAL	9-23-76
"Are You Fit for Heaven"	Rev Bobby Parker	REVIVAL	9-22-76
"Pressing Into the Kingdom"	Rev Mike Jones		10-10-76
"When God Burns Fields"	Rev Mike Jones	II Sam	10-31-76
"Ambassador for King"	Rev Mike Jones	II Cor 5:20	11-7-76
"Satan's Wars and Wiles"	Rev Mike Jones	Josh 9:	11-7-76
"Damage Wrought by Sin"	Rev Mike Jones	Is 53:5	11-14-76
"Miracle Middle Age Demands"	Rev Mike Jones	Acts 3:	11-14-76
"Obtaining Glory of God"	Rev Mike Jones	II Thess 2:	11-21-76
"Thy God, My God"	Rev Mike Jones	Ruth 1:	11-21-76
"Small Things"	Rev Mike Jones	Jn. 12:1-8	11-28-76
"Vine and Branch	Rev Mike Jones	Jn. 15:1-8	11-28-76
"Person of The Holy Spirit"	Rev Mike Jones	STUDY COURSE	12-01-76
"Ministries of Holy Spirit"	Rev Mike Jones	STUDY COURSE	12-08-76
"Who's Going To Heaven?"	Rev Mike Jones	Rev. 21:7	12-05-76
"Problems Holy Spirit Solves"	Rev Mike Jones		12-05-76
"The Greatest Gift"	Rev Mike Jones	Jn. 3:16	12-12-76
"Gal. 5"	Rev Mike Jones		12-12-76
"Figures of Holy Ghost:	Rev Mike Jones		12-19-76
"Mary Had A Little Lamb"	Rev Mike Jones		12-19-76
"Be Filled With The Spirit"	Rev Mike Jones		12-29-76
"The Spirit and You"	Rev Mike Jones		1-02-77
"Prepared Ways"	Rev Mike Jones	II Chron. 27:	1-09-77
"Body and Spirit"	Rev Mike Jones	I Cor. 6:	1-09-77
"Redemption"	Rev Mike Jones		1-16-77
"Satan"	Rev Mike Jones		1-16-77
"Satan's Devices"	Rev Mike Jones	(40 min.)	1-19-77
"Rest For Restless"	Rev Mike Jones	Matt 11:25	1977
"Lingering Lot"	Rev Mike Jones		1-23-77
"Satan & Your Mind"	Rev Mike Jones		1-23-77
"Demon Possession"	Rev Mike Jones		2-16-77
"How Shall I Give Them Up?"	Rev Mike Jones		1977
"Sins Power & Pardon"	Rev Mike Jones		1977
"When Sin Is Fatal"	Rev Mike Jones	James 2:10	2-06-77
"The Perfect Man"	Rev Mike Jones	Ps. 37:37	2-06-77
"What's In A Name"	Rev Mike Jones	Prov. 18:10	2-13-77
"Revival Requirements	Rev Mike Jones	I Sam. 7:3	2-13-77
"Nevertheless"	Rev Mike Jones	Matt. 26:39	2-20-77
"Despaired of Life"	Rev Mike Jones	II Cor. 1:8	2-20-77
"God and Company	Rev Mike Jones	Mk 16:	4-10-77
"What To Do About Doubt"	Rev Mike Jones	Hab.	5-29-77
"Sin & Sickness"	Rev Mike Jones	Ps. 107:17	6-12-77
"Reasons To Follow Christ"	Rev Mike Jones	I Cor.	8-21-77
"Human Depravity	Rev. Henry Van Klugve		8-21-77
"Back To Bethel"	Rev Mike Jones	Gen 12:-13:	8-22-77
"A Man God Can Use"	Rev Billy Sevan	Ez. 22:30	8-23-77

## MOM'S GREATEST GIFT

Prov 31:10-31, Ps 127 (P660-661)

I have learned of many unusual or well remembered gifts for Mother's recently. My dad gave my mom a La-z-boy recliner HE wanted for her Mother's day present. Probably the one present I have given her that she kept for a long time as a pot holder I made while I was confined to the hospital in my youth.

Other Moms have told me about Concrete Rabbits, Hand Made Hearts, A wheel barrow with hoe, rack, and pitch fork, an aquarium, a bird bath with an angel, a mixer instead of the watch she really wanted, and, get ready for this one, Lew Gowdy! (His birthday was Friday).

As you can see, Mother's get a large assortment of gifts. Most of the time, the Mother learns to look at the love behind the gift instead of the actual gift. What could be the greatest Gift you could give a Mother, however?? Diamonds, Vacations, flowers....

Let's look at some things about Mothers. I think that will help us determine the greatest Gift she could ever get.

### THE PURPOSE OF MOTHERS:

I. **COMPANIONSHIP FOR MAN-** (Gen 2:20-22) And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. God provided a woman for man and established the boundaries of that relationship to be marriage.

For Purity: This makes homosexual "relationship", Adulterous affairs, and pre-marital sex wrong.

For Partnership: Companionship in marriage is more than living in the same house and sleeping in the same bed. It involves sharing your life with one another- communicating, Caring, Considerate.

II. **CONCEPTION OF CHILDREN-** (Gen 1:28) And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. God's Plan to repopulate the earth involves Parents having Children. In this FAMILY UNIT (The disaster of today is Unwed Mothers, Divorce, and live in lovers {Hollywood is indeed another name for Hell!}) God established ways of promoting Authority and Education. Children are placed in a home so the world can develop it's potential as people develop their potential. Our job is to rebuild the earth as we build people. It seems today that we are destroying both!!



III. COOPERATION IN GOD'S PLAN-- Ps 127:3-5 Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Mothers do not exist, however, solely to satisfy maternal instincts and to have children they can nurse and fondle. Their real purpose is bringing into the world eternal souls (Male and Female) which are to live on in eternity. Such a Privilege, Such a Responsibility!

That bundle of joy in their arms is a gift from God to be taught the ways of God and directed to the acceptance of God's Salvation. When Moms (and Dads) stand before God and answer to God for their Children, they will want above everything for that Child to be Saved and following God's Plan for his or her life.

With joy we bring them, Lord  
Devoting them to Thee,  
Imploring, that, as we are Thine,  
Thine may our offspring be.

That's why I can say that the greatest present you can give your mom is the Acceptance of Jesus Christ as your Savior and the Dedication of your life to serving the Lord. In all of years of Pasturing, I have never seen a single Mom or Dad who was sorry their Child was saved and serving the Lord. I have, however, met multitudes of parents who were extremely sorry their Children were living in Sin, controlled by the devil, and bound for Hell.

WHAT CAN BE DONE to give Mother This Greatest Gift??

1. The Parent's Example:

Saved Yourself

Faithful to the Church and to Family Devotions

Consistently Trusting God and letting your Family know that

2. The Children Exhortation:

Has God been dealing with you lately??

Down in your heart, would you love to be right with God??

To Give this Gift, you must first accept it from God. Will You?

THE WATCHER- MOTHER

Margaret Widdemer

She always leaned to watch for us,

Anxious if we were late,

In Winter by the window,

In summer by the gate.

And though we mocked her tenderly,

Who had such foolish care,

The long way home would seem more safe

Because she waited there.

Her thoughts were all so full of us-

She never could forget!

And so I think that where she is

She must be watching yet.

Waiting till we come home to her,

Anxious if we are late-

Watching from heaven's window,

Leaning from heaven's gate.

## FADE NOT

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time (1 Pet 1:3-5)

Last week we rejoiced in the Resurrection as a symbol of God's Big "Paid in Full" for our sins. Peter tells us in today's scripture that beyond the Resurrection is the Reward of Inheritance. This inheritance is guarded by the power of God and Peter says it will never perish, spoil, or fade away- Glory! (Not a Mirage but a Living Hope)

NOTE- We must distinguish between the Reward of Inheritance and the Rewards that we will receive for specific accomplishments. The first is ALL of GRACE and is ours as a result of Salvation.

The Rewards for accomplishments, on the other hand, are the results of the kind of life we live. They will probably be given out at the Judgment Seat of Christ- Rom 14:10-12 For we shall all stand before the Judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, as I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

These Rewards for Accomplishments are generally called CROWNS. There are 5 crowns the Believer may receive:

1. The Incorruptible Crown (Deals with Dedication) I Cor 9:25 Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things, They do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

2. The Crown of Righteousness- (Having to do with our Love and Purity- See I Jn 3:2-3) II Tim 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

3. The Crown of Life (Having to do with our Steadfastness). James 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love him.

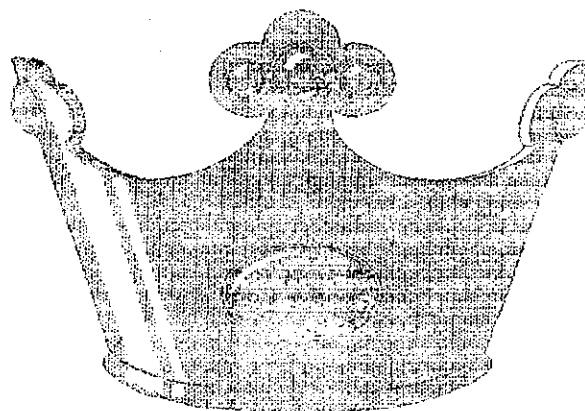
4. The Crown of Glory (For faithful Pastors) I Pet 5:2-4 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

5. The Crown of Rejoicing (Soul Winner's Crown) I Thess 2:19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

Some of the things we may be judged for are:

- a. How much we live our lives in accordance with God's Plan
- b. How we treat other believers.
- c. How we use our talents
- d. How we suffered for Jesus
- e. How effectively we control our old nature
- f. How many souls we witness to
- g. How we react to temptations
- h. How much we read and live the Word of God
- i. How faithful we are to Church

The Average Christian thinks very little about the importance and place of rewards until he comes to face death; or begins to study about Salvation. As FNB, we believe in the possibility of Apostasy. That causes us to watch in our own life and warn those who wander into the World. Of more concern to me, however, is the tragic tears of many Christians who will stand before God with empty hands, saved so as by fire (I Cor 3:15). How tragic to stand before our beloved Savior and have nothing to cast at His feet in Praise and Adoration.



We all begin to become uneasy when we talk about failures in our life and loss of rewards. There is an important place for this kind of examination, repentance, and re-dedication. But our goal today is to show that God is able to Preserve and Keep us and to rejoice in that fact.

Peter says that our inheritance will never perish, spoil, or fade away. What does he mean and how does God do that?

Look at what the Psalmist says in Psalms 31:23-24 (P500) *Love the LORD, all his saints! The LORD preserves the faithful, but the proud he pays back in full. Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.*

God's preservation works much the same way we preserve something.

1. Place in a place of safety- God calls us His "Peculiar" people. The word means "surrounded" and shows that God encircles His people. No temptation or trial can come our way without God making a way of escape or providing strength to overcome. We are put in the hand of God and No man or things can pluck us out (Although I must remind you that YOU can walk out). WE'RE SAFE IN THE SAVIOR.

2. Put under heat and pressure to destroy germs (Canning vegetables)- God preserves us by allowing the trials of life to strengthen us. Who does not find more time to pray when sickness or trouble comes our way?? Troubles draw us closer to God; just like the threat of an indian invasion used to cause men to rush to the fort for protection.

3. Seal away from the elements (Paint or Varnish)- The Lord preserves us by calling us to be separate from the World. His command is to Love not the World, neither the things that are in the world. That's not because He hates for us to have a good time; That's because He knows the consequences of contamination.

God love you. It is not His will that ANY PERISH. God's love is not simply to keep you out of hell. It is also to give you an abundant life here and an inheritance that will never fade away. Isn't that what you want??

I know it's going to take stepping away from your old way of life and coming to God. I know that's a scary step. Remember that I'm not asking you to depend on your own strength or ability; I'm asking you to trust God's power to Save you and Preserve you.

God can save you today. God wants to save you today. God can keep what you commit to Him. Come to Christ today and be born again. It will cleanse you from your sins and give you an inheritance that fades not away.



# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship (WWFN 100.1) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 9 June 25, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

The past several weeks have been a time of Triumphs and Tragedies mixed together in s t u n n i n g proportions. Several of our families lost Father and Sister or Father-in-law and wife within a three day period. And we have had some of the best services you could ask for.



We sorrow with the Lowder/Jordan Family on the loss of Mr. Hubert Lowder and his daughter, Mrs. Eulalia Jordan. It

has been an extremely difficult time for these families and we continue to pray for God's Comfort and Strength for all of them.

Yet, in spite of all of this tragedy, this past week-end was a wonderfully refreshing time in the Lord.

Friday night the Drama Team from Emmanuel College came to our Youth Fellowship, gave some marvelous skits, and even spent the night with our kids in our lock in! It was a good night, with little sleep, but lots of fellowship.

Sunday Morning during our Nine O'clock service, the Emmanuel Drama Team presented some more skits and really spoke to people's hearts about the reality of their relationship with the Lord. [Videos of all these services are available. They contain some great ideas for skits for YOUR Youth Meetings.

Then at 10am we had a time of sadness as we recognized the Robert Young Family and wished them well as they move to Myrtle Beach. We will greatly miss them and look for them to return soon and often.



Immediately following our refreshment time, Rev Jimmy Aldridge showed a video of the work in the Ivory Coast. It was a great Blessing to see how God is saving souls and working in lives in this Mission Field.

Then Brother Aldridge spoke during our 11am service and there as a mighty moving of God's Spirit at the end of the service. A number of people dedicated themselves to witnessing and working for the Lord. Thank God for His Presence.  
(Continued on back)

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

Grace FWB Church  
P O Box 1003  
Lake City, SC 29560

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Finally, on Sunday night, our exhausted people went to the beginning service

**MUSIC  
MINISTRY**

of Camp Meeting in order to sing in the combined choir of all the choirs that had taken Brother David Cable's music course. Let me just modestly say that if they had done any better the Lord would have probably shouted "Glory" so loud until the Rapture would have taken place!! What a joy it is to see our Choir continually improve. They've gotten so good at "priming the pump" before Preaching now until even I ought to be able to half way preach.

We continually try to make it easier for the Choir to do

their best. Last week (Just before all the tragedy struck) Brother Damon Runion built a platform for the back row of the Choir so they can be seen better and heard better

on Radio. **PROJECTS**

While this was going on, Brother Marion Coker located two vents under the Choir that had been closed off since the Church was build (30 years ago) and opened them up. Now the Choir can really get down to it because they finally have some air circulating up there.

As you will see from the enclosed Calendar, we have a number of activities planned this Summer. All of them have one goal- to develop

Christians and to reach the Lost with the Gospel. All that is, except Family Fun Night. We'll have a devotion and try to be as religious as possible;

**4TH  
JULY**

but mainly we'll just get WET! We'll have sack racks, spit watermelon seed, have bucket brigades, eat Hot Dogs, catch water balloons, and even try to let 3 people get on the same pair of "skis" and race 3 more people on another pair (A new game that came from our last Youth Fellowship). But most of us will try to convert to Methodist and try to get sprinkled instead of getting dunked like a Baptist!! What a way to celebrate freedom!

The Lord continues to marvelously bless the Outreach Ministry. The Radio Broadcast has done very well so far and we look to improve it's quality all the time. The Newsletter now goes to over 700 homes in 19 states and people comment about how much they enjoy it everywhere I go. The Newspaper articles continue to reach many, many people each week and we've just touched the surface of that ministry. And the printing of books continues to increase. Between the Jail Ministry and the request received via phone or mail, a large number of books are distributed each month. And we look for this to continue to increase.

The book of James- "Faith on Trial" is the latest to be reprinted. This is the Fourth printing of this book and God had greatly used it's message. Numerous Pastors have used it to do a Bible Study for their Church and we recently heard that several of the people who are saved in the Jail Ministry are using "James" as their beginning Bible Study (Boy, I want to get my new convert book ready to print!). Order your copies today.

Men are crying in Despair. Souls are dying and going to Hell. Won't you help me lead them to the Cross. Let's Pray and work til Jesus Comes.

Preacher Mike Psalm 16:11


**BIBLE  
STUDY**



# GRACE FWB Church

June 21 - August 1, 1992

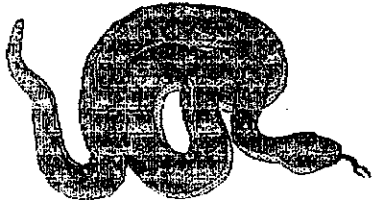


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>June 21</b> Father's Day 9:00am Remembrance Drama Team (Youth) 11:00am Rev Jimmie Aldridge (Mission)	<b>June 22</b> Joe Henry Lowder Birthday	<b>June 23</b> Cam Newell Birthday	<b>June 24</b> Debe Miles Birthday Nellie Howard Birthday Prayer Meet New Town Legacy	<b>June 25</b>	<b>June 26</b> SC Conf.	<b>June 27</b>
<b>June 28</b>	<b>June 29</b> Betsy Clemmons Birthday	<b>June 30</b>	<b>July 1</b> 7:00pm FAMILY FUN NIGHT	<b>July 2</b> Tom/Anne (A) Neal Lowder Birthday	<b>July 3</b>	<b>July 4</b>  Independence Day
<b>July 5</b> Darin Matthews Birthday	<b>July 6</b> Leahanna Lewis Birthday	<b>July 7</b> Jeff/Teresia (A)	<b>July 8</b> Youth Meet	<b>July 9</b>	<b>July 10</b>	<b>July 11</b> GYF Bowling
<b>July 12</b>	<b>July 13</b> 7:30pm Woman's Auxiliary	<b>July 14</b>	<b>July 15</b>	<b>July 16</b>	<b>July 17</b>	<b>July 18</b> Gleamers-Wacattae Zoo
<b>July 19</b> 9:00am Missionary Janet Matthews	<b>July 20</b> Matt Ard Birthday	<b>July 21</b> Russel Lowder Birthday	<b>July 22</b> Youth Meet	<b>July 23</b> Calvin/Susan (A)	<b>July 24</b> Matthew Fryo Birthday Tabby Taylor Birthday	<b>July 25</b>
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION - Indianapolis						
<b>July 26</b>	<b>July 27</b> Angela Young Birthday Michael Mathis Birthday	<b>July 28</b>	<b>July 29</b>	<b>July 30</b> Marion/Althea (A)	<b>July 31</b>	<b>Aug 1</b> Preacher Mike Birthday Wado McKnight Birthday

## SNAKE SERMON

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived. (Num 21:4-9)

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14-15)



From the very beginning, when Satan came as a Snake in the Garden, men have had to recognize the danger and destructiveness of Snakes. Now God is sending them among his own people. From this tragic event, however, comes one of the great illustrations of God's Redemption.

**I. THE REASON THE SNAKES CAME-** People were weary in the way. They were tired of traveling and never getting to their destination. So they began to complain about Moses and God. As a punishment, God send Snakes among them.

Five Possible Causes they became tired and impatience:

1) Life was harder than they thought it should be- Edom had refused them passage. This greatly increased their travel time and discomfort. This led to Complains against God and Moses.

2) Lose of Spiritual Leader- Aaron had died (Aaron was a People person who stayed with the people while Moses met with God).

3) Conflicts came- Had just fought first battle (Arad the Canaanite). God no longer did it all.

4) Lost of Faith in Leader- Moses has sinned and had told them he would soon die (Insecurity).

5) Sorrows had come- 40 years of Funerals (over 603,550 had died). Every household had buried loved ones along the way.

**II. THE RESULTS OF THE SNAKES-** Everyone who was bitten died. This is a serious situation. Something must be done. You must realize that the snake in your life is not a Pet but a threat; Pretty colors but poisonous bite!

**III. THE REDEMPTION FROM THE SNAKE BITES.** A brazen snake on a cross is raised and the people can "Look and Live". The only cure is the Cross.

As you travel the road of life today, you too may be tempted to fight against God and God's People. That will lead to sorrow and trouble. Come to the Cross. That's the only thing that can help you.

If you've been "snake Bit" because of some sin in your life. Come to the Cross. There is healing awaiting you there.

## SATAN'S BID FOR YOUR SOUL

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.  
-- James 1:12-15 (P1625)

One primary fact that everyone should be aware of is that Satan is out to destroy your life and damn your soul. He will promise you anything you want and give you everything within his power if he can only get you to follow him instead of God. And, according to the Scriptures, the "broad road" that he's on that leads to destruction is the road of popular choice-- many will follow it to destruction.

In our Scripture today, James declares that we are to preserve (Keep on keeping on) under trial. He then shows the **FOUR DOWNWARD STEPS** that Satan uses to guide us into destruction, misery, and hell.



**FIRST- TEMPTATION** - Something excites our Desire for the downward life. (This is not Sin; it is the inclination to do wrong-you can't keep the bird from flying overhead but you can keep him from building a nest. And you can keep out of his flight path!)

**SECOND- PARTICIPATION**- The temptation is embraced by Sinful Self and we yield to the wrong that Satan wants us to do.

**THIRD- DOMINATION**- Sin begins to control our life. "Recreational" Drugs make you a slave. A "little" anger leaves bruises on your wife and children.

**FOURTH- CONDEMNATION**- Sin, when it is full grown, brings death. Once you become a slave to sin it will destroy you Physically, Emotionally, Mentally, and Spiritually. The Wages of Sin are Death. These wages must be paid! Either by the shed blood of Christ or by you in Hell forever.

The problem starts with a small (maybe innocent) desire. Unchecked or misused, it develops into a problem that can destroy the person and those around them (Via Influence). What we want to do in the rest of this message is help you identify problem areas and then see how God's power can deliver you from future problems and God's Pardon can forgive you for past failures.

First we need to see **THE ORIGIN OF TEMPTATION 13-14**

A) Not from God- God cannot be tempted with evil. It is impossible for God to consider doing wrong. Because Natural Inclinations can be used to tempt us (Sex, need of rest-drugs), Satan accuses God of tempting you. NO!! The Scripture says that "God does not tempt any man."

B) From within Self

1. A common Problem-EVERY man (See I Cor 10:13). The Sin Nature we inherited from Adam is within all of us. Every person must contend with it.

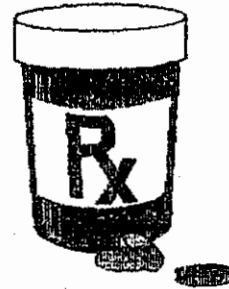
2. An enticing Problem-Bait is used to lure you. Sin never shows the naked hook! The trap allows you to see the Bait but not the Bite of Sin.

3. A varying Problem- drawn away of his own Lusts (One man's worm may be another man's Bait!!)

Next we need to see THE BONDAGE OF TEMPTATION- Paul said in First Corinthians 6:12 "I will not be mastered by anything." Yet many people are mastered by LIFE CONTROLLING PROBLEMS. These problems destroy their life, tarnish their reputation, short circuit their testimony, and, left unchecked, damn their souls.

Other names for life controlling problems are- Addiction, dependency, strongholds, slavery, compulsive behavior.

Some types of Life controlling Problems are- Compulsive spending, sex, gambling, shop-lifting, eating disorders, power, money, fame, drugs, alcohol, sports, TV viewing, etc. EVERYONE HAS THE POTENTIAL FOR HAVING A LIFE CONTROLLING PROBLEM!!



A person will normally go through FIVE EMOTIONAL STAGES WHEN FORCED TO FACE A LIFE CONTROLLING PROBLEM (Interestingly enough, these are also the stages a person goes through when faced with a deadly disease- For example, told they have cancer).

FIRST- DENIAL - We Delude ourselves into thinking that there is no problem or it's no Big Deal--- "I'M NOT A SINNER"

SECOND- ANGER - We blame God, Ourselves, or Others and continually ask, "Why is this happening to me?". "GOD MADE ME THIS WAY"

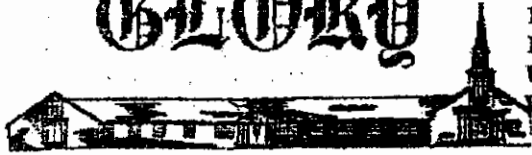
THIRD- BARGAINING- We strike a bargain with God, ourselves, or others. If you will help me, I will give money, etc. "I'LL BE GOOD"

FOURTH- DEPRESSION- There is no hope for me. "I'M NOT WORTH SAVING."

FIFTH- ACCEPTANCE/PEACE- Come to grips with the FACT of the Problem and LOOK TO GOD FOR THE ANSWER. "I ACKNOWLEDGE MY SIN, I REPENT, AND I ASK CHRIST TO FORGIVE MY SINS AND COME INTO MY LIFE"

Have you lost control of your life? Has Satan been dragging you down by promising you Pleasure, Peace, or Profit?? Come to Christ today. God Can make you a NEW CREATURE in Christ. The Gospel proclaims forgiveness for your past and Power to have a new life in the future.

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
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Worship (WWFN 100.1) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 10 July 23, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

THANKS! I just want you to know that I appreciate the opportunity of visiting with you from time to time via means of this newsletter. It seems the Lord is better to me than to anyone else in the world and I look forward to the opportunity of sharing what He is doing in this ministry.

In spite of the fact that this past Sunday was a major "Vacation" Sunday, our attendance was good and the services were great.

Mrs Janet Matthews, Missionary to Guatemala, was with us in the 9am service and did a wonderful job of sharing her burden for the work there.

Then the Sam Taylor family had prepared "Hot Pocket" meals for everyone and we had a great refreshment time (What a Blessing this family has been to our Church since they started attending).

Finally, after being absent from WWFN for several weeks because they were off the air, we were able to broadcast our service again Sunday and it was the best sounding of any broadcast to date. I hope we have finally gotten most of the bugs worked out now. (I appreciate Joel Jones helping in this important ministry. God send him to us at just the right time.



By the time you receive this newsletter we hope that the printing of "I and II Thessalonians- Preparing for the Rapture" will be completed. Brother Russel is working on it now and hopes to finish by Thursday. Then all we'll have to do is fold and staple it and it will be ready for distribution.



Mrs Janice put together several copies of "Colossians- Complete in Christ" last week and that is now available for anyone desiring it also.

I am trying as hard as I can to get at least a few copies of all our booklets available so those who need the information can obtain it. I'll publish a complete list of available material soon.

Thanks to all of you who have given to this ministry recently. Publishing books is an expensive undertaking. We also continue to provide much material for new converts, other pastors, and those who want to reach their loved ones with the Gospel. Your help is tremendously appreciated as we begin to see more and more fruit from the "seed" we have sown.

I'm ready to meet the Lord. Are you???? . . . . . Preacher Mike

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

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## Defeating Demons

There are two errors that people fall into when dealing with the subject of Demons. One is to ignore (or disbelieve) their existence, the other is to develop an excessive or unhealthy interest in them.

The main things we are concerned with today is that (1) They are very real, (2) They have tremendous power, and (3) We have the Victory over them through our standing in Christ- *Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. (2 Cor 2:14).* But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor 15:57).

Defeating the Demons that attack us involves 4 areas of attack:

1. **PRAYER OF AUTHORITY** (Because it comes from a Faith that is based on the Word of God)- And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, *What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him. (Mark 1:27)*

And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, *What a word is this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out. (Luke 4:36)*

You must be confident of God's Power if you are to defeat Demonic Attacks.

2. **PROTECTION OF SPIRITUAL ARMOR**- Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; (Eph 6:10-18)

Since these are not fleshly enemies, they cannot be defeated with only fleshly methods. The Christian must take God's Armor for protection in the fight and use God's weapons in order to defeat the enemy.

3. **PURITY OF LIFE**- Neither give place to the devil. (Eph 4:27)

Don't allow Satan a foothold in your life. He will turn it into a stronghold. Satan will use sin in your life to Defeat you and to Denounce you ("You know you can't witness because you aren't perfect").

4. **PRACTICE OF RESISTANCE**- Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7). Make Godliness a life style, not a Sunday Situation. Be aware of Satan's work in your life and continually denounce it. A Neutral Christian makes God sick and allows Satan to work IN you as well as ON you.

Demons are very Real. They are also a Defeated Foe if we depend on God's Power. Don't look for Demons behind every bush; but don't be blinded to their work in your life.



## DEMONIC CONTROL

There are 2 Sources of Conflict in the life of a Christian:

1> **Desires Within**- From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? (James 4:1).

2> **Demons Without**- For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph 6:12).

Today we want to look at the second of these enemies.

The word DEMON is not found in Scripture. The basis guideline about determining if the scripture is referring to the Devil or Demons is:

A) Devils (Plural with "s") is always referring to Demons

B) Satan does not possess a person (only known exception was Judas)- A person possessed with a devil (Matt 9:32) or a person having a devil (Luke 7:33) refers to Demon Possession.

C) When the king of Demons is in view it always means Satan (Lu 4:2, I Pet 5:8, Rev 20:2)

**NOTE:** Demons can **INFLUENCE CHRISTIANS** but they can't Possess them. In Demonic Influence there is no loss of consciousness (The Demon is unable to take over the will of the person). They can only attempt to get the person to listen to and heed their instructions. In Ep 4:27 we are told not to "give place to the Devil"; and in James 4:7 we are told to "Resist the Devil" so he will flee.

While the Demons are not able to possess a Christian (I Jn 4:4), they can:

A) Shift you as wheat Luke 22:31-32

B) Be allowed to bring disaster and sickness as Job

C) Give a thorn in the flesh II Cor 12:7

Demons tempt us to have evil tempers (Ep 4:26-27), use hasty words (Lu 9:54-55) and Fleshly (carnal) reasoning (I Cor 3:-), fear death (Heb 2:15), etc.. They Oppress our Hearts and Obsess our minds.

Demons can **POSSESS SINNERS**. In Demon **POSSESSION** the Demon takes up residence in a person and uses them as they want; when they want. The word **POSSESSED** in the Greek means: To be exercised by (or to be under the control of). Think of a man "exercising" a horse- He makes the horse do what he wants him to do.

A **DEMONIAC** is a person whose personality has been invaded by one or more demons (In Mk 5 the demon was "legion" (6000, that entered 2000 hogs) and Matt 12:43-45 says a man takes 7 more into himself. Mary Magdalene had 7 cast out of her Luke 8:2), who at will can speak and act through their human victim, deranging both his mind and body.

Can you say this out loud (And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God:- 1 John 4:3)-

I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God; That He came to earth and took a fleshly body; in order to live a sinless life and die for man; thus paying sin's debt and breaking Satan's power; that He was buried but the grave could not hold Him, so He was resurrected from the grave conquering death, hell, and the grave; He ascended back to God the Father; one day to return for His people and set up an everlasting Kingdom.

### **The Weapon the Demons Use- SIN**

1. **Sin Embarrasses us** (Causing us to (1) Fear God-Adam and Eve in Garden, (2) Fail to Testify, and (3) Fall into Despair and Depression)- behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out (Num 32:23).

2. **Sin Causes others to Stumble-** But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts. (Mal 2:8)

It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak (Rom 14:21)- It Harms Us and Hinders Others. We become the wrong kind of example and demons use this to label all Christians as Hypocrites.

3. **Sin Enslaves us-** All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any (1 Cor 6:12). Some Ways that Sin Traps us and makes Slaves of us are:

1> Wrong Companions (Friends, Mate, Business)- They shall not dwell in thy land, lest they make thee sin against me: for if thou serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto thee. (Exo 23:33)

2> Peer Pressure- The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe. (Prov 29:25)

3> Hasty Words (Anger, Vows, Gossip)- Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth. (Prov 6:2) A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul. (Prov 18:7)

4> Fleshly Passions (Adultery, Pornography)- And I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands: whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her; but the sinner shall be taken by her. (Eccl 7:26)

5> Greed for Riches- But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. (1 Tim 6:9)

4. **Sin Condemns us-** Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God (1 Cor 6:9-11).

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death (Rev 21:8).

Satan is out to Destroy you, Now and for Eternity. Christ came to forgive your sins and give you Eternal Life. Why do you continue to allow Satan to control you and condemn you when you can be Born Again today by simply repenting of Sin and Trusting Christ for Salvation.

## CHOOSING TO REBEL

There is a principle that even a Child knows: Disobedience brings disaster (Pain, "I told you you'd get hurt if you did that" and Punishment, "Spankings") and Obedience brings Blessings (Hugs, extra Privileges, and Rewards). This same principle is used by the Lord- Is 1:19 *If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the Sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.* (P799-800)

But while all of us know the benefits of Obeying, we find it hard to always obey as we should. We find ourselves choosing to Rebel instead of Choosing to obey. This is one of the biggest hinderances to our Christian life; and to people becoming Christians.

There are several reasons we don't Obey:

1. DISTRACTION: Something comes along that turns us away from our task (Husbands are notorious about this. Wife tells him to carry off papers. On shelf beside papers finds wrench he'd lost, goes to car to tighten bolt, then checks oil, etc. 3 hours later wife has to gently and with a very loving spirit (!) remind him of his original task).

2. DELAY: We put off doing what we are supposed to do and either forget or get so involved with what we're doing until we don't feel like accomplishing our task ("I'll wash the dishes after this program goes off". "I'm so sleepy, can I wash the dishes tomorrow"). [Do you have any idea of how many people each year die and go to Hell because they put off Salvation til "Tomorrow" or Christians put off witnessing til later!].

3. DISCERNMENT: We fail to UNDERSTAND the Purpose of the Order (Why do I have to do this silly science project, I'm going to marry some rich man and the only science I'll need is the ability to distinguish between gold and silver credit cards!) [In the Spiritual life we have to learn to accept God's Commands by Faith; even when we don't understand].

We fail to COMMUNICATE- "I know you told me you wanted dish detergent; not hair spray". Many people fail to obey God because they don't take time to listen to His still small voice (And if God has to "holler" at you, He knows how to get your attention!!).

4. DEFIANCE: We "WILL" not do what we're told to do. We must grasp the fact that the basis of Obedience is YIELDING THE WILL- Jn 6:38 *For I am come from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.*

A) Some hide Defiance behind Education: Ever learning but never doing anything. Some people won't do Anything until they know Everything which means they'll do Nothing! (More people are won by new converts who don't know much about the Bible than by "Scholars" who know Theology but never tell the Good News).

B) Some hide Defiance behind Emotion: Obedience is tied to how we feel. These are the people who determine to be good Teachers, singers, or workers when they go thru a good emotional time but then can't be counted on when their down cycle comes along.

C) Some hide Defiance behind Substitutes:

1> Sacrifice for Obedience- I Sam 15:22 And Samuel said, hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifice, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. I won't teach a class, God, but I'll work hard at my job so I can give you 10% of the bonus I'll get.

2> Words for Obedience- Matt 21:28-31 One son said he would go but he didn't. We try to hide behind our words but God sees our Hearts; and our actions!!

3> Excuses for Obedience- Matt 25:14-30 vs 25 I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: We fear Failure and Public Opinion and so we blame our lack of Ability; or God's lack of Provision! instead of trusting in the Power and Presence of God.

WHAT CAN YOU DO??

1> Pray for God's Help in Obeying- Phil 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure God will give the Strength you need for any task He assigns you.

2> Make obeying God's Will the most important desire in your life- Jn 4:34 My meat is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to accomplish his work. Realize that we are obeying God and the results have eternal consequences.

3> Don't give in to feeling; learn to walk by Faith.

If you will Abide you must Obey! Are you a Disobedient Disciple or a Submitted Servant?? Commit your Will and your Works to God today.

IS THIS YOUR COMMITMENT?

I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord,  
Real service is what I desire;  
I'll say what you want me to say, dear Lord-  
But don't ask me to sing in the choir.  
I'll say what you want me to say, dear Lord,  
I like to see things come to pass:  
But don't ask me to teach girls and boys, dear Lord  
I'd rather just stay in my class.  
I'll do what you want me to do, dear Lord,  
I yearn for the Kingdom to thrive;  
I'll give you my nickels and dimes, Dear Lord--  
But please don't ask me to tithe.  
I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord,  
I'll say what you want me to say; BUT  
I'm busy just now with myself, dear Lord--  
I'll help you some other day.

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH


A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship (WWFN 100.1) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 11 August 6, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

It may be hot outside but it's COOL in the Parsonage. No, my wife and I haven't had a fight! The Church just purchased a new heating/cooling unit for the Parsonage and it works great! The old unit was over 20 years old and was just about shot. Thank the Lord for the good people of Grace who agreed to make this much needed change.

I hope we still feel this good about each other when Sunday gets here. Because of the difficulty of obtaining some of the equipment we needed, we had to call off our rafting trip. Instead, many in the Church are  **OVERNIGHTER** going to Mike McGee's lake home for a time of Bible Study and FUN this coming Friday and Saturday. After 40 or 50 people spend a night and day together with little sleep, much sweaty activities, and only 2 bathrooms(!); we'll see what kind of Christians they really are!!!

Seriously, we look forward to the fellowship time and really appreciate the Youth Committee for organizing this time together. We also appreciate Connie Mathis and Althea Coker for their help in the Devotion times and we especially

Appreciate Mike McGee for allowing us the use of his home.

Here is the list of the Bible Study book that I have been promising you. All are available now so write for as many copies as you need:



Miracle Message Volume One, Two, and Three. James- "Faith on Trial". 1 & 2 Thessalonians- "Ready for the Rapture". Nehemiah- "Learning to work and Worship together". Proverbs- "Practical Philosophy for Pilgrims". Old Testament Survey (Commentary on every book in the Old Testament- our biggest book). The Twelve Disciples. Colossians- "Complete in Christ". And, Our Prayer Book.

Plans call for the publication of 5 more books this year. God is greatly using this part of the ministry right now and I want to do as much as possible while we can.

Your Support, your prayers, and the dedicated workers here at Grace make it possible for us to reach thousands of people each week. Thank God for those who have responded recently with Salvation or Rededication decisions. That makes it all worth while.

..... Preacher Mike

### To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

Grace FWB Church  
P O Box 1003  
Lake City, SC 29560

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## THINGS THAT MATTER

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me: For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry. And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus. The cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works: Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words. At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge. Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen (2 Tim 4:6-18).

While reading through "my prophet", Jeremiah, the other day I came across an interesting statement- Jer 15:1-2 Then said the LORD unto me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth. And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith the LORD; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity (Jer 15:1-2). Rather a harsh statement for God to make. It shows how serious He takes the sins of His people; and how heart breaking they are to Him.

In this statement God is basically saying to Jeremiah that NO ONE and NOTHING can stop the death of this people. What if we could know the same thing today? What if I could stand here today and say, without fear of contradiction, that you would die this coming Thursday (The date of this scripture in our Daily Bible) at 9:45pm (I added a time to the date because that takes away any "vagueness" and gives it more of a sense of urgency). What would be your priorities in this last week of your life?? What would be the THINGS THAT REALLY MATTERED??

Each of us would probably make a list of things, depending on our property and priorities. What I want to do today is look at a man of God who was faced with a similar situation and see what he thought really mattered as death approached. And I want you to consider while we're doing this what the priorities are in YOUR life; should they be changed or would you want to face God just as you are today?



# Funerals

These are the THINGS THAT PAUL SAID MATTERED WHEN YOU COME TO DEATH'S DOOR:

### I. A COMPLETED TASK MATTERS

Paul said he had "stayed on the course" of God's Plan for his life. He described this in three different ways:

- 1> "I have fought a good fight"- A Courageous Life
- 2> "I have finished the race" - A Completed Task
- 3> "I have kept the faith" - A Confident Trust

Paul had persevered until he "rescued the Princess". He hadn't allowed the pitfalls of life or the attacks of Satan to defeat him. Now he could look forward to the "Crown of righteousness" that Christ would soon give him.

It will matter when you come to death how you have faced life! In order to have confidence you must know:

(1) What God wants YOU to do- You won't do your job if you don't know what it is.

(2) When God says the job is completed- God buries His workmen but His work goes on. It's God's work, and God will say the job is completed. Don't begin to think it's YOUR work and you are indispensable.

Are you accomplishing God's Plan for your life?? (Some people ask how they can know the Will of God. The Will of God is-

**LEARNED BY DEDICATION**-And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (Rom 12:2)

**PROVED IN HOLY LIVING**-For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: (1 Th 4:3)

**PROCLAIMED BY A THANKFUL HEART**-In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. (1 Th 5:18)

**SOMETIMES INVOLVES SUFFERING**-Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator. (1 Pet 4:19)

The Thing to remember is that God's Will for your life normally involves a PLAN rather than PRODUCTION. Most of the Major Prophets in the Bible were failures according to societies standards but they accomplished God's plan for their life! That's what matters

### II. COMPANIONS MATTER Paul listed 3 kinds of Companions:

A) Those Who Broke his heart- Demas, a friend who let the world lead him astray. Alexander, who simply opposed him (A man is sometimes best judged by his enemies- Beware when all men speak well of you)

B) Those who Blessed his life- Luke, who was a friend and co-worker. How rich is the man who can work with people he calls friends.

C) Those Brought back into fellowship- He and Mark had been reconciled and now both were doing a work for God.

When it comes to death it matters who your friends are. Don't die with silly situations used as barriers between you and others.





### III. COMFORT MATTERS-

A) For the Body- Bring me my Cloak. The prison was cold and damp and Paul was getting up in years. He recognized that the "little things" like a warm coat really mattered.

That's a lesson we need to re-learn today. It's amazing how many yard sales we have as we get older and recognize what REALLY brings us comfort. It's astonishing how many closets are so full we can't put clothes in them and the things that are in them haven't been moved in years.

B) For the Mind- Bring my books and especially my parchments (Bible). Paul had built his life on the Word of God and now he wanted it sustaining strength as he came to death's door. The foundations of your mind, and the actions of your life, will be built, to a large degree, on what you read and meditate on ("As a man thinks in his heart, so is he"). If you fill your life with trash, the stench will eventually come out.

As long as we're human we have needs. It matters where we get those needs met.

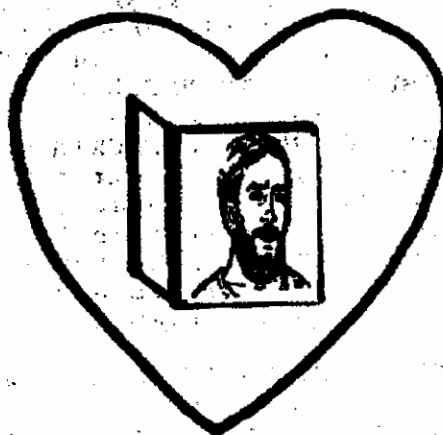
### IV. CHRIST MATTERS-

#### A) The Companionship of Christ matters in Life-

1. When Paul faced a difficult situation in Corinth, the companionship of Christ sustained him- Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city. And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them (Acts 18:9-11).

2. When Paul was put in Jail the companionship of Christ strengthened him- And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome (Acts 23:11).

3. When Paul faced a life threatening storm, the companionship of Christ supported him- And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, (Acts 27:22-23).



B) The Companionship of Christ matters in Death- When you walk through the valley of the shadow of death, family and friends will have to let you go. Only Christ can walk with you then; and he will walk with you then, only if you walk with Him now!

That's what matters, your relationship with Christ. Are YOU ready to die today?



# CLAY POTS

Jer 18:1-10 (P979)

Jeremiah is the "Weeping Prophet" of his nation's last days. God's judgement is coming and Jeremiah has the unenviable task of showing the people their sin and declaring God's judgement. Several times in the preaching of this judgement Jeremiah used OBJECT LESSONS to enhance his preaching (Just like the wonderful object lessons Mrs Althea gives during our 9am service). These Object lessons included a Marred girdle, the denial of the comforts of a wife and family, and the making of a clay pot.

It is the lesson of this clay pot that we want to look at today. In the sermon on the Clay pot Jeremiah will show the people the wonder of God's work in making us into the vessel He desires and then he will show the awful consequences of failure to follow God's Plan in your life.

That is especially important today. We are facing economic upheaval, political unrest (Where everyone is set to vote their money instead of their morals), and moral revolution (Sexual perversion, murder, robbery, and anarchy). If there has ever been a time that we need to "Nail Down" our part in the work of God, it's today. If we aren't established on the rock then the rocks that are falling all around us will surely smash our pots and leave us empty and worthless.

## I. THE MANUFACTURE OF CLAY POTS

A) The POTTER (God- *But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand. (Isa 64:8).*

The Potter has a PLAN for the Vessel- "Shaping it as seemed best to him". This Plan is (1) God's Plan- "Before I formed thee I knew thee and I ordained thee". (2) This Plan is the only place of Peace. (3) This plan is different for different people- Christians are part of the body of Christ- some legs, some eyes, some hands. YOU MUST LEARN TO BE CONTENT AS THE VESSEL GOD MAKES YOU- *Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor? (Rom 9:21).*

Always remember this- THE PERFECTION OF THE VESSEL IS THE POTTER'S DESIRE. He wants you to be a "vessel unto honor, sanctified and meet of the master's use"- This means you fit in the place God puts you.

B) The WHEEL (Circumstances). The Potter's Hand remains in one place while the wheel turns the vessel. God uses life's varying circumstances to mold and make us for HIS glory. "The Trying of our Faith works patience". Don't try to "slip off the wheel" or God can't use you.

The hand of God WORKS FROM THE INSIDE to shape us.

The vessel is not ready for use until it has been baked in the furnace!

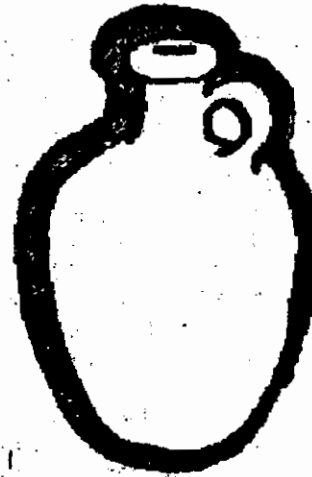
C) The CLAY (Person- *The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter! (Lam 4:2).* This Clay must yield to the touch of the Master's hand:

1. To fashion us into a useful vessel.
2. If we resist we will be broken by the hand of the potter and the turning of the wheel. That's not God's will; it's the result of our rebellion (Which is the point of Jeremiah's sermon about the potter).

II. THE MINISTRY OF CLAY POTS is To give Glory to God- But we have *this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us (2 Cor 4:7).*

It is not the Pot that is supposed to get the Glory!! It's what's inside- If Christ is lifted up then He will draw all men into Himself. Far too many people today are more interested in painting the pot than in using it to perform a useful function- like my wife's salt and pepper shaker collection. She has some interesting designs but all they do is fill up shelves and collect dust!

<It is interesting to note that the last beast Government that brings in Antichrist will have - *feet part of iron and part of clay* (Dan 2:33). It will be a government largely based on HUMANISM; in which honor is given to man above God (Abortion is right because a "woman has a right to do with her own body what she wants"; regardless of the Word of God. Homosexuality is an "alternate lifestyle" because that's what some people want; regardless what the Word of God says)>.



Sometimes in order to bring Glory to God we must be willing to be Broken:

1> Gideon's men had to break their pots in order for the light to shine through.

2> Mary had to break her box of ointment in order to anoint Jesus' feet.

Some of the greatest servants of God have been people who endured tremendous physical and financial circumstances. Broken in body, discouraged in mind, they have allowed their faith in God to shine in a way that could never be known otherwise.

Sometimes, however, the vessel is broken because of REBELLION. Unwilling to submit to God's plan for their life, the vessel fights the hand of the Potter and mars the vessel so badly until it has no value for it's intended purpose.

The GOOD NEWS from God, however, is that He can take a broken vessel and re-make it-- *And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. (Jer 18:4).*

But you must be willing to submit to Him and allow His plan to be worked out in your life. That's scary, until you become utterly convinced that God LOVES YOU. Then you know you can trust Him; and a peace comes over you that passes understanding. Will you submit today???

Teach me, O Lord, to serve as thou deservest,  
To give, and not count the cost;  
To fight and not heed the wounds;  
To toil, and not to seek for rest;  
To labor and not ask for reward;  
Save only of knowing that I do thy will.

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship (WVLC 1260AM) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 12 August 20, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

The Overnight trip with the Youth Fellowship was Wet and Wonderful. We learned many things; including the fact that it's dangerous to put a water pistol in the Preacher's hands! In spite of that we still had good participation and a good spirit. I appreciate everyone's cooperation.

We'll continue to spotlight our youth the next two week. This Coming Sunday (August 23), Rev Todd Parrish, Youth Pastor of Horse Branch FWB Church, will be speaking during the 9AM Service. We look forward to him coming and expect a real Blessing.

Then on Sunday, August 30, the Youth Fellowship will conduct the entire 9AM Service. They will perform choir specials, solos, and instrumentals. They will lead the service, receive the offering and even bring the Message. Don't want to miss this one.



Speaking of Services, We're now broadcasting our 11AM Service over WVLC (1260AM) each Sunday. WWFN is undergoing an ownership change and it's new format has yet to be

determined. WVLC will go to 5000 watts beginning September 1 so we'll reach all of Northeastern South Carolina.

We have finally been able to reprint our study of REVELATION. It's available right now (Bigger and better than ever) for anyone desiring it (I already have nearly 50 orders to mail). Thanks to Brother Russel Lowder for his work in printing this book. It took a tremendous load off me.

Old Testament Survey has also been a much requested book. I appreciate the interest and pray God will use all our literature to reach people for Christ.

**Grace Bible Institute** will begin again on Tuesday, September 15. It will run through Tuesday, October 27. The Two courses offered this Semester will be (1) Building Christian Character (A week each on Soul Winning, Prayer, Bible Reading, Being Spirit Filled, Recognizing Satan's Attack, and Learning how to Worship) and (2) Preparing a Message- Teaching Preachers and SS Teachers how to use resources and prepare a message. Call if you need more information.

..... Preacher Mike

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

Grace FWB Church  
P O Box 1003  
Lake City, SC 29560

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# CHRISTIAN CONDITIONS

One thing wrong with Christians today is that they try to live the "Christian" Life without realizing it's supposed to be the CHRIST LIFE lived in and Thru them. All that self effort makes them tired and discouraged so that the Abundant Life become the Agonizing Life. It's time we looked at what the true CHRISTIAN CHARACTERISTICS are:

I. The Christian's Past -- without Christ. Eph 2:11-12 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, ...at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: No Peace, No Pardon, No Purpose in Life--And sinners think coming to Christ will limit their life!!

II. His Present -- in Christ. Eph 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Being IN CHRIST makes us New Creatures (II Cor 5:17). We are now free from the debt of sin and have become part of the Body of Christ.

III. His Pattern -- live Christ. Philippians 1:21 For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain.

A) Regardless of the Cost- Philippians 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life or by death.

B) Regardless of the World- Col 3:1-3 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

IV. His Passion -- to know Christ. Philippians 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; This passion overcomes all other passions and projects- Phil 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.

V. His Purpose -- for Christ. Philippians 3:7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. As part of the Body of Christ, He has a function that is specifically suited to him. He realizes that if he does not perform his part in the body then the entire body will suffer. This means living the way God wants instead of the way the World or the Flesh says live. But that brings a Peace that is almost unbelievable when we finally know and occupy our Place in the Body of Christ.

VI. His Power-- through Christ. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. ALL THINGS!! WOW!!

VII. His Prospect -- the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Phil 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Not only was there the Prospect of Reward for his Service but also the promise of Resurrection- Philippians 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Are you living the "Christian Religion" or does Christ live IN and through you???

## THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

Never have so many people, who have so many time saving devices, spent so much time trying to find the time to do what they need to do! If a product doesn't have "Instant" on it anymore then it has little chance of being bought. No one has time to do things the LONG way. They want Headline News, Condensed books, and family meetings to last no longer than 1 to 2 minutes.

In the midst of all this stress and anxiety, it's easy for people to begin "Cutting God short" also. I want us today to see Four Principles that will enable us to enjoy the Abundant Life that God promised us. These Principles are based on heeding the "Whole Counsel of God". They will turn you from a Convenient Christian (Who only serves God during a Convenient time) to a Committed Christian.

- I. READ AND HEED ALL THE BIBLE
- II. PUT WORKS WITH YOUR FAITH
- III. DON'T JUST HOUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT- BE FILLED
- IV. DON'T JUST LEARN ABOUT SALVATION- ACCEPT CHRIST

**I. READ AND HEED ALL THE BIBLE-** *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Tim 3:16-17). (P1623)*

About the only time People have for God's Word anymore is that five minute time after you brush your teeth; just before sleep overtakes you. During that time they want God to comfort them, guide them, develop them as Christians, and tell them how to live in a world gone mad!! So they read a Psalm (They're short) or part of a New Testament Chapter. The rest of the Bible is hard and boring. Leave that for Preachers and Sunday School Teachers.

What if Public Schools only taught one Course, English; because they thought math was hard and history was boring? What if Mom only cooked one food because it was easy and she didn't have the time to be bothered with cooking more?

When people only read the "Fluff and Favorites" of the Bible they don't develop as Christians. Their Christian life is sick and weak because they eat only desert and never get any exercise.

That is why we are stressing that **EVERYONE IN THE CHURCH READ THE ENTIRE BIBLE THIS YEAR**. I have built most of our messages this year around our Bible readings. I have spent over \$1000 in Bibles so everyone could have one. Why? Because I believe it's important.

**THERE ARE LESSONS TO LEARN:** *For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope (Rom 15:4).*

**THERE ARE WARNING TO HEED:** *These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come (1 Cor 10:11).*

The Old Testament provides the historical background by which we are able to understand the New. The New Testament contains over 600 references or allusions to the Old (The Old Testament WAS THE BIBLE to Jesus and the Disciples!!).

Do you listen to ALL God has to say; or do you just pick out a favorite saying every now and then?

The Whole Counsel of God is the ENTIRE BIBLE. Don't short change yourself, and God, by neglecting most of it.

**II. PUT WORKS WITH YOUR FAITH-** What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead (James 2:14-17). I know that the Just shall live by his faith. But if his faith doesn't effect the way he lives then something is wrong with his faith!

With the Mind we LEARN God's Truth

With the Heart we LOVE God's Truth

With the Will we LIVE God's Truth

Christians who say they believe God but never put any Christian works with their faith are only fooling themselves. The Christianity you talk about on Sunday Morning better be lived on Monday Morning.

**III. DON'T JUST HOUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT; BE FILLED-** Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Eph 5:18-20)

Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. As such, we should not defile it or unequally yoke it with sin. But it's not enough to just have a house for the Holy Spirit. We want Him to move in and take complete control. This will give us:

Power- To try to do the work of God without the power of God is like trying to empty the ocean with a pitchfork; you'll work your self to death and never accomplish anything. The Power you need to work and witness is found in allowing the Holy Spirit to control you. This filling is not a silly performance but a life changing power.

Pleasure- When the Holy Spirit is in Control He brings that Full Joy we long for. This will cause us to "speak to ourselves in songs, hymns and spiritual songs." People will see the difference in your life; and want what you've got!!

Prayer- Helps us with intercessions that cannot be uttered. Many times we don't know how to pray. All we can see is our pain or our problem. The Holy Spirit can help us pray for God's Will to be done.

**IV. DON'T JUST LEARN ABOUT SALVATION; ACCEPT CHRIST-** Multitudes of people have heard the plan of Salvation but never have come to the person of Salvation- Christ. Salvation is not a game you play but a life you live. It means we turn from the control of Sin and Satan and allow Christ to forgive our sin and guide our life. It's the best thing in this world and makes all the difference imaginable in the next.

You know how to be saved; why don't you come to Christ RIGHT NOW? How sad it will be to spend eternity in Hell crying, "I knew how to be saved. I knew I ought to be saved. But I never got saved!"

## TEACHING CHILDREN ABOUT HONOR AND RESPECT

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"--which is the first commandment with a promise-- "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord (Eph 6:1-4 P1606).

Authority - The lawful right to expect and enforce obedience

Honor - To esteem or regard highly

Respect - Honor shown towards those who are worthy

Rebellion - Active opposition towards authority and those who are in positions of authority

Honor or dishonor involves **ATTITUDES** as well as **ACTIONS** - respectful or disrespectful behavioral patterns are the way we manifest, or make known, those attitudes.

The "Authority" can demand that certain Actions take place but the Attitudes must be changed by the person involved- You can make a child stand in the corner but inside he'll still throwing a temper tantrum.

### 1. Who is worthy of honor and respect ?

a. God - And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before me. (Exo 20:1-3)

b. Parents - Ephesians 6:2

c. Elders (People who have gained wisdom in the difficult school of hard knocks)- Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity (1 Tim 5:1-2).

d. Those in places of civil or social authority (Government Leaders)- Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. (Rom 13:1-3)

e. Those in places of religious, spiritual authority (Church Leaders)-The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages. (1 Timothy 5:17-18)

Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. (1 Th 5:12-13)



2. How do we develop honor and respect in our children ?
  - a. By Instruction- "Train up a Child in the way they should go"
  - b. By Illustration- The way the Parent reacts to those in Authority will have a great impact on the way the Children react to them.
  - c. By Insistence- Guidelines must be Set and then adhered to.

3. In what areas of a child's life are honor or dishonor revealed?
  - a. Verbal communication- If a man curses his father or mother, his lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness (Prov 20:20).

- b. Non-Verbal communication (voice tone, body language, facial, expression, etc.)

- c. Obedience to other areas of authority- Many times, trouble at school or church are the Child's way of defying authority at home.

- d. Styles of dress and personal grooming

- e. Choice of companions- Now Esau learned that Isaac had blessed Jacob and had sent him to Paddan Aram to take a wife from there, and that when he blessed him he commanded him, "Do not marry a Canaanite woman," and that Jacob had obeyed his father and mother and had gone to Paddan Aram. Esau then realized how displeasing the Canaanite women were to his father Isaac; so he went to Ishmael and married Mahalath, the sister of Nebaioth and daughter of Ishmael son of Abraham, in addition to the wives he already had (Gen 28:6-9).

*Party!*

4. Why is it important that a child learn to honor authority, and show proper respect ?

- a. It is the plan of God, as revealed by His order:

	<u>God</u>	
	<u>Parents</u>	
<u>Church</u>		<u>Civil Authority</u>
	<u>Child</u>	

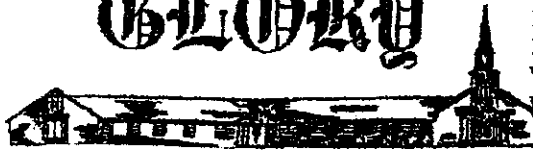
Only God is inherently worthy of complete Respect and Obedience. All others are worthy only because they have earned that respect or because God has declared that they are to be respected. Obedience to God must always supersede obedience to anyone else.

- b. Failure to do so is a sin.

\* [Much of this material came from a study by Rev Joe McKnight, of Beulah FWB Church of Pamplico. I appreciate it and look forward to other Pastors sharing some of their material with me. I need all the help I can get.]



# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship (WVLC 1260AM) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 13 Sept 8, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

### HOME COMING THIS SUNDAY

We're looking for all our friends and former members to join us for our HOME COMING Service THIS Sunday (Remember that we start at 10am!). Come share the Blessings with us. Keep in mind also that the GRACE BIBLE INSTITUTE begins Tuesday,

September 15. Classes will run from 7pm until 9pm. This semester the two classes will be "How to Prepare a Message" and "Building Christian Character".

10:00am - Noon (No 9 o'clock service).  
Hymn #111 "Take the Name of Jesus with You"  
(First Song Sung when Church Organized)  
Prayer/Responsive Reading-Ralph McAllister  
Object Lesson- Althea Coker  
Puppet Presentation- Connie and Billie  
Hymn #221 "How Firm a Foundation"  
(First Song in Church Building)  
Reading of Church History- Marion Coker  
Testimonies  
Meet our Guest Break  
Hymn #353 "Bringing in the Sheaves"  
Prayer  
Report on Church Ministries  
Youth- Sylvia Gowdy  
Ladies Aux- Kathy Lewis  
Choir- Damon Runion  
Outreach- Pastor  
Announcements  
CHOIR CONCERT  
Offering for the Church Building Fund  
Message  
Dinner- The Church will provide Fried Chicken. We have Volunteers for Ice and Bread. The Ladies of the Church will graciously provide the remainder.

Classes will run for only six weeks so you need to be here for EVERY session.

The Revelation book and OT Survey are being well received. We also finished the study on Colossians last week. Thank the Lord for all He is allowing us to do in these last days. Your

Prayers and Help are invaluable.

See you at Home Coming  
(Wouldn't it be great if Home Coming was in Heaven this Year!)  
..... Preacher Mike

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

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# GRACE FWB Church

August 30 - October 10, 1992



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Aug 30</b> <i>Jennifer McGee</i> Birthday <b>9:00am YOUTH SERVICE</b>	<b>Aug 31</b>	<b>Sept 1</b>	<b>Sept 2</b> <i>Roxanne Young</i> Birthday <b>Youth Meet</b>	<b>Sept 3</b>	<b>Sept 4</b>	<b>Sept 5</b>
<b>Sept 6</b> <i>Arnold Lowder</i> Birthday	<b>Sept 7</b>  Labor Day	<b>Sept 8</b>	<b>Sept 9</b>	<b>Sept 10</b>	<b>Sept 11</b> <i>Howard/Hope (A)</i> <i>David Wilkes, JR</i> Birthday	<b>Sept 12</b>
<b>Sept 13</b> <b>HOME COMING</b>	<b>Sept 14</b> 7:30pm Woman's Auxiliary	<b>Sept 15</b>  Grace Bible Institute	<b>Sept 16</b> <i>Elise McBride</i> Birthday <i>Calvin Spring</i> Birthday <b>Youth Meet</b>	<b>Sept 17</b> <i>Johanna Lowder</i> Birthday	<b>Sept 18</b>	<b>Sept 19</b>
<b>Sept 20</b>	<b>Sept 21</b> <i>David Gowdy</i> Birthday	<b>Sept 22</b> GBI Autumn begins	<b>Sept 23</b>	<b>Sept 24</b>	<b>Sept 25</b>	<b>Sept 26</b> <i>Brenda Sullivan</i> Birthday
<b>Sept 27</b>	<b>Sept 28</b>  Rosh Hashban-ah	<b>Sept 29</b> GBI	<b>Sept 30</b> <i>Damon Runion</i> Birthday	<b>Oct 1</b>	<b>Oct 2</b>	<b>Oct 3</b>
<b>Oct 4</b> <b>Joint Missionary Service-Carlise Hanna</b>	<b>Oct 5</b>	<b>Oct 6</b> GBI	<b>Oct 7</b> <i>Ralph McAllister</i> Birthday  Yom Kippur <b>Youth Meet</b>	<b>Oct 8</b>	<b>Oct 9</b>	<b>Oct 10</b> <i>Todd/Cam (A)</i>

Getting People to KNOW and SHOW CHRIST

9/5/19

## RETURNING MEANING TO LIFE

We talked Wednesday Night about what "Meaning to Life" was all about. We determined that Life assumes meaning when we have Confidence in God's Forgiveness Plus the ability to forgive ourself. Then we recognize God's Plan for our Life and walk in it.

Sadly, many people have lost this abundant Life and now live lives of quite desperation. We're here to help change that today.

The first thing we must do is **RECOGNIZE THE PROBLEM**. No matter how much water you pump you will never fill a pail if the bottom is rusted out!

So let's look at the **FOUR THINGS THAT STEAL THE JOY FROM OUR LIFE**:

1> Rigors of Life- Debt, Disease, Death, Disasters. All these combine to rain on our parade on a regular basis. It's hard to keep a joyful attitude when Life keeps dropping bricks on your head!

2> Rut of Routine- We **NEED** Routine; but it becomes so easy for routine to trap us into a Rut. Once we're in the rut, it's easier to stay in the rut than to make the effort needed to break out (The rut does most of the driving for us now!). Then the Rut becomes a grave without ends as we want to break free from the jail we've become captured in but find we don't have the energy or ability. We give up Hope of change and allow the rut to control our destiny and our destination.

3> Ruin of Sin- Sin is Appealing. It's Fun to do (The consequences are frightful but the actions are Fun). We must teach people to do right but they just naturally do wrong-- I don't have to preach about waiting your turn to attend Church; I have to tell you how sorry you are that you always look for excuses to miss Church!!

Sin steals our time, our heart, and our conscience (People can justify ANYTHING). Then, when it traps us, it pounds on us and tells us how sorry we are and our hopeless it is for us to think we can possible change.

All of these "joy stealers" are easily recognized. The easy thing for me to do now would be to tell you to "straighten up and do better. Then come to the Altar and tell God you're sorry". The sad truth, however, is that most of the people who came to the altar and just prayed a prayer would be back in their ruts before Wednesday night! When they walked out the door of the Church, Life would slap them beside the head, Their routine would require them to do certain things that would ease them right back into the rut, and the ballgame would still seem more entertaining than the Bible.

That's because we have left out the most common "Joy Stealer" among people who attend Church- The Rituals of Religion. The very thing that is supposed to Give us life ends up Stealing it!

Sermons beat us in the head instead of building us up in the Lord. We volunteer for a task and find that other Christians are apathetic at best and sometimes down right hard to live with. It becomes more fun to recognize who comes in late than to really read the words of the song we're singing. Church really becomes boring to us. We only come because of duty, guilt, or social obligation.

How did the Church become a Boulder of Burden instead of a Rock of Rest and Protection? What causes the Solution to become the problem.

The answer is relatively simple. The Bible says the Meaning of Life is found in a proper relationship with Christ. We have changed that to believe that the meaning to life can be found in Church Attendance. We have succumbed to the greatest temptation of religion.

The greatest temptation of religion is to **BECOME WORSHIP CENTERED INSTEAD OF SERVICE CENTERED**. Service without power found through worship is inadequate, but worship which does not express itself in service is worthless- Or as James said it, "Faith without works is dead".

Madame Chiang Kai-shek said, "Confucianism worshiped ancestors, but never built an old folks' home". I fear today she would say that Christians worship God but never serve Him.

Once a soap manufacturer was arguing with a minister about the value of religion. The Soap manufacturer said that religion had been here a long time and sin still existed. At that time they passed a boy playing in the mud. The Minister said that soap didn't work because the boy was still dirty. The manufacturer said, "But it would if it was applied". "So would religion", said the Minister.

It's simply amazing but Jesus never told about casting anyone into outer darkness because of a particular sin. It was always a failure in service. The rich man was sent to Hell because he ignored Lazarus; not for any specified wrong. The Pharisees did not do anything "wrong" but they failed to help people. The man who failed to use his talent did not do anything "wrong". He was cast into outer darkness because he did not use what God had given him. The five virgins who were excluded from the wedding had not become unclean; they had simply let their lights go out.

Christians seem to think we are righteous because of the bad that we don't do. Jesus continually emphasized the good that we should do!

So there you have it. If we are going to return meaning to life we must return to God's Purpose for our life. A person who loses purpose; loses life. That's why you will never enjoy life until you begin to live for something. The unhappiest people in the world are the people who live only for themselves. Life without meaning is the thought that if you died tonight it would not be a loss to anyone.

This Purpose in life is not found in feverish activity or financial abilities. It is found in service commissioned by God. It is taking the talents God has given you and using them to benefit others.

What has happened is that we have hid our talents for so long until they've lost their usefulness. There are fish in Mammoth cave that are blind. They have eyes but they have lived so long in darkness without using them until they are now blind. Put your arm in a sling for a week- then try to use it; it will be almost useless. Many people who stay in hospitals for extended times have to learn how to walk all over again.

Service is not based on our Ability to serve- Of the 30 miracles recorded in the Gospels, only one is recorded in all four of the Gospels. That one is the feeding of the 5000. The boy had only Two fish and five loaves; but he committed them to God! **DESIRE TO SERVE** God is all that's needed. God will provide the power and opportunity.

Are you willing to dedicate yourself to Serving God instead of just Worshipping God?? Sanctified Service will make your Worship wonderful and give meaning to your life. Come volunteer today.



## HIDDEN HEARTS

In Ezek 8:5-18 God carries Ezekiel on a trip to Jerusalem and allows him to see the outward sins of the people as well as the inward sins of the Heart- Ezek 8:12 *Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? For they say, The Lord seeth us not; the Lord hath forsaken the earth.*

What a horrible and a tragic thing this was, when God revealed to the Preacher what was Hidden in the Hearts of men. It's important that we realize that's the way God always looks at men- Remember when Samuel thought all of David's brothers would be king but God told him to "Look not on the outward appearance for God sees the Heart".

The fact that God sees the Heart should make all of us aware of the foolishness of our hypocrisy. You can't fool God by just putting nice clothes on the outside- Jesus said the Pharisees were like beautiful Tombs; pretty on the outside but full of dead men's bones inside.

Sometimes we wish WE could see what's inside the hearts of other people; partly from curiosity, partly from concern. The fact is, God HAS given US some Guidelines to determine what hidden in the heart of people. Let's see if they reveal anything in YOUR heart.



This "Hidden Heart" of man is Revealed in our:

1. **WAYS-** *The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.* (Gen 6:5). The wicked imagination of these people was shown in their wicked inclinations. This just goes to prove that a person's actions on the outside reveal much of what's going on in the inside. Your conduct over the long run is a mirror of your Character- That's why a long dating time is a good thing for a couple! That's why God told the Church to "Lay hands suddenly on no man" (Give a man time to prove himself before you put him into responsibility).

2. **WORDS-** *You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks* (Mat 12:34). You talk about what you love! Let me spend a little time listening to your conversation and I can tell you much of what occupies first place in your heart.

Your words not only reveal the idols you love, they reveal the attitudes you harbor. The more you talk the more you expose the covetousness, lust, anger, bitterness, etc in your heart. Loose lips don't just sink ships, they reveal the Hidden man of the Heart.

3. **WEAKNESSES-** But it's not just the SINS of our Hidden Heart that we must contend with. There are also the SICKNESS of the Hidden Heart-  
1. The WOMAN WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD- Hopeless Heart. This woman had spent all she had and was none bettered. Her sickness was too personal to talk about but, nevertheless, very real. Her only hope was to touch the hem of Jesus' garment (because it was wrong for her to touch a man with her sickness).

What a Hopeless Heart situation; until she came to Jesus! He put health in her body and hope in her heart.

Do YOU have a Hidden Heart Problem that is isolating you from family and friends ?? Jesus cares about you and wants to help you.

A Census taker was asking a colored lady some questions one day when he asked her the number of her children. "They don't have numbers," she replied. "They have names". I'm glad that the Good Shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out (John 10:3).

Don't come to Church today and leave as one of the Crowd, Touch Jesus.

2. WOMAN WITH THE BEND BACK- Humpback Heart. In Luke 13:11-13, Luke says a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

This spirit of infirmity had handicapped her in body and mind. She had to go around bowed over- seeing only dirt and filth instead of clear blue sky. Did it make her bitter and Complaining (Some people think cursing the mechanic will start the car!)?

Are you crippled by a "Spirit of Infirmity"? Do you want to be sick to avoid facing life? Deep in your heart are you bitter at God or man because life hasn't treated you fair.

Don't allow this humpback heart to destroy you. Learn to be like a Saint of old, "Lord I know you will never give me anything that you and I can't handle together".

3. MAN WITH THE WITHERED HAND- Helpless Hand Heart. Another time he went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath. Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone." Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent. He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored (Mark 3:1-5).

Many people have a withered hand in their heart. This man could think of many things to do but was unable to follow through. In the same way, many people want to change their life or situation but won't translate their thoughts into actions.

They intend to become more active for the Lord but the WILL never gets past the WORK. Others intend to pay God the tithe He commands but the WILL never gets past the WALLET. Others intend to give up some life binding habit but the WILL never gets past the WANT.

Jesus asks you today to "stretch out your hand" to Him. He's able to heal your heart and get your life back on track

The Hidden Heart is indeed a Problem. In Fact, Jeremiah says it's too sick for man to find a cure! -The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? (Jer 17:9).

The only hope for the problems of Hidden Hearts is to stop trying to cover up the problems. Instead, Open the door of your heart and ask Jesus to come in today and give you a NEW HEART.

He's doing "heart surgery" at our altar right now!

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship (WVLC 1260AM) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 14 October 1, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC



### COMBINED SERVICES

We are looking forward to the giant **MISSIONARY SERVICE** this Sunday night (Oct 4) at 6:00pm. Brother Carlise Hanna, our Missionary to India will be the guest speaker. Several local FWB Churches will join us for this service and we look for an overflow crowd!

But don't worry. We plan to accommodate everyone. We're going to let our Choir provide the special music and then remain in place during the service. Extra chairs will be put out and we will have a big screen TV of the services in the fellowship building to accommodate extra overflow. We want **EVERYONE** to attend; because we expect the Lord to Bless.

The last special service we had, Home Coming, was excellent. All

reports were excellent, the Choir Concert was Outstanding, the attendance was exceptional, the food was delicious, and the Spirit of the Lord was evident during the entire day. It's one of those days that you will want to obtain the tape and share the Blessing.

I appreciate another fine article by Mrs Janice Runion (On the back of this page). I hope it will encourage **EVERYONE** in our church to get their articles in for our first edition of "Grace Gleanings". We have some wonderfully talented people and I can hardly wait until you see what God is doing in their lives. It sure would be good if we could have "Grace Gleanings" ready to hand out by Christmas (Hint, Hint for those of you who haven't gotten your articles in yet).

The distribution of literature continues to go very well. The impact of our radio Broadcast continues to grow. The Ministry of the Members of our Church continues to Bless and Challenge. We **APPRECIATE** everyone who is a part of this great work for God.

..... Preacher Mike



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## I DIALED RIGHT

Janice Runion

Yesterday morning around 9 o'clock I called Daddy's house to see if the plums I had given them had made good jelly. When I dialed the number a strange voice answered. Wrong numbers are awkward at best so I said, "I'm sorry. I was trying to call my daddy and I must have dialed wrong."

I hung up and this time I was very, very careful. I didn't want to disturb that man again. Well, the same man answered again. I told him again how sorry I was and he was real nice. He said everybody gets wrong numbers once in a while and it was okay. I said you don't understand. I was very careful this time, I looked at every number and did it real slow. I dialed the right number and some way you're answering my daddy's number. He was still nice and we hung up.

I started to wait a little while to try again but I didn't. I dialed again, as careful as a person can be. You guessed it, he answered again. I told him again I was sorry. I know my daddy's number better than I know my own, I call it all the time, but something was crossed up on the lines. He said he'd just finished hoeing the garden and was taking a break, I wasn't disturbing him. He told me his last name and asked me who my daddy was and I told him. He said he lives about two or three miles down the road from me but I didn't know him. I told him who I was and where I lived, he said he passes by here all the time going to town and wanted to know who used the ramp at my house. I told him my little girl has cerebral palsy and was mentally and physically handicapped and it was her ramp. He told me about his daughter that was in the hospital and we talked about how bad it hurts to see your child hurt and how you'd take their place in a minute.

I asked him where he went to church, he told me where he went but he said he didn't go every Sunday. He didn't sound satisfied. I told him where we go and he asked where it was located. I told him Lawrence Street. I also told him I'd never been to a church where the preacher could explain the Bible like ours does, that I understand so many things now that I didn't before I started going there. He asked who my Pastor was and I told him it was Mike Jones, but we all call him Preacher Mike. He said I know your preacher, he came to see me one time in the hospital. He'd been visiting someone else and he saw me and came in and visited me. He said he is a wonderful preacher. He sent me two tapes I asked for and some books. I promised him I was going to come to his church. I told him if he promised him, he ought to do it.

He said he was watching a minister on television not too long ago and he called the number they flashed on the screen with a prayer request and that preacher asked for \$1000. "I tried to pay your preacher for the two tapes and books he sent me and he wouldn't take a PENNY!" Then he told me how good those two tapes were and that he did explain things good. He said there was good singing on them too.

All of a sudden there was a loud clicking on the line and a lot of popping and static and he was gone. I felt so strange, I wanted to call him back but the only number I knew to call was Daddy's and when I tried that number, Daddy answered. I was so sad, he'd only given me his last name.

Was the Lord wanting me to follow up on Preacher Mike's invitation to this man? Was that man needing to talk to someone that day? Isn't it strange how in all the wrong numbers you could get, you get someone your preacher had already talked to and he sounded like he needed a good church to go to. I think the Lord crossed up the lines for a little while for a reason. He could you know !!





# TIRED OF SERVING GOD

Isaiah 43:22-28 (P888)

Yet you have not called upon me, O Jacob, you have not wearied yourselves for me, O Israel (Isa. 43:22). You have not brought me sheep for burnt offerings, nor honored me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with grain offerings nor wearied you with demands for incense (Isa 43:23). You have not bought any fragrant calamus for me, or lavished on me the fat of your sacrifices. But you have burdened me with your sins and wearied me with your offenses (Isa 43:24). I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more (Isa 43:25). Review the past for me, let us argue the matter together; state the case for your innocence (Isa 43:26). Your first father sinned; your spokesmen rebelled against me (Isa 43:27). So I will disgrace the dignitaries of your temple, and I will consign Jacob to destruction and Israel to scorn. (Isa 43:28)

We live in the day of the "Tired Person"- EVERYONE is Sick and Tired--Tired of being Sick, or Sick of being Tired!

There are numerous reasons Society is so tired:

1. PRESSURES OF LIFE (Mind)- Job, Marriage, Children. Peer Pressure, Pleasure Pressure, Phone Pressure.
2. PROBLEMS OF LIFE (Soul)- Death, Disaster, Divorce, Debt
3. PERPLEXITIES OF LIFE (Spirit)- Pain, Persecution, People (Doctors demand that people are quarantined from disease but these same doctors demand the right to pollute their souls with topless bars!)

All of these combine to deplete our energy, sap our strength, weaken our stand, and dim our vision. We no longer know what to believe in; and we don't have the strength to find out; or fight for it once we find out.

So we don't give up complete, we just decide that lukewarm is not so bad after all. Respectability replaces religion. "Doing the best we can" replaces Bible Principles. We attend Church when we can but refuse to be involved in Church activities (no time). More and more our world become self centered and "Me" oriented. God gets pushed to the back burner as existing today become more important than building for eternity.

## I. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A PERSON GETS TIRED OF SERVING GOD? (Is 43:22-24)

- vs 22- Prayer stops
- vs 23- It doesn't seem important to work for God
- vs 24- It seems more important to spend your money on self than God
  - It doesn't bother you that you are hurting God and Breaking His heart ( Our Sin "Makes God serve" <KJV> by requiring Him to Punish us when He would rather love us. And to Pay for our Sins on the Cross with the death of His Only Son in order to Pardon us).

## II. WHAT DOES GOD ASK US TO DO WHEN WE RECOGNIZE THE PROBLEM? (25-27)

- vs 25- Claim His Grace
- vs 26- Communicate with God again
- vs 27- Consider what happened to others who went back:
  - A) Wandered in the Wilderness- Useless Life
  - B) Carried into Captivity- Lost land, Fortune, and Family
  - C) Came to the Place of NO RETURN

If you're Tired, come back to Christ - Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. Mat 11:28-29

## FAITH'S CONTACT

When Jesus turned the water into wine it took faith by his mother, action by the servants, and willingness by Christ to perform an "unnecessary" miracle (Is this the only miracle in the Bible to avoid embarrassment??). Moses turned water into blood to show God's Judgment; Jesus turned water into wine to continue the festivities (Isn't that just like the one who came to give us Abundant Life!). This miracle shows the three ingredients that are vital to our work for God today:

- 1> Faith that God can do something.
- 2> Action based on this faith BEFORE we can see results
- 3> Willingness by God to honor our Faith.

This Faith comes from

A) Confidence in God- Faith comes by Hearing and Hearing by the word of God. You learn what God wants from His Word and have peace about asking for it.

B) Companionship with God- You are around God so much until you learn the things He likes to do.

Once you have Faith then you MUST add Action:

1- Before Jesus fed the multitude, the boy had to give his lunch- If we are going to reach a Million People a Month someone is going to have to sacrifice by sharing (Time, Talent, Money).

2- Before the sick woman was healed, she touched the hem of Christ's garment. Faith must be Specific. We must find specific ways to show God we trust His ability- Prayer Closets, Active Witnessing, etc

3- Before the lame man was healed, four men had to bring him to Christ (The four men who brought the lame man to Jesus show us how easy it would be to fill empty pews if cars did not come to church with empty seats).

4- Before the blind man could be healed he had to obey Christ's command to go wash in the pool. If we would see the way God wants us to go we must be willing to follow his directions blindly!

5- Before Christ raised Lazarus from the dead, someone had to roll the stone away from his grave. We must be willing to do unusual "foolish" things based simply on the word of God.

6- The lame man had to reach out his hand to Peter in order to be healed. This man wanted money to help him remain lame. God wanted him healed to bear testimony for God. We must realize that many times God will reward our Faith in unexpected ways. Ways that are far better than anything we could imagine.

Real Faith is not believing that God CAN do something with your life. It is COMMITTING yourself to God to do something in your life. Obeying must go with Trusting.

God WANTS to do something for you. God is WILLING to do something for you. All that remains is your believing enough to commit yourself complete and unreservedly to God.

Sadly, some people won't make that commitment. They are controlled by FEAR instead of FAITH:

1. Fear of what other people would think.
2. Fear of the disciplines of the Christian life. (The Cross).
3. They fear they might not be able to live up to their Christian decision.

These are real problems but God is a real solution! Put your Faith in Christ today. That way you won't have to fear anything life has to offer; or death has to bring.

## FACING THE FIRE

Wednesday Night we talked about the coming battle of "Gog and Magog" (Ezek 38-39). In it we pointed out that the 3 major "players" immediately before and during the 7 years of Tribulation will be (1) The Russian commonwealth of nations, (2) the European Commonwealth of Nation headed by Antichrist, and (3) the Chinese/Japanese confederacy.

We determined that the Russian army would attack the Mid-East and eventually Israel where they would be defeated. All but 1/6 of the Russian Army would be destroyed during this battle at the beginning of the Tribulation and Israel will spend 7 months burying the dead. Israel will also use the weapons of the fallen Russian soldiers for fuel for the entire 7 years of Tribulation (This may be very important during the last 3 1/2 years).

The defeat of the Russian Army will allow Antichrist to be the most powerful leader in the world and, eventually, cause him to come to Israel, where an image of him will be erected in the Temple (Committing the Abomination of Desolation). This will be the sign for the Jews to escape to the mountains; and the beginning of the infamous "mark of the beast" needed to buy and sell.

Eventually, this will lead to the invasion by the 200 million man Chinese army. As the Antichrist Army and Chinese Army prepare for war they will be persuaded by Demonic spirits to gather in the valley of Armageddon to do battle with God. There the return of Christ will signal their defeat and the blood will flow as high as the horse's bridle. After this great battle Christ will cast the beast and the false prophet into the lake of fire as He sets up the Millennial kingdom.

All of these facts are fairly easy to document from Biblical readings. You will note, however, that nothing is mentioned about the United States. I believe that is because there is no direct biblical reference to the United States in Prophecy. That leads to some important implications:

1> America will cease to be a "Super Power". Or it would come to Israel's aid when attacked by Russia; and it would stand against Antichrist when he proclaimed himself world dictator.

2> The world is suffering famine, disease, and death as 1/4 of it's populations die (over 1.25 BILLION people). Nothing is mentioned about American help in these disasters. Besides, with that many people dying, surely, many of these will be Americans.

3> One of the only things that could participate such a world wide famine would be the lost of America as a source of food supply. That must mean that America is no longer in a position to feed the world; and probably is not in a position to feed it's self!

I THINK this will mean that America is in Chaos. It could come from the collapse of our Government (We are VERY close right now), major catastrophes (California earthquakes, Hurricanes, fires, etc), or war (Russia still has ALL their Nuclear Weapons and the Communist still want to be in control). I don't know How but I believe it WILL happen. My concern is what Christians will do if we face the first part of this disaster before the Rapture comes.

--Lawlessness will abound. How far can Christians go in the protection of their life and family?

--Persecution will be Real- Many will Blame God for the troubles they are suffering. It will be EXTREMELY unpopular to stand for God.

--Christians will be forced to chose between family and Christian Principles as people starve and chaos abounds.

The Good News is that our Bible reading last week contained not only the disturbing prophecies about "Gog and Magog" but also the wonderful example of the 3 Hebrew Children who "Faced the Fire" of Persecution over Christian Principles and won the victory thru their steadfast faith. Dan 3:13-30 (P1135)

As they faced the Fire they gave us **THREE PRINCIPLES OF PERSECUTION** we all need to recognize:

**I. PERSECUTION WILL COME-** Phil 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;  
John 15:20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord, If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you;

1 PE 4:12-14 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

Whether from a collapsing Government or an increase in Satanic activity; Persecution will come. You can count on it.

**II. GOD GOES THRU THE TRIAL WITH US(!!)-** The Hebrew Children were not in the Furnace alone. God will be with you in the Fiery Furnaces you face and even walk with you thru the valley of the shadow of Death. What a Promise! What a Comfort!

**III. PROMOTION COMES AFTER THE PERSECUTION-** After the Trial comes the Triumph! God will not leave us or forsake us. A great day of rewards is coming.

Remember, it's Better to be cast into the Furnace of Fire than the Lake of Fire. Better Persecution WITH God than Punishment BY God. Are you ready for the troubles that are coming on this earth? Are you ready to meet God when life is over??



# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship (WVLC 1260AM) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 15 October 22, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

It's a pleasure to be able to visit with you again and share with you God's continued Blessings on His work here at Grace. October has been a VERY busy and eventful month and a number of very positive things have been accomplished for the Lord at the Church.

The Missionary Service with Brother Carlisle Hanna was very good. The Church was full, the message was great, and an offering of \$659 was received to help build new building for our FWB Churches in India. I appreciate the participation by the churches in our area.

With this vision of the great Missionary work going on in India still fresh in our minds, the Church decided to take another step of Faith concerning our Giving. Five years ago we could hardly pay our debts and money was a constant stress to us. By Faith, we decided to follow what we believe is a Biblical Principle and begin Tithing the Church income. Since that day, the income of the Church has constantly increased and we have no problem paying all our bills or taking on special projects.

So now we've decided to increase our giving from 10% to 12.5% with the extra 2.5% going to the work

in India. The rest of the tithe will continue to support the Children's Home, State Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and the Promotional Office. I commend the Church on their vision and concern for a lost and dying world.

Not only did the Church decide to increase our Tithe they also decided to give the Pastor a Raise (Glory!). This \$25 a week raise will boost my salary to \$330 a week (Which I tell them often is much more than I deserve). They also voted to REQUIRE me to take a day off from time to time (They said every week but I sort of hedge on them). I really appreciate their love and concern. (Now you know why I say Grace people are Great People.

We also decided to give \$500 more dollars to the Promotional Office land fund. We hope the rest of the Churches in the state will join us in this effort.

Our Youth Fellowship has instituted some changes as well. Classes will move from Wednesday night to the First Sunday in each month. This is the way we used to do it and we decided to go back because it allowed more participation as well as allowing Sunday School Teachers to visit (Continued on Back)

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the Adult Class one Sunday a month. And as a Special Treat to them on that Sunday, Brother Ronnie Jones will teach the lesson each First Sunday (as well as each Third Sunday). That has helped relieve some of the strain from me and I Appreciate his help more than I can say.

We'll conclude this busy October with a couple of Special days next week. Next Tuesday night will be the final session of Grace Bible Institute for this Semester. We have had very good participation and I have enjoyed teaching the lessons. My prayer is that each student will be a better Christian because of our study on Christian Character and that each Student will be able to give a devotion on Philippians 3:8-11 any time they are asked because of our study on Preparing a Message.

Next Wednesday will be FAMILY FUN NIGHT as we continue showing you can have fun in the fall without promoting witches and ghosts. It will begin at 7:00pm with a devotion and then ease into activities before finishing with a Hot Dog Supper (What Else?). Activities will include Apple Bobbing, Balloon Bursts, ring toss, Fishing, spoons, checkers, etc. It's fun for everyone and everyone is invited to dress in a costume (Of course, everyone is aware that we don't want you to dress up as anything that would promote evil). Everyone is also asked to bring a bag of candy and a soft drink. The candy will be put in bags and given out as prizes to the kids.



## FAMILY FUN



Once October is over the Pastor plans to take a few days off before we get into the rush of Thanksgiving and Christmas. I will be gone the first Sunday in November (November 1) so everyone else will have to be here. And you will want to be because Rev Pete Bove will preach the 9am Service, Rev Ronnie Jones will teach the 10am Service, and Rev Norwood Gibson will preach the 11am Service. Sounds so good I hate missing it myself! You that don't attend our Church will surely want the tapes of this Sunday.

Remember that the **TIME CHANGES THIS SUNDAY**. EVERYONE should be on time for the 9am service this week as we "gain" an extra hour.

The sickness we've had in our Church and my busy schedule have not allowed me to finish Volume 4 of "Miracle Messages" yet but I hope to get back to work on it soon. Several more articles have come in for "Grace Gleanings" and I can hardly wait to publish this book so you will be able to share the considerable talent of the members here at Grace.

We continue to receive excellent response from the books, tapes, radio messages, and newspaper articles. If I could just be two or three people sometimes so all that work that needs to be done could be done, we could reach multitudes with the Good News that Jesus died for their sins and they can have eternal life through His shed blood.

Please continue to pray that God will give wisdom and strength to accomplish all we can for Him in the time we have left. After the election who know how much freedom and opportunity will be left for us.

Hope to see you in a service soon. . . . . Preacher Mike Ps 16:11

## POWER OVER TEMPTATION

Matt 4:1-11 (P1366)

God does NOT give us the Power to not have Temptation! In fact, Many times the Scripture say **GOD ALLOWS TEMPTATION TO REMAIN** (Isn't it interesting that we are taught by Jesus to pray "Lead us not into Temptation"!!)

*Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul- Deu 13:3* And Hezekiah prospered in all his works. Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent unto him to inquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left him, to try him, that he might know all that was in his heart- 2 Chr 32:30-31 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil- Mat 4:1

*There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it- 1 Cor 10:13*

*And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure- 2 Cor 12:7*

So when we talk about "Power over Temptation" we are NOT talking about conquering our ability to be tempted. That's our dream; but not our reality. The reasons it's like this if found in:

### I. THE CAUSE OF TEMPTATION.

A) The Will of God- Matt 4:1 says that Jesus was "led by the Spirit" into the Wilderness. God's leadership put him in the place of Temptation- BUT GOD DID NOT TEMPT HIM (See James 1:13). (God allows us to be put to the Test for our good (Paul's Thorn in the flesh) and His glory (Job). Satan tests us to destroy us.)

B) The Work of Satan- It also says that He was "tempted of the Devil". Satan did the tempting by APPEALING to Jesus to do wrong. Note that he could not make him do wrong!! He could only encourage Christ to submit to his fleshly desires.

#### C) The Weakness of Self-

1> The Draw of Lust- James 1:14 *But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away OF HIS OWN LUST, and enticed.* God WILL not make you sin and Satan CANNOT make you sin. Note that Temptation is:

1. A Common Problem: **EVERY MAN** (See 1 Cor 10:13). Every person inherited the sin nature from Adam and must contend with it's pull.

2. A Varying Problem: **HIS OWN LUSTS** (One man's worm may be another man's bait!!)

3. An Enticing Problem: Bait is used to lure you. Sin never shows the naked hook! Satan shows you the Bait but not the Bite of sin.

2> The Desire for Riches- *But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows- 1 Tim 6:9-10.* Note that this is a Three-fold Problem: (1) Temptation, (2) a Snare, and (3) many foolish and hurtful lusts--You WANT riches; You're TRAPPED by your Treasures; until, finally, you're WILLING to do anything to keep what you have and get more.

We don't have the power to AVOID Temptation but we do have the Power to OVERCOME Temptation.

That is best seen in The Example of the Temptation of Christ:

Note: 1. The time of the temptation-

a. At the beginning of Christ's ministry. Before a man can rule others he must prove he can rule himself (See Prov 25:28).

b. After the Triumph of the Baptism. The greatest danger is after a victory.

2. The places of the Temptation- In the wilderness, on a mountain, and at the Church. Satan can and will tempt you anywhere.

3. The nature of the Temptation- Fleshly reasoning instead of Faith in God's Provision and Plans.

**FIRST TEMPTATION:** Turn Stone into Bread- Misuse a NORMAL Desire. It was natural for Jesus to feel Hunger (Withstanding the Temptation did not ease the Hunger-After the Temptation the Angels came and ministered to Him.)

Hunger is right but gluttony is wrong. Sexual desire is normal but *whoremongers and adulterers God will judge* (Heb 13:4). The tongue can be used to spread the Gospel or Gossip! Each of these is a good thing that can be used wrong. God can not remove the problem without harming the person. Jesus did not seek to escape the desire. He simply looked at the higher priority based on God's Word.

**SECOND TEMPTATION:** Cast self off Temple to prove God's Care (Note- Temptation 2 and 3 are reversed in Matthew and Luke. Matthew shows Christ as King and the final trial is about receiving a Kingdom. Luke shows Christ as a man and the final trial is about becoming a "Super" man. Remember that a problem for one man may not be a problem for another. Know what YOUR weaknesses are).

Tempted to walk by Sight instead of Faith. Faith TRUSTS God, it does not TEMPT Him (Satan tries to Tempt us to Tempt God!!). God is God because of WHO He is; not WHAT He does. You cannot produce Faith in God by Works (Heb 11:1) nor Wisdom (I Cor 2:5).

**THIRD TEMPTATION:** Worship Satan to receive your Kingdom- Accomplish a good thing at the wrong time in the wrong way (It's right to want to pass the exam. It's wrong to cheat to do so.)

There are no "short cuts" or "easy roads" to Glory. The Cross must come before the Crown (Most of us will never win a sweepstakes- we will earn our living by the sweat of our brows). Satan tries to get us to lose Patience or compromise on Principles- Be careful that you Wait on the Lord and Work His Way.

The POWER that Jesus used to overcome Temptation was:

1. **SWORD OF THE SPIRIT-** The Word of God. It's important to KNOW and USE the Word of God as you face life's Temptations.

2. **SHIELD OF FAITH-** Confidence in God's care and God's Plans. This will "Quench the fiery darts of the devil" (Eph 6:16). When you're confident that God will give you what you need then Satan can't tempt you to do wrong to get something else (Remember Eve).

3. **SPEAKING WITH AUTHORITY-** "Get away from here Satan". Words of defeat and doubt only encourage Satan to continue attacking you. When he sees you stand firm with and for God he will realize he's defeated.

What a great joy to know *The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:* (2 Pet 2:9). God is faithful; lean on Him.



## THE WARMING WIFE

When King David was old and well advanced in years, he could not keep warm even when they put covers over him. So his servants said to him, "Let us look for a young virgin to attend the king and take care of him. She can lie beside him so that our lord the king may keep warm." Then they searched throughout Israel for a beautiful girl and found Abishag, a Shunammite, and brought her to the king. The girl was very beautiful; she took care of the king and waited on him, but the king had no intimate relations with her. 1 Kings 1:1-4 (P588)

Abishag is one of those interesting incidents in the Bible. She was a lady who became a Queen but without all the rights and rewards that go with it. Her main function was simply to use the heat of her body to act like an electric blanket.

Sadly, Indications are that, following King David's Death, she was placed in a position of permanent widowhood. The last place we hear mention of her is 1 Kings 2:13-25 where Adonijah tries to secure her as a wife in a continuing effort to seize the kingdom from Solomon (Which results in Solomon sentencing Adonijah to Death). There is no indication that Solomon married her, so it appears she was destined to never know the joy of marriage.

We know a few things about this "Warming Wife", Abishag.

1. Her **MORALS**- We know she was a woman of high morals because she was a virgin.
2. Her **BEAUTY**- We know she was a woman of great beauty because she was chosen above all the other girls of Israel and the scriptures say she was very beautiful.
3. Her **FUNCTION**- To Care for the King and keep him warm.

The point of the Message today is that I feel there are many people who resemble this "Warming Wife" in there Church work and their relationship to the Lord. They are "warm bodies" in the Church but they never enjoy the full benefits of the Christian life.

Their **MORALS** are acceptable to Society (and maybe even God). They have a form of **BEAUTY** in that they dress and act acceptably. But they think their only function is to be present in service from time to time and boast our body count. More and more they find their moral values matching those of the world (R-rated movies become normal, Heaven is not as important as resting at home).

There is **NO INVOLVEMENT** in their Service- Since they only provide "warmth", they feel no need to become involved in Church activities and outreach. They don't think of themselves as a vital part of the **BODY** of Christ. They consider themselves more in the order of clothing to adorn the body and keep it warm- if they aren't there then the body will find something else to wear.

There is **NO JOY** in their service. They have the name of "Queen" but they never enjoy the Rights and Rewards that go with it. They never testify of answered Prayer. They never obtain special Blessings from the Lord. Church services are endured instead of enjoyed. Therefore they never witness to a lost and dying world about the benefits and Blessings of being a Child of God (and the blood of lost multitudes will be on their hands!!).

How do you stop being a "Warming Wife"? How do you change from being a "warm body" into a vital member of the Body of Christ?

I. **DESIRE**- Abishag and King David lay in the same bed but there was no desire to have an intimate relationship. The very essence of "Lukewarm Christianity" is satisfaction with the world. Rich, increased with goods, and having need of nothing; you don't mind sharing a little warmth but you really don't want to spend the time and energy necessary to build a relationship (And you can rest assured, it takes time and effort).

It takes **DESIRE** to have a Daily Devotion. It takes **DESIRE** to get up and get to Church by 9 O'clock on Sunday. It takes **DESIRE** to change your Christianity from a Religion into a Relationship.

II. **COMMITMENT**- Abishag didn't marry the King, she only served him. As a Result, she was excluded from Rights and Rewards. Many Christians need to make a **COMMITMENT** to God and Church that is just as binding as a marriage **COMMITMENT** is supposed to be (I'm talking about supposed to be, not the way it's made today). Our Youth Fellowship cannot function if our Young People are more committed to outside activities than they are to Church. Sunday School Teachers who consistently miss Sunday services and Wednesday Night services show their class a lack of **COMMITMENT** to God. There is a Responsibility that comes with accepting a job for God.

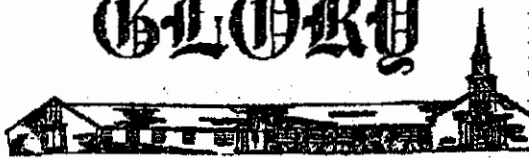


We need **COMMITMENT** from our men to be a part of this great work for God- Upkeep, Service to others, run the Camera and PA, take the leadership in going forward for God.

We need **COMMITMENT** to consistent attendance. God has given this Church one of the greatest Opportunities we could ask for. We don't need just "warm bodies"; we need **COMMITTED CHRISTIANS** who will be faithful to Sing, Serve, Pray, and take their place in the Body of Christ.

Are you a "Warming Wife" Christian??? God calls you today to become His Bride- with all the Joys and Rewards that brings. How sad it would be to live with the King, sleep in His bed, and yet be cast into exile. Jesus invites you to come accept Him as Savior and become part of the Body of Christ- The Two become One!. Will YOU make this commitment today???

# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . 10:00am  
Worship (WVLC 1260AM) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 16 November 12, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

It was a great joy to be able to visit with the wonderful members of Beech Springs FWB Church in Mississippi again. I just can't figure out why I get old and fat and they don't seem to age a day!

When I pastured the Church we were considered a country Church. Now they have a Sam's, A Wal-Mart, and 2 major malls within 3 miles of the Church. I believe God has great things in store for this Church. They're right in the middle of everything now and I look forward to God richly blessing their work.

Meanwhile back at Grace, the Lord was blessing the services here as I knew He would. Everything went so smooth until I don't think they even missed me!

I really enjoyed looking at and listening to the tapes of the services. It's times like this that make me really appreciate our tape ministry.



One of those "Four Star" tapes is the tape of the Wednesday Night service. I left Brother Marion in Charge and he "volunteered" Susan Spring, Hope Frye, and Connie Mathis to give their testimony. Get this tape. It will thrill your soul. Just ask for the Wednesday Night Testimony Tape.

If you haven't attended our Sunday Night Service at 9am recently then I recommend you make a special effort. This Sunday we will talk about "If President Clinton smoked pot, why is it wrong for me to try drugs?". We're looking for Biblical answers to deal with this captivating habit.

Then, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will look at how to deal with the fact that many people get "Put Downs instead of Praise".

That will be followed on Nov 29 (Our regular fifth Sunday Youth Day) with Brother David Ingram and the Drama Team from the Lake City Pentecostal Church. This will be a great time for young and old alike.



December 6 we will talk about the "Pain of Pornography" and learn how to keep from getting burned by this fire.

December 13 we will look at our obligations to the Homeless as we prepare to celebrate the birth of one who became homeless that we might have a home in Heaven.

The "Sunday Night" place to be is at Grace Church at 9am on Sunday Morning.

(Continued on Back)

To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

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Speaking of Sunday Nights. I'll be speaking at Beulah FWB Church this coming Sunday night as their pastor, Rev Joe McKnight, continues to recover from his heart problems. Pray that God would bless this opportunity to share our ministry.

And I certainly would be remiss if I didn't highlight our annual PRAISE SERVICE on the Wednesday Night before Thanksgiving. This is one of my favorites services of the entire year as every person in the Church is given the opportunity to share a time of Praise and Testimony. What a joy to share our hearts one with another and then close with everyone holding hands and joining together in Prayer. I can hardly wait!!



Thinking about our Praise Service made me want to stop and Thank God for His continued Blessings on our Outreach Ministry. I received a call today from someone who just wanted to share that God had really spoken to them thru this week's newspaper article. And I just filed a nice letter from a Bible Institute that obtained some of our literature to give to all their students. And we recently received word that the literature we've been giving to use in the local jail ministry may also soon be used in a state prison! How we praise God for this Opportunity.



Praise also leads me to think of those who give that this work may continue. It takes over \$1000 a month now to pay for radio time, buy tapes and booklet materials, and mail books, tapes and newsletters. It never ceases to amaze me when I see who God uses to provide this money. I literally weep sometimes when I open a letter with a few crumpled dollars in it. I know that many of the people who contribute to this work or on fixed or low income and they could find multitudes of other places to put their money. The fact that they are willing to invest it in reaching out with

the Gospel of Christ thrills my soul.

I pledge to you again that I will try to spend your money as conservatively and as faithfully as I can. I'll also work as hard as I can to reach everyone we can with the resources God gives thru His faithful servants. The new "anti-God" government we have will make it increasingly difficult in the days to come. This only increases my sense of urgency.



Looking for you in one of our "Sunday Night" Services at 9am soon. Continue to Pray for God's Wisdom and provision.




May the Lord Bless you as you serve Him . . . Preacher Mike Ps 16:11



# Grace FWB Church

November 15 - December 26, 1992



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Nov 15</b> 9:00am "Drugs"	<b>Nov 16</b>	<b>Nov 17</b> <i>Tommy Sullivan</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<b>Nov 18</b>	<b>Nov 19</b> <i>Don Lewis</i> <i>Birthday</i> 7:00pm Men's Fellowship	<b>Nov 20</b>	<b>Nov 21</b>
<b>Nov 22</b> 9:00am "Put Downs"	<b>Nov 23</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>Nov 25</b> <i>Susan Spring</i> <i>Birthday</i> <b>PRAISE            SERVICE</b>	<b>Nov 26</b> <i>Billie Ard Birthday</i> <i>Robin Matthews</i> <i>Birthday</i>  <b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Nov 27</b> <i>Althea Coker</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<b>Nov 28</b>
<b>Nov 29</b>  <b>YOUTH            SUNDAY/</b> David Ingram	<b>Nov 30</b>	<b>Dec 1</b>	<b>Dec 2</b>	<b>Dec 3</b> <i>Marjorie</i> <i>McAllister</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<b>Dec 4</b> <i>Jimmy McAllister</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<b>Dec 5</b> <b>Graham/Robin</b> <b>(A)</b> <i>Patricia McKnight</i> <i>Birthday</i>
<b>Dec 6</b> 9:00am "Pornography"	<b>Dec 7</b>	<b>Dec 8</b> <i>Beth Broach</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<b>Dec 9</b> <i>Tom McKnight</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<b>Dec 10</b> 7:00pm <b>ADULT            CHRISTMAS            PARTY</b>	<b>Dec 11</b>	<b>Dec 12</b> <i>Betty Lou</i> <i>Thompson</i> <i>Birthday</i>
<b>Dec 13</b> 9:00am "Homeless" 10:00am McDonald Bisquit	<b>Dec 14</b>	<b>Dec 15</b> <i>Russel Lowder</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<b>Dec 16</b> <i>Kim Matthews</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<b>Dec 17</b>	<b>Dec 18</b>	<b>Dec 19</b>
<b>Dec 20</b> <b>WHITE            CHRISTMAS            OFFERING</b> Hanukkah 10:00am Blast Casseroles 11:00am Adult Choir Program	<b>Dec 21</b> Winter begins	<b>Dec 22</b> <i>Dallas/Lela</i> <i>Wise (A)</i>	<b>Dec 23</b> 7:30pm Youth Christmas Program	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>Dec 25</b> <i>OZ/Leila (A)</i>  <b>Christmas</b>	<b>Dec 26</b>

## WORDS OF JESUS

Last week we mentioned that *Life and Death are in the Power of the Tongue* (Prov 18:21). We normally apply that to the DANGERS of loose talking. It's important that we see that it also says "Life" is in the power of the tongue:

Physical-Courting Words lead to Married Children  
Spiritual- Foolishness of Preaching, men are saved  
Emotional- Encourage  
Intellect- Knowledge

Remember the words of Proverbs 25:11 *A word fitly spoken is like apples of Gold in pictures of Silver.*

Today, I want us to look at some of the **WAYS** Jesus used words. We always examine His Words in order to determine God's Will and Ways. I think it's also important that we see the way He talked so we can apply those principles to our own conversations. Then, maybe, we can effect people in the same way Jesus did.

**GRACIOUS WORDS:** All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked. (Luke 4:22). Every translation I looked at translated this either Gracious words or Words of Grace. Grace is "Unmerited Favor" and refers to an unearned gift. How can we learn to amaze people with Gracious Words? Can we learn to talk to others in the same way, and tone, we would like to be talked to??

### **AUTHORITY WORDS:**

A) To Demons: "Be quiet!" Jesus said sternly. "Come out of him!" Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him. (Luke 4:35). We must deal with temptations and Satanic attacks with Authority so Satan will know we really mean business. You all know the story of the woman who was trying on a new dress she could not afford and Satan urged her to buy it anyway. "Get thee behind me, Satan", She said. "It looks good from back here also." Satan said! Satan does not obey Word Games. He needs to be told with authority-Like your tone of voice when you mean business with a child.

B) To Disciples: Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." (Luke 5:5). Words based on the Bible that will cause a person to walk by Faith instead of Sight.

**BUILDING WORDS:** Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him. (Luke 5:10-11). Words of Encouragement and Challenge. Words that motivate instead of destroy.

**WARNING WORDS:** Then Jesus ordered him, "Don't tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." (Luke 5:14)

Instead of telling this man to broadcast his healing, Jesus told him to obey the Bible. When he didn't, it greatly hindered the ministry of Jesus-Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere (Mark 1:45). We must warn people to follow Bible Rules instead of Fleshly Wisdom- Donahue, Ophrah, Abby.

If you are going to be like Jesus then learn to Talk like Jesus.

## GOALS

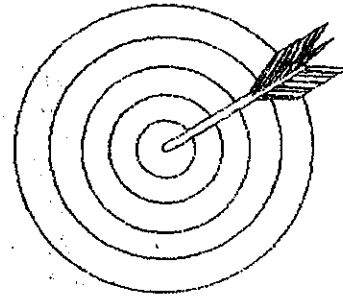
We all need goals. Something to work for, something to accomplish that makes us feel as if we have done something. Everyone seeks the approval of someone. I hope that the someone is God, and I hope that the desire is so great that you will do something to gain that approval.

Paul gives us some idea about this in: (P1611)

PHI 3:12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

PHI 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

PHI 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.



With this in mind, I would like to challenge you to make your Goal the prize of the high calling to which God called you.

Paul had aspirations as He talked to the Philippians in today's scripture. Let's see how he went about accomplishing them and apply these Principles to our Lives this year.

I. DISSATISFACTION- "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect". There will be no growth without dissatisfaction- only complacency!! When you say I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;" (Rev 3:17) then you are indeed poor. There generally must be Pain if there is to be Progress (Diet, Muscles, etc).

As long as we are satisfied with 35 we won't have 75. As long as we are content to let others do things then they generally won't get done. As long as you are content to live in Sin and face a devil's Hell then you'll never be saved. As long as you are content to live a slack, lukewarm life then you'll never amount to much for God. Are You Satisfied with your Life? with your relationship to God, with your destiny? God, Grant us some "Divine Dissatisfaction"!!!

II. DIRECTION- "I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus". Recognize God's plan for your life and get in it. You'll never be happy or complete until you become at Peace with God.

Sin is coming short of the Glory of God- missing God's plan for your Life (The reason it's wrong to lie, cheat, steal, do drugs, etc. is because it is not God's plan for our lives.). Are you drifting thru life like the chaff from wheat; to end up in the fire! I KNOW that part of God's Plan for me is our outreach ministry-- even though I don't have the talent or the time to do what I think needs to be done, yet God has gripped my soul with this (Somewhere down in the depths of YOUR heart there is a burden for something-- something you're dismissing because of circumstances or courage. Allow God to fulfil His plan in your life today. That's what Abundant Life is all about; accomplishing God's Purpose and Plan for You.

God called Everyone to be a WITNESS (ACT 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.).

Everyone is encouraged to STUDY (2TI 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth).

Everyone needs to PRAY (1TH 5:17 Pray without ceasing).

III. DISTRACTION FREE- "this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before."

Don't allow Past mistakes or pleasures to hold you- Heb 12:1 let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

"the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, the lust of other things enter in and choke the word and it becomes unfruitful"

There are generally 2 time periods that cripple men- the Past and the Future!! You can't go back to change the past or recapture a past pleasure but you can waste your life waiting for the "Future" to produce the "right" moment or set of circumstances. We need to pray with the Psalmist, Teach us to number our days, O Lord, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

What is hindering you from running the race God has set before you- God can conquer your circumstances (Daniel in Lion's Den, Hebrews in fiery furnace, Habakkuk's doubts, Hosea's adulterous wife), Slay your enemies (David and Goliath), and provide strength to overcome (Joshua at Jericho).

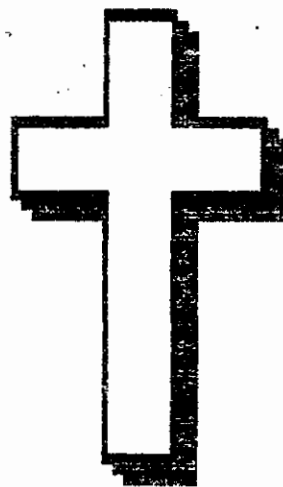
IV. DETERMINATION- "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Most people's problem is that they think the whole purpose of life is to "cuddle" them!! They aren't willing to deny themselves, Take up their cross, and follow Christ--- and one day they will hear Jesus say, "Depart from me, ye that work iniquity, I never knew you."

What is your OBJECTIVE in Life??? If Christ is not at the center of it then you need to change it.

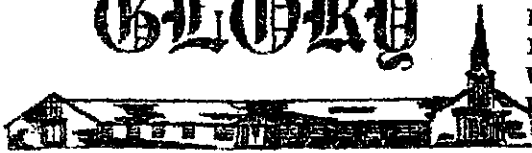
What are your OBSTACLES to living for God??? God is greater than any problem you have or may encounter.

What are your OPTIONS if you continue down the road you're on?? Will you end up controlled by Sin and Satan and in Hell forever? Or Will you have a mansion with Christ forever because you have accepted Christ as Savior and now live for Him??.





# GRACE And GLORY



## GRACE F W B CHURCH

A Little Church with a BIG Vision

First Worship Service . 9:00am  
Bible Study Hour . . . 10:00am  
Worship (WVLC 1260AM) 11:00am  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:30pm

Pastor Mike Jones -- 394-3725

Vol X Num 17 December 10, 1992 ++ 348 Lawrence St ++ Lake City, SC

By the time most of you receive this, I will be repenting over all I ate at the Adult Class Party! Joel Jones invited our Adult Class to his home to eat Steamed Oysters, Oyster Stew, and Bar-B-Que Hog and, nice folk that we are, we accepted his offer!

I really appreciate his kindness; especially since it allows everyone to attend without having to worry about how slim their budget is (And most of us aren't going to worry about how fat our waist is!). Besides, it allows everyone an opportunity to visit the area in which I grew up.

Joel has also helped the Church recently by purchasing a remote unit and a new Color TV for the Nursery so that the people in our Nursery can now see, as well as hear, our services. That makes it much much better for the people who attend to this needed Ministry.

As you can see from the enclosed calendar, December activities are in full swing. All of the Classes will have their class parties this week, The Choir will go Caroling next week, and the Christmas Programs will be presented the following week. It's just a great time to be alive as we celebrate the Birth of our Savior.

For as long as anyone can remember, the Church has designated the offering on the Sunday before Christmas as our "White Christmas Offering". It has

always been used to take care of any building projects the Church had. This year the Church decided to use it instead to help Missionary Carlisle Hanna build a Church in India. He can build a new Church for \$5000 dollars, and that's our Goal! I'm very pleased with the increasing Mission Mind in our Church.

Which leads us to Missionary Ron Moore (Ivory Coast). He will be with us in Revival the first week in February. More about this later, but put it on your prayer list now that God would greatly use these services.

The reason you have not received Miracle Message Volume IV is because we have been busy trying to reprint Volume I and II. We've got so many books that need publishing, and we don't have the money to send them to a printer, so we purchased a \$500 stapler last week and we're trying to do the printing and binding ourselves (Which is a lot of work).



To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST

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Brother Russell Lowder has been invaluable for his work in printing this material for us (It takes a lot of time and effort to run off the nearly 50,000 sheets of paper in a book).

Then comes the wonderful work of Janice Runion and Debbie. They help put together and staple these 50,000 sheets into books. That means walking around our book binding table over 1000 times!

And all of this is only for the 1000 new copies of MM Volume II. We've still got to reprint Volume I, Print over 3000 copies of Volume IV, and then reprint most of our Bible Study Books! And I anticipate needing from 3 to 5 Thousand copies of "Grace Gleamings" when that is printed sometime in the next few months. And you thought your Christmas season was busy!

Of course, if I had around \$20,000 I could send all this work to the Printer and get on with doing some more work. But until God sees fit to send it our way, we're going to do what we always do- What we can, where we are, with what we have. And I THANK those of you who continue to give so that we can do what we do.

The reason we need to print more books is because people have gotten the ones we had! That means God is using them to speak to hearts. The reason I order thousands of audio tapes each year is because we give away thousands of tapes each year to people who want to hear the message of this ministry.

And our Video Ministry just continues to increase. Last week, I had to buy over \$100 dollars worth of blank video tapes just to meet the needs of TWO services. One of these is our annual Praise Service (I've been watching it again as I make copies during the writing of this letter. Every year I think it can't get better; and every year it does so!). The other service was our Youth Sunday in which the Drama Team from the Lake City Pentecostal Church put on skits during our 9am Service and our young people showed off their talents during the 11am Service. This was another exceptional service; and many people have requested tapes.

I'm making more copies as fast as I can so get your order in today. You'll want to look at them over and over again.

By the way, we don't just have activities and Outreach. The Lord continues to Bless in our Church as people are saved and learn to serve. That's been evident recently and I'm encouraged by the way God is working in the lives of people. New people are coming into the Church and more people are becoming involved. You can feel the spirit of Love among the people; and the Power of the Spirit in the services. Praise God from whom all Blessing Flow.

Brother Ralph McAllister has arranged for us to have McDonald Biscuits this Sunday between our 9 and 10 am service; and we have those delicious Breakfast Casseroles next Sunday. Come eat with us. We'll feed you Physically as well as Spiritually; so you can leave church saying it was good to be in the house of the Lord.

May the Lord Bless you and give you a Great Christmas Season. Just remember that God's Gift at Christmas was His Son who came that we might be saved. Don't get so involved with Presents until you miss His Presence and fail to accept the Pardon He freely gives. Christmas without Christ is like getting to the Adult Party late. All you'll find is empty shells and bare bones!!! . . . . . Preacher Mike Psalm 16:11



A Child is Born!



# Grace FWB Church

## Weekly Planner

Dec 6	Dec 7	Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec 12
09:00 AM "Pornography"		Both Broach Birthday	06:30 PM Primary Class Party Tom McKnight Birthday	07:00 PM ADULT CHRIST- MAS PARTY		11:00 AM Begin- ner Class Party Betty Lou Thomp- son Birthday
Dec 13	Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19
09:00 AM "Homeless" 10:00 AM McDon- ald Bisquit 03:00 PM Teen Class Party		Russel Lowder Birthday	Kim Matthews Birthday		07:00 PM Caroling-Choir	
Dec 20	Dec 21	Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24		
10:00 AM Bfast Cameoies 11:00 AM Adult Choir Program Hanukkah	Winter begins 	Dallas/Lela Wise (A)	07:30 PM Youth Christmas Program			
Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31		
Dallas Wise Birthday David McGee Birthday	Ralph/Miriam (A)			07:30 PM Watch Nite Service New Year's Eve		
Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7	Jan 8	Jan 9
Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15	Jan 16
			Church Conference Mildred Lowder (B)			Sylvia Gowdy Birthday
Jan 17			Jan 19	Jan 20	Jan 21	Jan 22
			Lynn Young Birthday	Arnold/Jackie (A)	Ruth Ann Lang- ley (B)	Ann Gowdy Birthday Robbie Gowdy Birthday

## DRUGS

Question- "If President Clinton has experimented with Drugs, why is it wrong for me to take Drugs?" This is just an eye catching way to get you to recognize the power and popularity of Drugs in today's society. That means it's an issue that we as a Church CAN NOT and SHOULD NOT ignore. "Hiding our heads in the sand" will not Protect us; nor will it help those who are already in the Battle.

More than likely, EVERY CHILD in our Church will be offered the opportunity to experiment with Drugs. We must instill principles in them now that will enable them to handle these temptations when they come (These Principles, by the way, apply to most temptations you will face in life. Learn them now and let them help you all through life).

While most people are CURIOUS about the forbidden, they are aware that the CONSEQUENCES far out weigh the satisfaction of Curiosity. This is enough to keep many people away from the "Door to Danger" but, sadly, some will find themselves almost irresistibly drawn toward taking a peek behind the "green door".

I want us to look this morning at THREE of the POWERFUL PULLS that draw us into experimenting with harmful activities or that draw us back into repeating harmful behavior. Then I want us to get a few Scripture Verses that can help us become overcomers.

### I. PEER PULL:

--"Popularity"-Everyone Else is Doing it.

--"Prestige"-You're a "chicken" if you don't try it

Society is simply a large mob guided by the latest Fad or Fashion; or whatever Feels good. As the Family Structure continues to break up, people seek to find the love and acceptance they are missing by becoming "one of the Crowd". Since the morals of the crowd are morals of convenience, this Pull is always a DOWNWARD PULL.

Prov 4:14-15 Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. 15 Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.

### II. PHYSIOLOGICAL PULL:

--It makes me feel good (And Society constantly affirms that the ultimate goal of every person is to "feel good").

--I'm under a lot of stress and I need a way to relax (And I don't want to take the time and effort to do it in normal ways).

1 Cor 6:12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

### III. PHYSICAL PULL

--I'm weak and can't resist my craving

--I perform better when I give in and take drugs

You're fighting for your very life; and the more you give in, the stronger the chains become that are strangling you.

1 Cor 9:25-27 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: 27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

The Power of God is Greater than the Pull of Drugs. But God does not FORCE this Power on you; He offers it as a Gift. Make the Right Choice

## THE PAIN OF PORNOGRAPHY

(Some of this Material is taken from our Teen Class Lesson; from "Issues From the Edge" by Gospel Light Press- Excellent Book)

Eph 4:17-19 (Pl605) So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. 18 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. 19 Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.

Pornography affects the lives of everyone. We are bombarded with it in ads, books, TV, and Movies. We are lured to it by Societies fixation on it and by our own sinful cravings. If it does not affect us then we must deal with others who are effected by it. Today I want to look at the Pain that Pornography causes and determine how we as Christians should react to it's increasing prevalence in Society.

Pornography comes from a Greek word meaning "Whore-writing" or descriptions of the activities of whores. It is the representation of sexually explicit behavior intended to arouse sexual excitement.

"Only 10% of Pornography depicts normal heterosexual activities between one man and one woman (normally not married to each other). Over 90 percent depicts perverted sex including group sex, rape, incest, mutilation, torture, sex with animals, sadomasochistic activities, bondage, homosexuality, child molestation, eating and drinking of body waste, and even murder in "Snuff films". (Adapted from the "California Care Coalition Fact Sheet"-1990).

The primary consumers of pornographic materials are male adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17, to whom this material is easily available: There are more stores selling pornographic videos in the United States than there are McDonalds! Pornography is available in Book Stores, Convenience stores, from cable TV, dial-a-porn telephone numbers, and vending machines. The pornography industry in America today is an \$8-Billion dollar a year operation (85% of which is run by organized crime).

This pornography is used to titillate the person and to break down the resistance of young people. Worst than that, It is the leading cause of many sex crimes- The United States Department of Justice stated in 1988 that 1 in 3 females and 1 in 7 males will be sexually molested before the age of eighteen.

These Sex offenders normally follow these four steps:

- 1> Addiction to Pornography
- 2> Escalation in the need of more sexually explicit and shocking materials in order to get the same sexual stimulation as before.
- 3> Desensitization to the material's contents. Gross and Taboo material now becomes acceptable, and even sought.
- 4> Imagination is translated into Action. You believe that Women and Children really WANT you to assault them; as the victims in movies and books depict. You think everyone else's mind is just as corrupt as yours.

**THE APPEAL OF PORNOGRAPHY-** Men and women respond to sexual stimulants in different ways. Men tend to be sexually stimulated by visual images. Therefore they are quickly attracted to pornographic materials which are visual in nature.

Men tend to give love to get sex; whereas women tend to give sex to get love (If you really love me, you'll go all the way with me).

Pornographic material appeals to men because of it's visual impact and it's openly sexual acts. Little time is "wasted" on developing relationships or considering the emotional needs of the female partner. Sex is merely a physical act.

Women, on the other hand, are drawn into sexual arousal through emotional, romantic, and relational stimulation. They like "steamy" romance novels, soap operas, and romance in the media rather than pornography (Although women CAN be corrupted by, and become addicted to, pornography. Many times they begin viewing this material to please the male in their life. Soon they begin to think this is "normal" behavior, one that they should engage in-My first counseling with a sex addict was a Lady Sunday School Teacher. This is not just a Male problem].

**THE CORRUPTION OF PORNOGRAPHY-** Exposure to Pornography causes one to become more tolerant of deviant sexual behavior, trivialize rape, and show a marked callousness for the pain caused by wrong use of Sex.

Pornography causes sexual arousal that releases the chemical epinephrine in the brain. This chemical is just as addictive as narcotics (Which helps to explain why some people continue in pornography in spite of their knowledge of it's harmful effects)...

Romans Chapter 1 says that this slide into sexual corruption culminates in God giving them over to a reprobate mind that considers Homosexual and Lesbian relationship correct (Rom 1:26-27).

**THE ABOMINATION OF PORNOGRAPHY-** Mat 5:28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Pornography perverts our relationship with the ones we love. Even more than that, it corrupts our Heart and defiles the temple of the Holy Spirit- 1 Cor 6:18-19 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?

#### WHAT CAN WE DO?

1. Stand Against Pornography- Eph 5:11 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

2. Offer Help and Hope to those addicted to Pornography. Many people who are sexually addicted suffer from low self-esteem and deep emotional pain that drives them into a world of fantasy in order to escape the pain of reality. We must show them that God Loves them and that they are Valuable to God and the Church.

Most people are too ashamed to admit that they have this problem. We must show them we offer Compassion instead of Condemnation. They are not "freaks"; just fallen. God's Power and Love can offer Forgiveness and change.

3. Teach People that God's Plan is for Sex to be part of a marriage relationship. It is too powerful to play with in dark corners and the back seats of cars. And it is even more Deadly and powerful in the dark theaters of your mind where it will warp your personality and short circuit your relationships.

Pornography causes Pain for You, your loved ones, and God. Don't let it trap you