

# August 2021

- If you are a guest with us today, we want to **WELCOME** you! If you haven't done so already, we invite you to stop by our Guest Reception Center in the lobby at the scooter table/info booth following the service. Someone will greet you, answer any questions you may have, and give you a gift as a thank-you for worshipping with us today!
- **Are you interested in being a Rooted Group Facilitator?** Leaders are needed as we launch new groups this fall! Training sessions begin **Monday, August 23** in preparation for our October launch of Rooted Groups. We will equip you with everything you need to facilitate a life-changing group. Contact Pastor John <a href="mailto:john@gracechapelzeeland.com">john@gracechapelzeeland.com</a>
- **Prayer Changes Things!** Join us for a time of worship and prayer on **Tuesday, August 24** at **6:30 pm** at the **Grace Campus**. We will meet in the side room of the sanctuary. Pastor John will lead us as we worship and pray for our ministries, the body of Christ, and each other. Anyone is welcome!
- We are having a **Kid's Ministry Work Day Saturday, August 28 from 9 am 2 pm** at the **Ebenezer Campus**. If you're handy and like to build or assemble furniture. Or if organization and the use of a label maker excites you, contact Danielle for more details. Kids are welcome to break in our new toys and lunch will be provided for all!
- danielle@gracechapelzeeland.com
- Ladies, Sisters of Grace (a ladies bible study group) will be starting on Tuesday, September 14th from 6:45-8:00 pm at the Grace Campus. Sisters of Grace meets every other Tuesday for 6 weeks. This is open to all women of all ages. Please join us as we study the book, Ruth, through Right Now Media. So grab a friend and sign-up together or come on your own and meet some new friends! Please sign up by September 5th at the welcome table or email Jen Grill. jen@familychurch.app
- The **Family Church Library** is home to lots of Christian Fiction books for you to read. It has also been relocated just off the downstairs entrance at the **Grace Campus**! Check it out! We've also, recently, added several new books. Remember to sign books out and sign them back in when returned. Enjoy! Contact Pastor John for more info. **john@gracechapelzeeland.com**
- **Website and App Update:** Please give us grace this month while we update our website and app. We know crazy things are going on with our website. All of these things are part of the process of updating our site. Thanks for being so understanding!

# **Family Church - Weekly Services**

- Thursday at 6:30 pm Live Service @ *Ebenezer Campus* (5166 Ottogan St. Holland) / Pizza and Donuts served at 6pm!
- Sunday at 9 am Live Service and Kids Church @ Grace Campus (9530 Woodbridge St. Zeeland)
- Sunday at 10:45 am Live Service and Kids Church @ Grace Campus (9530 Woodbridge St. Zeeland)



### August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021

Chair 5 – The Religious Person

A disciple is a person \_\_\_\_\_ like and \_\_\_\_ for Jesus.

What group of people was Jesus the most critical during His life on earth?
John 15: 1-17,"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup> "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.
Religious Traps:

## **Life Application:**

Take time this week to think about how you have allowed sin, good things, or satisfaction to shift your focus away from becoming like Jesus. Identify one thing you need to change to be more like Jesus and prioritize that shift in your life.



#### **August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021**

Chair 5 - The Religious Person

- 1. Has there ever been a time in your life when you realized you were missing the point?
- 2. Often becoming a REAL follower of Jesus means we need to change some things in our lives. What are some of the things you have needed to change?
- 3. Jesus made sure to keep balance in his ministry. What can we learn from this? Think: Barnabas/Paul

**KEY QUESTION**: What group of people was Jesus the most critical during His life on earth? **READ: John 15:16-17** 

- 4. What is the passage a picture of?
- 5. This parable clearly has 4 stages of fruitfulness, what are they?
- 6. This parable also coincides with the stages of our growth with Jesus. How? Do they also tie into the four chairs?
- 7. What level of fruit is Jesus' goal for every one of us?
- Pastor Adam said there are traps.
   Things that cause us to move into chair
   5.

## Religious Trap 1: Sin

- 9. What does verse two say about this?
- 10. To avoid being cut from the vine we need to avoid sins that easily entangle us. How can we do this?
- 11. Why do we judge others when we are falling into sin ourselves? How can we guard ourselves against this?

# Religious Trap 2: Good Things

- 12. In our churches today we make chair 2, so comfortable people never want to get out of it! How comfortable are you?
- 13. Vines are pruned carefully throughout their life span. The fruitfulness greatly increases by pruning. How does this relate to our comfort level?
- 14. Have you ever heard or said something like: I put my time in now it is someone else's time to serve? What chair is this?

A Quote from Pastor Adam... Sometimes we get mad at God because the way we use to do ministry no longer works to reach people, so we give up and shift into the 5<sup>th</sup> chair and criticize the new forms of ministry. Have you seen this, done this...? I don't like the music, I want the organ back, there are too many people, I can't set with my friends anymore. It is so easy to shift our focus from what it takes to reach people, build people up in Jesus, and release them to do the same. Sadly, instead we shift from that focus and into self-focus and onto only what we care about.

Religious Trap 3: Satisfaction

- 15. What do verses 3-4 say about this?
- 16. Any of us can become satisfied with the fruit of our ministry. We can become so busy enjoying the increased fruit that we slip. We cannot forget that satisfaction IS NOT our goal! Discuss this.

**KEY POINT**: Our goal is to become a REAL disciple of Jesus who make more REAL disciples of Jesus.

17. Sometimes we get so satisfied, we criticize other followers of Jesus or other churches. We think we are somehow superior or are better in some way. How do we avoid this?

KEY POINT: When we follow Jesus...remain in Jesus...live like Jesus, he calls us friends!

#### Life Application:

Take time this week to think about how you have allowed sin, good things, or satisfaction to shift your focus away from becoming like Jesus. Identify one thing you need to change to be more like Jesus and prioritize that shift in your life.