



GraceNet

Knoxville, TN

March 2021

Family Troubles

The Bible is replete with family disasters. From the very beginning of time we see the first family is overcome with brotherly strife. Cain kills his brother Abel because of jealousy and envy. Not long after in Genesis 4, a man named Lamech introduces polygamy to the world. Without quite saying how in the Bible it leads to Lamech killing a young man who injured him. Noah has an errant son and Abraham is coaxed into taking a concubine. Jacob and Esau is another brother tandem that doesn't get along. The story of Joseph and his brothers is probably the most memorable family breakdown in the Old Testament. Read the dramatic story in Genesis, chapters 37-50.

Maybe most surprising is the family troubles that Jesus experienced. In Mark 3, Jesus is healing on the Sabbath, drawing large crowds, appointing 12 disciples, and casting out demons. His family viewing all of this was alarmed. They went to take charge of Him because they thought He was out of His mind. Later in that same chapter Jesus is told that His mother and brothers are looking for Him. He responds by asking "Who are my mother and my brothers?" Looking at those seated before Him, He answers: "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother, sister and mother." Still Jesus always honored family.

Family hurts are particularly wounding because we are supposed to love those closest to us. They are also distressing because we generally know our family members well enough to know what will really hurt them. How often I have heard the agony of parents whose children will have nothing to do with them. Or on the other hand, there are adults who have abandoned their children as juveniles or adults. There is divorce, unhealthy competitions, unwillingness to forgive, and sexual sins.

If God's commands were followed we could avoid so many family troubles. We will never have trouble-free families because this is a sin infested world. Jesus' own family demonstrates this reality. Nevertheless, we believers will strive to have families ordered and shaped in a Biblical fashion desiring to honor and glorify God. So here are few principles to consider if we are to have this kind of family.

Christian families respect a God-given order in relationships.

God comes first, followed by your spouse and then children. To get your family out of order is disastrous. For instance, for a parent to put their child ahead of their spouse is not good for the marriage or for the child.

Christian families discipline their children.

We will hurt our children if we don't discipline them. Spoiled children have many troubles later in life. Parents need to teach their children to take responsibility for themselves.

Christian married couples will do everything in their power not to divorce.

Divorce has many bad effects on the people divorcing and especially on their children. It has been proven that young marriages that are having trouble, if they stick it out for five years, will see the problems recede and their satisfaction greatly increase. Older couples need to think of their children above their own needs. Children of divorce can struggle with all kinds of deep hurts.



(Continued on page 2)

Family Troubles *(Continued)*

Christian families remain faithful to God.

Fathers are to lead their families to worship Christ and obey God's commands. As long as children are living at home they are expected to join the family in worship. Parents should teach and model Biblical principles and see to it that their children come to know the Bible.

Christian families maintain their unity and forgive one another.

Most estrangements between family members have strong elements of pride, stubbornness and a lack of humility and forgiveness. We have no right not to forgive. To be a peacemaker in a family takes great strength. This does not mean we compromise our clear Christian beliefs. But many separations between families are not over core beliefs but everyday hurts inflicted upon one another.

Christian families are thankful for each other.

There is great joy in family life and Christian families express their gratitude and thankfulness often. We are linked together by blood and we are to encourage and support one another. We are on the same team and we can solve problems together and remain united.

~ Pastor Rich

Drive-Thru Communion at Grace

Sunday, March 14

1:00—2:00 p.m.



Grace Prayer Team Welcomes Requests



The Grace Prayer Team is constantly at work! If you have a prayer request that you would like prayed over by the Grace Prayer Team, we welcome your requests. Please contact ***Kristin McGee*** at kdmcgee08@gmail.com (865-384-9834) or ***Ev Brown*** (evbrown@gmail.com (865-870-5603)). The request will then be passed on to the team. We continue to welcome Prayer Team members as well. If you are interested in praying for the needs submitted by our church family, please contact Kristin or Ev with your interest.

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Articles for *GraceNet* are due by the ***1st of each month*** for the following month's edition.

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*If you have a special event you would like to have publicized in *GraceNet*, please submit the information to*

Debbie Booher by the 1st of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter.

LWML News

We have a special opportunity to learn more about the mission efforts of Tom and Juanita Matthews, who have worked with Wycliffe Bible Translators for many years. Please gather with our **Lutheran Women in Mission on March 13 at 10 a.m.** for a cup of coffee in the Fellowship Hall and an inspiring presentation by Tom and Juanita. Just last year they had to flee Kenya when the international airports were closing due to the virus. In 2020, mission work was being done in 56 countries with 88 new scripture languages being published. Technology has helped with the completion of the Bible in American Sign Language on a new app. Tom continues to do work on-line toward the vision of having people from every language be able to understand the Bible and be transformed by God through His Word.



What to Talk About!

CCOVID 19 has cut many of us off from the normal social situations we were in before. And even when we get together COVID often dominates the conversations. The isolation, strangely enough, may be God preparing us for an excellent opportunity. COVID has created a lot of talk about death and dying. A lot of Americans are thinking about the future in ways that were blocked out of their minds before COVID. This presents a wonderful opportunity to share the Good News about an eternity with Jesus.

How do we prepare? What comes out of our mouth usually has a lot to do with what we put in. Regular Bible reading and Bible study will help us be more spontaneous in sharing the Good News. Also, as Christians we should regularly talk about Jesus with each other. Then it will be more likely we are comfortable speaking Good News to someone who is not a Christian.

What might we talk about with the non-Christian? Since COVID is such a big topic, it might be the starting place. When they bring up their fear of COVID, you might say something like, "Sure COVID was frightening, but I always had the comfort of my faith in Jesus."

"Wherever you go, make disciples of all peoples." (Matthew 28:19)

~ Pastor Paul Muench



Pastor Rich and Pastor Danny are back with Season 2 of their **Wednesday Wanderings**. This season's theme is "The Miracles of Jesus," and will continue through Lent. The last episode of this series will be on March 17. You can view each episode on Grace's YouTube channel, Facebook page, or at visitgrace.org. Please join them for these weekly sessions.



March

BIRTHDAYS

3/1	Isaac Smith	3/17	Rebekah Satterfield
3/2	Sarah Anderson	3/17	Ella Stone
3/2	Nicole Cox	3/17	Cole Turner
3/2	Gary Pruett	3/18	Olivia Baserman
3/2	Mack Webster	3/18	Kelsey Denton
3/3	Mitchel Meyers	3/20	Kenny Blankenship
3/3	David Plummer	3/20	Scotty Krempasky
3/3	Levi Smithey	3/20	Mary Stoner
3/4	Penny Perry	3/20	Grace Williams
3/4	Rachel Rogers	3/20	Rich Wolfe
3/5	Pam Baker	3/21	Abigail Baserman
3/5	Isabella Daenzer	3/21	Dawson Daenzer
3/5	Mike Donnelly	3/21	Erin Kragenbrink
3/5	Mary Belle Early	3/22	Andrew Harter
3/6	Barbara Sears	3/22	Nicholas Mackley
3/6	Jennifer Wylie	3/22	Morgan Schmidt
3/7	Kylie Hatfield	3/24	Gloria Blackwell
3/9	Robert Brearey	3/24	Kathy Crum
3/11	Kaylee McIlwain	3/25	Elizabeth Augustus
3/11	Teri Stoddard	3/26	Scott Surprenant
3/12	April Calcutt	3/26	Carol Voorhees
3/12	Gary Krohnfeldt	3/28	Dale King
3/12	Deborah Rowlands	3/28	Katha O'Hatnick
3/12	Brianna Stock	3/28	Alyssa Riggs
3/12	Becky Strickland	3/29	Sandra Arnold
3/15	Jacob Curtis	3/30	Chris Jaekel
3/15	Rheagan Haynes	3/30	Samuel Landon
3/15	Mike Murphy	3/30	Elaina Riggs
3/16	Pastor Philip Bohlken	3/30	Evan Thompson
3/16	Anne Smeltzer	3/31	Amy Baserman
3/16	Patricia Strickland	3/31	Christian Collins
3/17	Alli Duenckel	3/31	Nancy May
3/17	Rachel Hallam	3/31	Carrie Schmitt
3/17	Erik Kabelá	3/31	Sherry Schoolcraft

March

Scripture of the Month

The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna!"

*"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the King of Israel!"*

John 12:12-13, NIV



March

ANNIVERSARIES

3/1	Craig & Chris Emerson
3/3	Les & Jan Grebe
3/3	Larry & Diana Holden
3/8	Shannon & Cody Stone
3/13	Don & Holly Mings
3/22	Don & Nicole Cox
3/25	Marianne & Bill Drake
3/25	Jerry & Maggie Geithman
3/26	Eric & Suzi Schmidt
3/31	Andy & Marilyn Caddle



Excited *Spring Arrives*
March 20!!!

Bible Quiz

As the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, they longingly remembered some of the foods they'd had in Egypt. Which foods were not mentioned?

- A. carrots and potatoes
- B. onions and garlic
- C. fish and leeks
- D. melons and cucumbers



Answer: A (See Numbers 11:4-6)

March Children's Curriculum Themes

In an attempt to connect the adults and children of Grace just a bit more, I will be letting people know the theme and verse of the week in our children's Sunday school classes. I would love it if the adults would join in memorizing or at least talking about it to the children as they see each other in the halls. Listed below are the themes and scripture for March.

~ Frieda Guthrie

DATE	THEME	VERSE
March 7	Commit to follow Jesus.	<i>I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes; first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. (Romans 1:16)</i>
March 14	God wants sincere worship..	<i>Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. (Psalm 95:6)</i>
March 21	Jesus came to save us.	<i>For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)</i>
March 28	Give cheerfully to God.	<i>Each man should give what he had decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves an cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)</i>



Operation Christmas Child

Since COVID so rudely interrupted this year, we are revamping our "20 in 20" campaign for 2021. Boxes can be donated year round, there are updates on how to pay, and we are ready to help with any questions you may have about this ministry. Don't feel like packing a shoebox? We will gladly accept donations for any items you would like to donate towards a box. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Frieda Guthrie at childrens-min@visitgrace.org or Paul Guthrie at pgvint3@gmail.com

~ Blessings,

Paul and Frieda Guthrie



Update to Online Giving

Effective **FEBRUARY 15, 2021**, Grace converted to a new online giving platform. Those who wish to continue or begin to give online will need to re-enter their checking or credit/debit card information on the Grace website: www.visitgrace.org



"Always show kindness and love to others. Your words might be filling the empty places in someone's heart."

~ Mandy Hale

True Freedom

Our body has not only been created by God and will one day be resurrected by him, but it has been bought by Christ's blood and is indwelt by His Spirit. Thus, it belongs to God three times over, by creation, redemption and indwelling. How then, since it does not belong to us, can we misuse it?

Instead, we are to honor God with it, by obedience and self-control. Bought by Christ, we have no business to become the slaves of anybody or anything else. Once we were slaves to sin; now we are the slaves of Christ, and his service is the true freedom.

~ John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*



HealthLine

Please note that everything written in this column will be backed by research, various studies, and facts. There will be no personal opinions.

~ Sheila Wittke



Current Studies about the Benefits of Coffee

Drinking coffee, especially dark roast, either caffeinated or decaffeinated, is greatly beneficial to many parts of the body. A Krembil Brain Institute study found that dark roast coffee lowered a person's risk of developing the neurological conditions Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases due to the compounds which developed during roasting. In a Rutgers study, two compounds found in coffee, caffeine and EHT, appear to combine to slow brain degeneration. In another study at the University of Nottingham, scientists found that coffee stimulates "brown fat," the type of fat that burns calories.

In a recent study conducted by Anglia Ruskin University, it was found that women who drink at least two cups of coffee a day have lower total body and abdominal fat than those who drink less. Women, ages 20-44, who drank two or three cups of coffee a day had 3.4 percent lower fat than those who did not drink coffee, and women, ages 45-69, had abdominal or "trunk" fat (adiposity) that was 4.1 percent lower. The results were the same whether the women drank regular or decaffeinated coffee. This research suggests that there may be bioactive compounds in coffee other than caffeine that regulate weight, and which could potentially be used as anti-obesity compounds in weight management and glucose regulation to help prevent diabetes.

Full of Grace

In 382 AD Pope Damasus commissioned Jerome to produce a Latin translation of the Bible. It came to be known as the Vulgate, meaning “common” because it would be shared and used by all in place of a variety of translations then circulating. Jerome generally tried to follow the original texts fairly closely, even if it made for very unusual Latin in places. But, he also did some things that are not especially close to the text and have created problems ever since.

For example, The Greek text of the New Testament at John 3:16 says God gave His truly unique Son. John even emphasizes the distinction between Jesus and us by using the word “son” for Jesus alone, while referring to us with another word that means “children.” But, Jerome translated as if the text said God gave His only begotten Son. (The words that make a difference are only one letter different in spelling.) That change may have been because Jerome wanted to strengthen the case against a heretic of the day named Arius, who taught Jesus was not really God. Or, he may simply have made a mistake. (Our Athanasian Creed is directed against the teachings of Arius and some others.)

Another one of Jerome’s little changes happened at Luke 1:28. His Latin translation reads, “Hail, Mary, full of grace!” The Greek text reads, “Hail, Mary, highly favored (i.e., “shown much grace!)” As time passed Mary was regarded as one who possessed extra grace and those in need of grace could appeal to her for more. The original Greek text implies Mary is only the passive recipient of grace from God. In Luke 1:47 Mary rejoiced in God, her Savior. A savior implies someone who acknowledges he or she needs saving and is not full of grace, able to dispense it to others. Was Jerome simply trying to convey the great measure of grace God poured out on Mary by using the words “full of grace,” or was he attempting to elevate her?

The Jerusalem Bible with Notes appeared in 1966. It is a Roman Catholic version and gives Luke 1:28 as, “Rejoice, so highly favored!” That follows the original Greek text, but not Jerome’s Vulgate. (The greeting word “rejoice” is a literal translation. It was commonly used to greet someone like we might say to a friend we suddenly see unexpectedly with a joyful, “Hey, there!”) The editor of the notes for Luke mentions Mary is highly favored and blessed, but does not imply she is full of grace. Meanwhile, I found a web page strongly defending and promoting Jerome’s “full of grace” address. The Jerusalem Bible notes on these passages make reference to God’s favor shown to Israel and to various people in the Old Testament, but say nothing further about Mary.

Martin Luther urged people to honor Mary as one who was blessed by God in a special way, but not to venerate her.

~ Rev. Phil Bohlken

A Grand Entrance

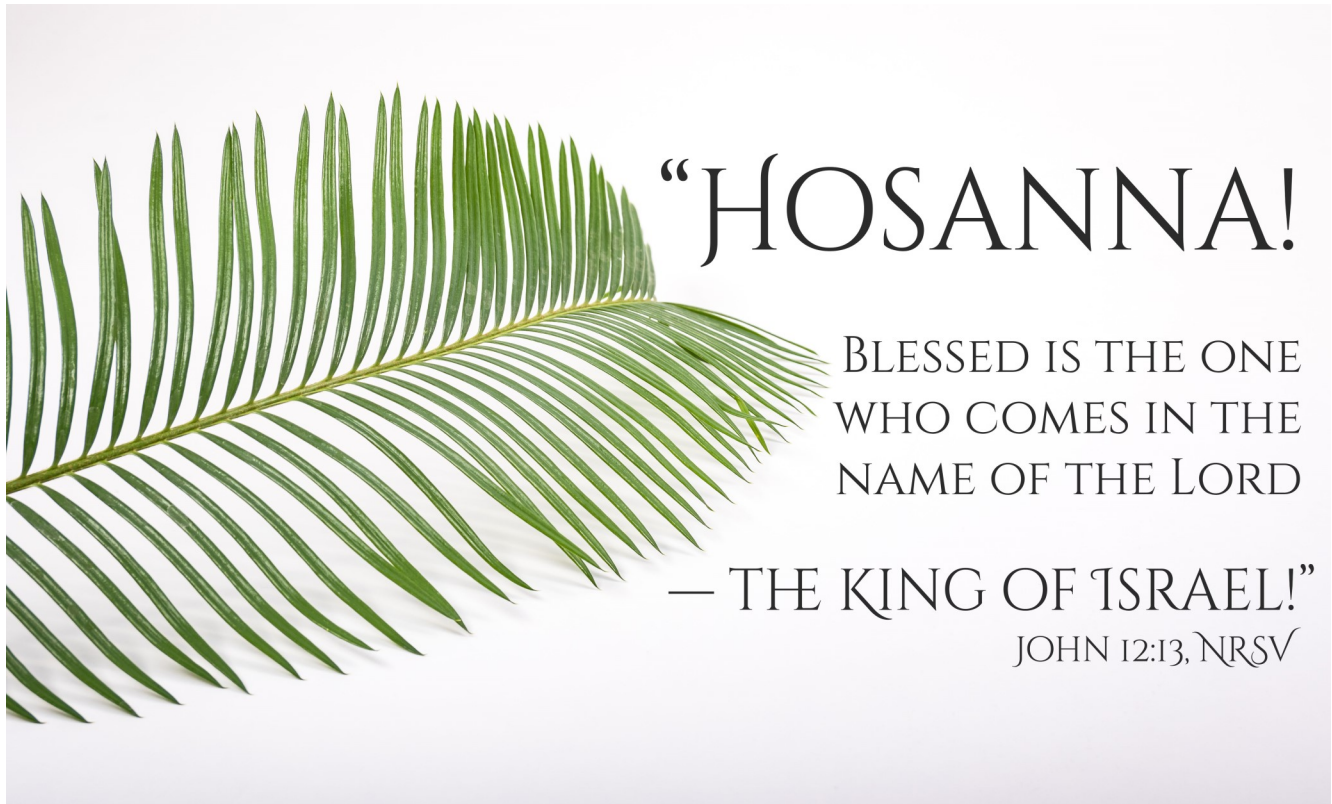
Decades ago, as English actress Gertrude Lawrence waited behind the curtain for a play to begin, the queen upstaged her by arriving at the royal box to much applause. “What an entrance,” Lawrence remarked, to which her friend, playwright Noel Coward, replied, “What a part!”

Jesus certainly made a grand entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, entering to adoring shouts of “Hosanna!” But worldly glory and fame weren’t his intent. Instead, our Lord knew that his Father had prepared a sacrificial role for him. Jesus handled the adulation with dignity and poise. The humble yet courageous Son of God knew that danger, despair and death awaited — but that he must endure it all to fulfill prophecy for humanity’s sake.

The pageantry of Palm Sunday is a stark contrast to the role of Suffering Servant that Jesus faced a few short days later. Yet each event during Holy Week represents victory — for Jesus as well as for his beloved children.

Palm Sunday is a glorious day, so let us wave palms and shout, “Hosanna in the highest heaven!” The Savior has come. What an entrance! What a part!





Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021

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E-mail address: glc@visitgrace.org
Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (Traditional) and
9:30 a.m. (Blended)/11:00 a.m. (Contemporary)
Wednesday Worship: 6:30 p.m. (Blended)
Sunday School & Bible Classes @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:



“Connect ~ Grow ~ Serve”