



# THIS WEEK

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH, KAILUA KONA, HAWAII

## events

**Aloha!** Thanks for worshipping us online this morning; we are making plans to safely offer an in-person option within a few weeks. Details will be communicated via email this week (make sure you're on our email distribution list!)

Andrew will introduce **1 & 2 Thessalonians** next Sunday. The text will be Acts 17:1-9. Journals are available.

**Challenge!** This week, read 1 Thessalonians in one sitting.

**Middle School Youth Group**  
Wednesdays 4:30-6pm  
(for grades 5-8; starting Sept 8)

**Thursday Ladies Bible Study**  
starting Sept 16

- 9-10:30am (BSF - Matthew)
- 5:30-7pm (life of Elijah)

### Ways to Give:

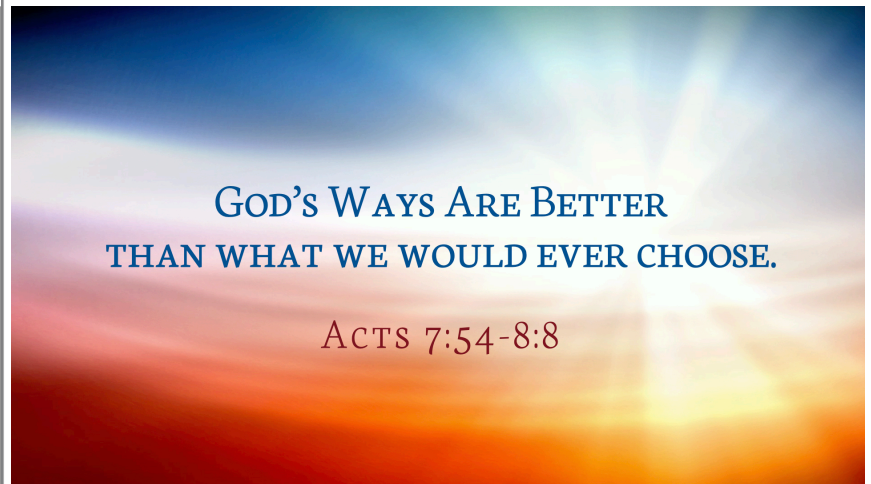
- Online on our website or app
- Giving box on Sundays
- Mail a check to the church

### Giving Snapshot

Budgeted - \$223,333

Actual Giving - \$230,805

Systems surplus - \$21,088



## SERMON NOTES

Andrew Severinsen -God's Ways Are Better  
Than what we would ever choose.  
Acts 7:54-8:8

**Big Idea:** God wants us to trust Him in all circumstances. In order to encourage and grow our trust in God, Luke writes to help us embrace the truth that God works in ways that we would never choose, in order to fulfill His loving plan.

- We can trust that God uses all circumstances to promote the gospel and His glory.
- Our trusting God in difficult circumstances vividly displays the power of the gospel to those around us.
- Wherever we go, Jesus goes with us. And there is always fullness of joy.

---

## DIVING DEEPER

---

### **What does it say? What does it mean?**

- Read Acts 6:3-8. How does Luke (the author) describe Stephen?
- What does Luke tell us about Stephen's response to the angry mob in Acts 7:54-60?
- What is the result of Stephen's death for the Jerusalem church?

### **How does it apply to our lives today?**

- Why is it difficult for us to trust in God's provision during difficult times?
- In what ways do we functionally deny the truth of Stephen's story when we meet difficult circumstances or struggle in our process of sanctification (our ongoing spiritual transformation)?
- Trusting God's provision in tough times does not mean the absence of grief — So what does it look like?
- How have you grown in your ability to trust God in the hard times?
- What would help you keep growing in this area?