

March 21, 2004

Good morning!

If you are new to Grace, we extend a special welcome. Relax. Don't feel any obligation to give monetarily...you are our guest!

Grace Community is a new kind of church focused on finding. Finding God. Finding hope and truth. Finding forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Finding relationships and personal growth in an open creative church.

The emphasis at Grace is twofold: be a church home for non-churched people and provide Christ followers a rich environment for spiritual growth.

The pastor's name is Dave. You can reach him at the church (373-1271) or online at dave@findinggrace.com.

The audio of today's message is available online (findinggrace.com) or at the information table in the lobby.

*Our mission is to **experience** the grace of God in our lives
and to **extend** the grace of God to our community.*

Grace 201 continues this Wednesday evening, 7-8:30pm.

The Easter season begins next week with four services (3 Sundays and Good Friday) focused at "The Passion: True or False?: The evidence for the life and claims of Jesus Christ will be examined in detail.

Sunday (Next Sunday) March 28 – "True or False: Jesus was the Son of God"

Sunday (Palm Sunday) April 4 – "True or False: Jesus Died for You"

Friday April 9 (7pm) – "True or False: Jesus took the sin of the world"

This Good Friday service will be a Tenebrae or "service of darkness".

Sunday (Easter) April 11 – "True or False: Jesus is Alive"

Parenting: Understanding How God Made Your Family to Fit Together, This Thursday, March 25, 6:30-8p (in partnership with Focus on the Family's "Young Families")

Best-selling author John Trent will help parents understand the unique personalities of each family member. In addition, parents will discover a plan of action for building healthier relationships within the family based on their individual personalities. Childcare will be provided. This event is a live video presentation from Church Communication Network. For more info go to CCNonline.com. Childcare provided.

Women's Connection: Gardening, Tuesday, March 30th, 7-9pm.

Want to discuss "The Passion"? A short-term open discussion group starts today at 1pm. The focus will be the movie "The Passion of the Christ". Please write "The Passion" on your envelope or call Kevin McDougal at 597-1370.

Spiritual Growth Reading Plan:

Monday | Samuel 1

Tuesday | Samuel 2:1-11

Wednesday | Samuel 2:12-26

Thursday | Samuel 2:27-36

Friday | Samuel 3

Saturday | Proverbs 9

Sunday | Psalm 121

The Church Is A Team

(Based on day 21 of "The Purpose Driven Life" *)

As one who is in the Lord Jesus, I am fully convinced that no food is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for him it is unclean. If your brother is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy your brother for whom Christ died. Do not allow what you consider good to be spoken of as evil. For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men.

Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall.

So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.
Romans 14:14-23 (NIV)

1. We have a lot in common

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. *Romans 3:22-24 (NIV)*

2. Encouragement is powerful

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. *Philippians 1:6 (NIV)*

3. Avoid team destroyers

So let's agree to use all our energy in getting along with each other. Help others with encouraging words. *Romans 14:19 (MSG)*

4. Follow the pastor and leaders



* "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren, 2002 Zondervan Publishing