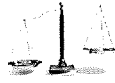


January 2020

Church Life

- 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 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!
- **Bible Reading Plan** - This year, we are encouraging our entire church to read through the Bible in one year. Every weekend, we will be giving away a \$50 gift card to a person who read the readings for the prior week. So here's how this works, please visit the scooter table **BEFORE** service, write your name on a ticket (if you did the readings for the week), and drop it in the bin. Then, at the end of the service, Pastor Adam will pull out a name, and someone will go home with a gift card(all services). We want to encourage our church to be in their Bibles, happy reading!
- Ladies, **Grace Wednesday Morning Study** is starting a new study on the book of James! This study begins on January 6th at 9:00 am in the sanctuary. No sign-up is necessary. Hope to see you there!
- Want to know what is going on at Grace? Weekly, we email out the E-news. The E-news is a sermon summary written by one of our amazing attenders. Please fill out your connection card if you would like to receive this!
- Grace, we are re-launching the 10:45 kids service, and we need **MORE** volunteers to teach these **AMAZING** kids! Please fill out your connection card if you are interested.
- Teens, youth group, is at Ebenezer Reformed Church this Sunday, we hope to see you there at 6:00 pm!



Balancing the
**CHRISTIAN
LIFE**

January 3rd 2021

Bible Stuff:

“What are you going to do with this gift (the Bible) that God has given you?”

Psalms 119:11, “I have hidden your word in my heart.”

Become a Student of the _____.

Hebrews 4:12, “For the word of God is alive and powerful,”

Psalms 107:20, “He sent forth his word and he healed them.”

God’s word brings _____ into your life.

Proverbs 16:9, “A man’s heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.”

God’s word also brings _____.

Luke 4:18, “He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners, for recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed.”

God’s word brings _____.

Proverbs 7:1-3, “Follow my advice, my son, always treasure my commands. Obey my commands and live. Guard my instructions as you guard your own eyes. Tie them on your fingers as a reminder. Write them deep within your hearts.”

1. New International Version (NIV)
2. The Voice
3. King James Version (KJ)
4. English Standard Version (ESV)
5. New King James Version (NKJ)
6. New Living Translation (NLT)
7. Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCB)

**Things to ask when reading your Bible:
who, what, where, when, and why?**

Bible Study Websites: studylight.org, Bible Gateway, YouVersion.com, Bible.org, Biblehub.com

Psalms 42:1-2, “As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?”

Life Application

Begin a Bible in a year reading plan. Commit now to reading through your Bible this year. Take a paper reading plan, download the Grace Chapel Zeeland App, follow along in the app, purchase a Bible in a Year bible, etc.

Make this the year you dedicate to growing in your love of Scripture!



Balancing the
**CHRISTIAN
LIFE**

January 3rd 2021

Balancing the Christian Life.

1. Where do you struggle with balance?
2. What is the key to achieving balance in life?
Perhaps it comes with living out Biblical virtues, or becoming more like Jesus, but even that is hard. So how do we find balance?

KEY POINT: Balance comes from making a conscious decision to shift how we approach life beginning with understanding our Bible.

3. How do you study your Bible? How do you work toward understand your Bible?
4. Do you treat your Bible with reverence? Are you hungry to study God's Word? Why or why not.
5. Pastor Adam gave us a lot of history regarding the Bible, what stood out to you?
6. Have you ever considered what it would be like to never be able to read a Bible or to have to hide your Bible out of fear of execution?
7. In America, we have more access to the Bible than ever before in history. Yet, people are not more engaged with their Bibles. Why?

Key Question: "What are you going to do with this gift (the Bible) that God has given you?"

8. Honestly, do you treat the Bible like the most precious gift ever given to you?
9. David said in Psalms 119:11, "I have hidden your word in my heart." How do you do this?
10. Pastor Adam said, "When we decide to put effort into finding out what things in the Bible mean, that is when our life will radically change. When we: read more, study more, engage more, overtime we grow in our knowledge of the Bible and even more in our faith in God. Here is my challenge to everyone, make a choice TODAY to **Become a Student of the Bible.** Become more than readers, more than listeners, intentionally take God's word and imprint it into your hearts. Allow it to transform you and change you. We know this is what God wants us to do, what He calls us to do. Discuss this, is this something you need to work on? Or is this something you could help others to learn to do?

A Quote from Pastor Adam... Many of us are trained from a young age to take God's word and put it into our lives. But then we grow up and have seasons of hunger, times when we read God's word and it transforms us. Things are rich, and we are growing. Other times we slip into a season of inconsistency. There are also times when we feel all alone, we read the Bible, but it feels like it is brick wall, and we wonder why we are doing this? But here is what blows me away, when we dive into our Bibles: God changes us. He transforms us. He makes us new. Our thinking becomes straightened out. He picks us up above our circumstances, up above our challenges. Make a commitment and dive into God's word, become intimate with Him and if you do you will discover what Hebrews 4:12 means, "For the word of God is alive and powerful,"

KEY POINT: God's word is alive, and it brings power.

READ: Psalms 107:20

11. What does this tell us? Where have you seen this in your life? Is this only a physical thing?

KEY POINT: God's word brings healing into your life.

Healing comes from God's word.

12. Proverbs 16:9, says, "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps." DO you see another important aspect of knowing God's Word?

KEY POINT: God's word also brings direction.

13. There are questions we ask ourselves every single day of our life and each answer will determine the direction of our life in that moment and eventually our entire life. What basis do you want to use to determine your daily decision making?

14. Luke 4:18 says, "He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners, for recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed." This also gives us great wisdom in the way we live, what is it?

KEY POINT: God's word brings freedom.

READ: Proverbs 7:1-3

15. What can we learn from this?

Life Application

Begin a Bible in a year reading plan. Commit now to reading through your bible this year. Take a paper reading plan, download the Grace Chapel Zeeland App and follow along in the app, purchase a Bible in a Year bible, etc. Make this the year you dedicate to growing in your love of Scripture!

