

If you are a guest with us today, we want to **WELCOME** you! If you have not done so already, we invite you to stop by our Guest Reception Center in the lobby at the welcome desk 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!

The Ebenezer phone number no longer works. Please call (616) 741-0032 to speak to anyone on staff.

### **Prayer Ministry**

- Do you have a prayer request? If so, please go to the Facebook Prayer Warriors page with any prayer requests. Please check out the care ministry prayer list at the information table regarding any Family church need.
- Please join us at 10:50 am at the Ebenezer Campus or 12:15 pm at the Grace Campus on January 16 to explore opportunities on how you can support Family Church in becoming a House of Prayer.

### **Teens Ministry**

- Family Teens will go to Tarry Skate Hall in Grandville on December 12! The Family Church bus will leave from the Ebenezer Campus at 5 pm and return at 8 pm. All middle and high schoolers are welcome to join us! Contact keith@familychurch.app with any questions.

### **Young Adult Ministry**

- Young Adult Small Group for adults 18 to 29 meets every Thursday at 7:45 pm at our Ebenezer Campus, immediately following the worship service. Consider joining us at 6:00 for FREE pizza from Vitales! Contact keith@familychurch.app with any questions.

### **Outreach Ministry**

- Come relieve stress, grow strong in faith, and find community! This Christ-centered class uses yoga to worship God with every breath and movement. The hour-long class led by a certified instructor, Becca Bishop, will help you celebrate Christmas with your whole self while also surrendering all you are to Jesus. Classes will take place at the Ebenezer Campus on December 11 at 9:00 am and December 13 and 17 at 7:30 pm. Bring a mat (if you have one) and a water bottle.

### **Women's Ministry**

- Wednesday Morning Bible Study will begin a new study, "Developing Intimacy with God," on January 5 from 9:00-10:30 am in the sanctuary of the Grace Campus. All women are welcome!

### **Family Church - Weekly Services**

- **Thursday at 6:30 pm** - Live Service at Ebenezer Campus
- **Sunday at 9:00 am** - Live Service and Kids Church at Grace Campus
- **Sunday at 9:30 am** - Live Service and Kids Church at Ebenezer Campus
- **Sunday at 10:45 am** - Live Service and Kids Church at Grace Campus

Grace Campus 9530 Woodbridge St. Zeeland / Ebenezer Campus 5166 Ottogan St. Holland



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**December 2021**

Joy in the in-between

**Romans 12: 9-13, Love in Action,** <sup>9</sup>Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. <sup>10</sup>Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. <sup>11</sup>Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

**If someone could watch you in your daily life without you knowing it. Would they ever see you HONOR others above yourself?**

**Romans 12: 14-21,** <sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. <sup>19</sup>Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. <sup>20</sup>On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**How different would your life look if you lived like Romans 9: 9-21?**

**Revelation 19:6-8,** <sup>6</sup>Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. <sup>7</sup>Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. <sup>8</sup>Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear."

**What would it look like if you saw this season as a gift instead of a time of growing tired of waiting?**

**Life Application:**

**Take time this week and thank God for the in-between times in your life. Choose to see God in the waiting.**

## December 12<sup>th</sup> 2021

Joy in the in-between

1. Advent is a season that focuses on the in-between. We live between the promise of Jesus and the fulfillment of that promise. We have been promised a gift we have always wanted! BUT we are waiting, we are in the in-between. What does that mean to you?
2. What is something or someone you are waiting for?
3. What do you do during waiting periods, those in-between times?

### **READ: ROMANS 12:9-21**

4. Is this the kind of love you see in our culture today?
5. The word of God is the ONLY thing that does not change over time. What should that tell us about the way we live our lives?
6. What should love look like?

### **KEY POINT: Love is being sincere in our devotion to God.**

7. What does this passage tell us to hate? To cling to.
8. It also tells us to be devoted to one another, what does this look like in action?

### **KEY POINT: Honor others above yourself.**

9. If someone could watch you in your daily life without you knowing it. Would they see you honor others above yourself? Do you ever truly place others above yourself?
10. What does verse 11 teach us?

11. **KEY POINT: Zeal means a passion for the Lord, while really loving others well!**

12. What do you learn from joyful people, patient people, and praying people?

### **KEY POINT: When we focus on God faithfully, it changes our perspective.**

13. What does sharing and hospitality have to do with any of this?

### **KEY POINT: Practice hospitality....that is God saying throw awesome parties with your Christian friends!**

14. How different would your life look if you lived like Romans 9: 9-21?
15. How different would your life look if you placed other people before yourself, if you prayed, opened your house up to other

people, blessed others and never talked bad about anyone, ever, if you tried to always live-in harmony with others?

16. We are bad at waiting. Our tech usage is one way we recognize our growing inability to wait for anything. As believers we should realize God has purpose in waiting. What do you think it is?

### **KEY POINT: Waiting ultimately reorients our stories. We learn that God is the hero of our story... not us.**

17. How does our character change in waiting?

### **READ: Revelation 19:6-8**

18. We have an amazing promise. Explain it from this passage.

### **KEY POINT: We find purpose and meaning by living faithfully devoted to Jesus.**

19. Sometimes we don't realize what the gift of waiting truly is. We forget that the waiting has meaning. What would it look like, to see this season as a gift, instead of a time of growing tired of waiting?

20. How do you interact with people now...in this temporary life? How will that affect your eternal life?

21. This season reminds us that God has not promised us every little or big desire of our heart. He has promised us something far better. What has He promised?

### **KEY POINT: We don't know if everything will turn out the way we want it to, but we can trust that God is lovingly with us, in it all.**

### Life Application:

**Take time this week and thank God for the in-between times in your life. Choose to see God in the waiting.**

