













CALL TO WORSHIP

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 2:24-25

















1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

3 So he told them this parable: 4 "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?

Luke 15:1-7





5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' 7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

Luke 15:1-7





STORIES: PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

1 "Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled..."

St. Chrysostom preached, "The tax-gatherer is the personification of licensed violence, of legal sin, of specious greed"





The word of the LORD came to me: "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord GOD: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep?"

(Ezekiel 34:1, 2

Jesus is attracting the very people religious folks avoided instead of seeking. The Pharisees' complaint is the setup: "This man receives sinners and eats with them."



3 So he told them this parable: 4 "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds NONE-NO ONE DOES THIS it? 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'



STORIES: PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

A good shepherd doesn't say, "99 out of 100 is good enough." He leaves comfort and safety to pursue one vulnerable sheep.

This is what is meant by "scandalous grace"

"The soul is so precious that the whole economy of heaven is set in motion to recover one." -Spurgeon





...he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

There's beautiful foreshadowing of the sustaining work of Christ in carrying sheep on his shoulders and taking them home! He carried a death slab on his shoulder to pay once and for all what you couldn't so that you could come home.

Phil 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.



STORIES: PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

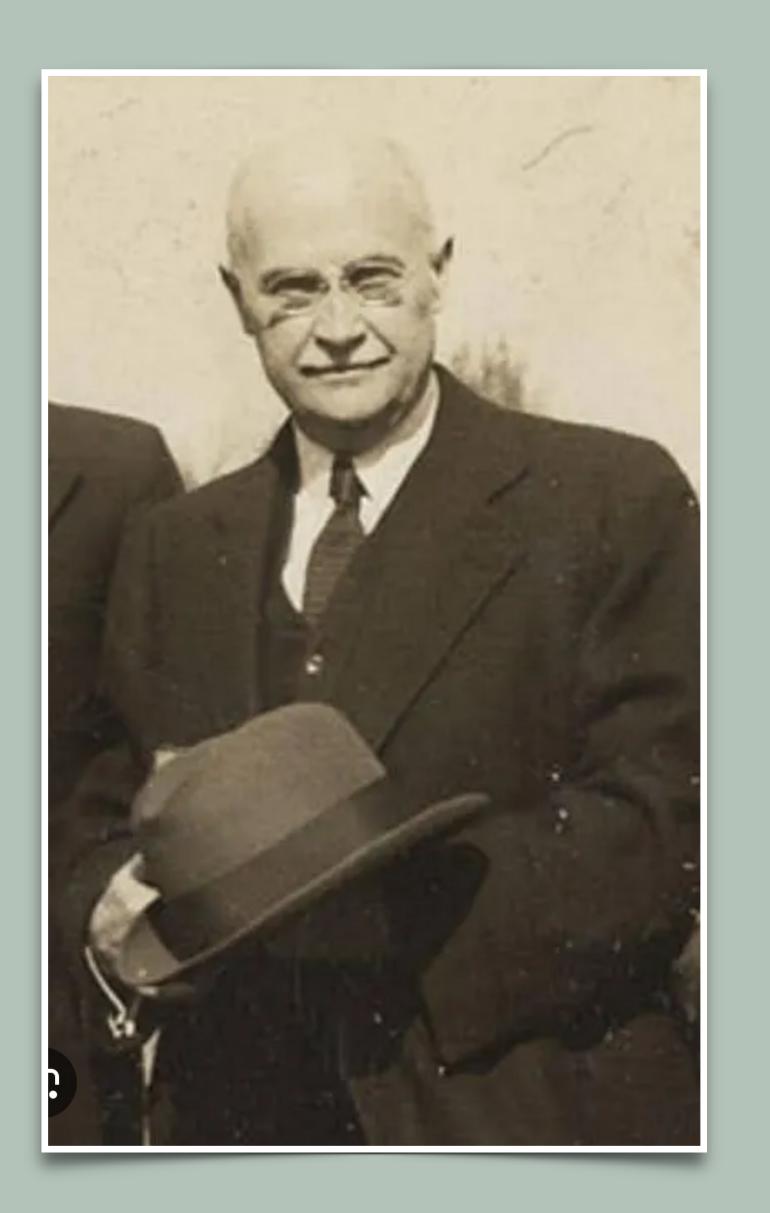
"Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents..."

Martin Lloyd-Jones "There is nothing in us that can merit the love of God. It is all of grace, and it is all in Christ."



JESUS & HIS PARABLES

Mordecai Ham (April 2, 1877 – November 1, 1961) Evangelist preaching a Revival 1934 Charlotte NC

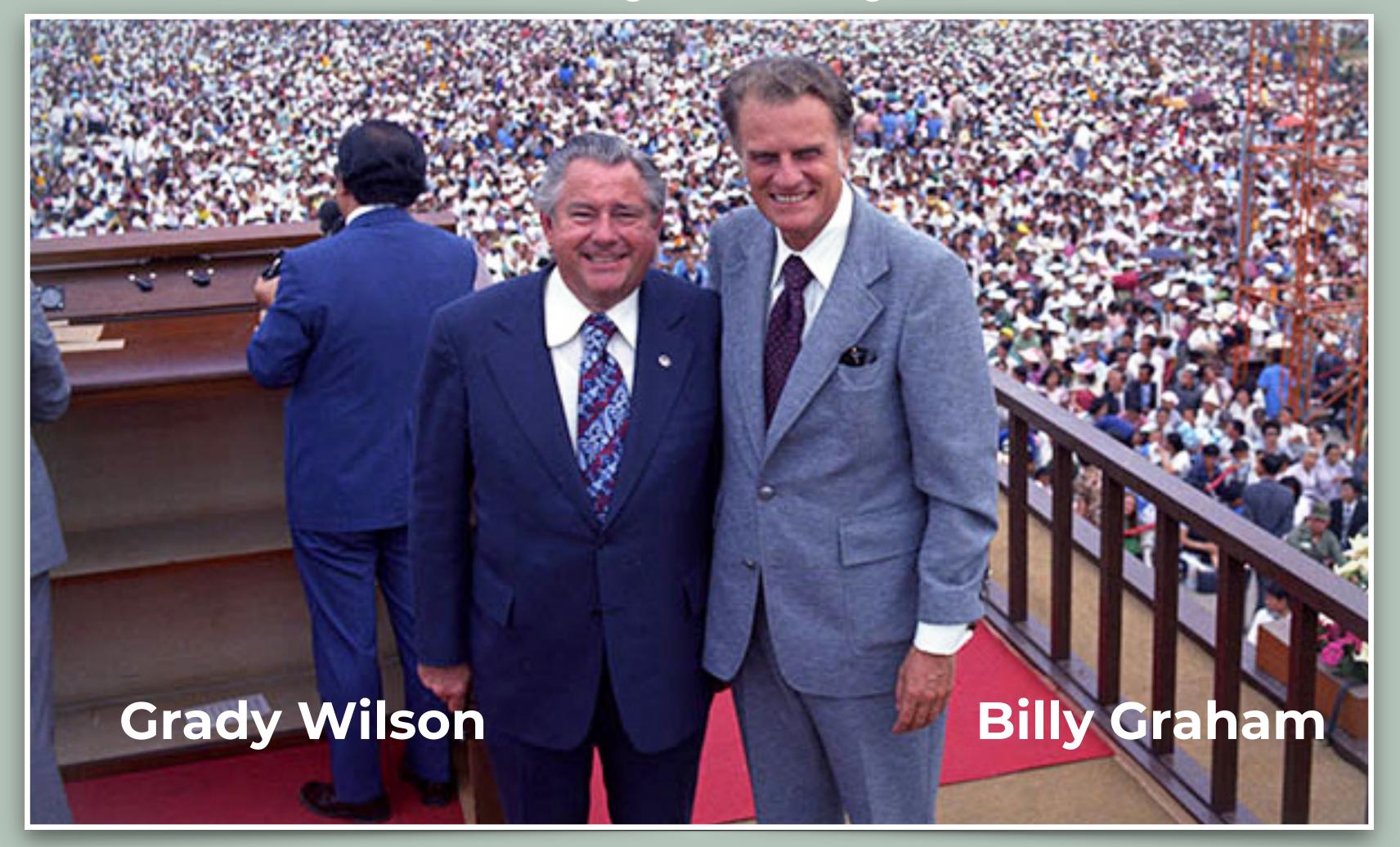




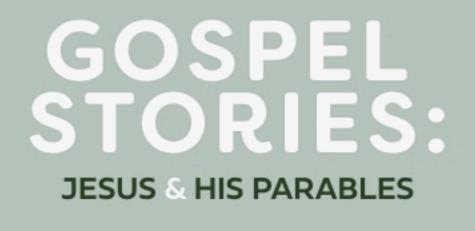


JESUS & HIS PARABLES

2 - 14 yr old boys







How does Jesus go after sheep now?

unnamed ushers, faithful pastors, kid workers, MC leaders, foster parents and teachers, welders and artists that remember the depths from which they were saved and proclaim he saved me come and see how good HE is!

Who in your life needs to know that Jesus is searching for them?





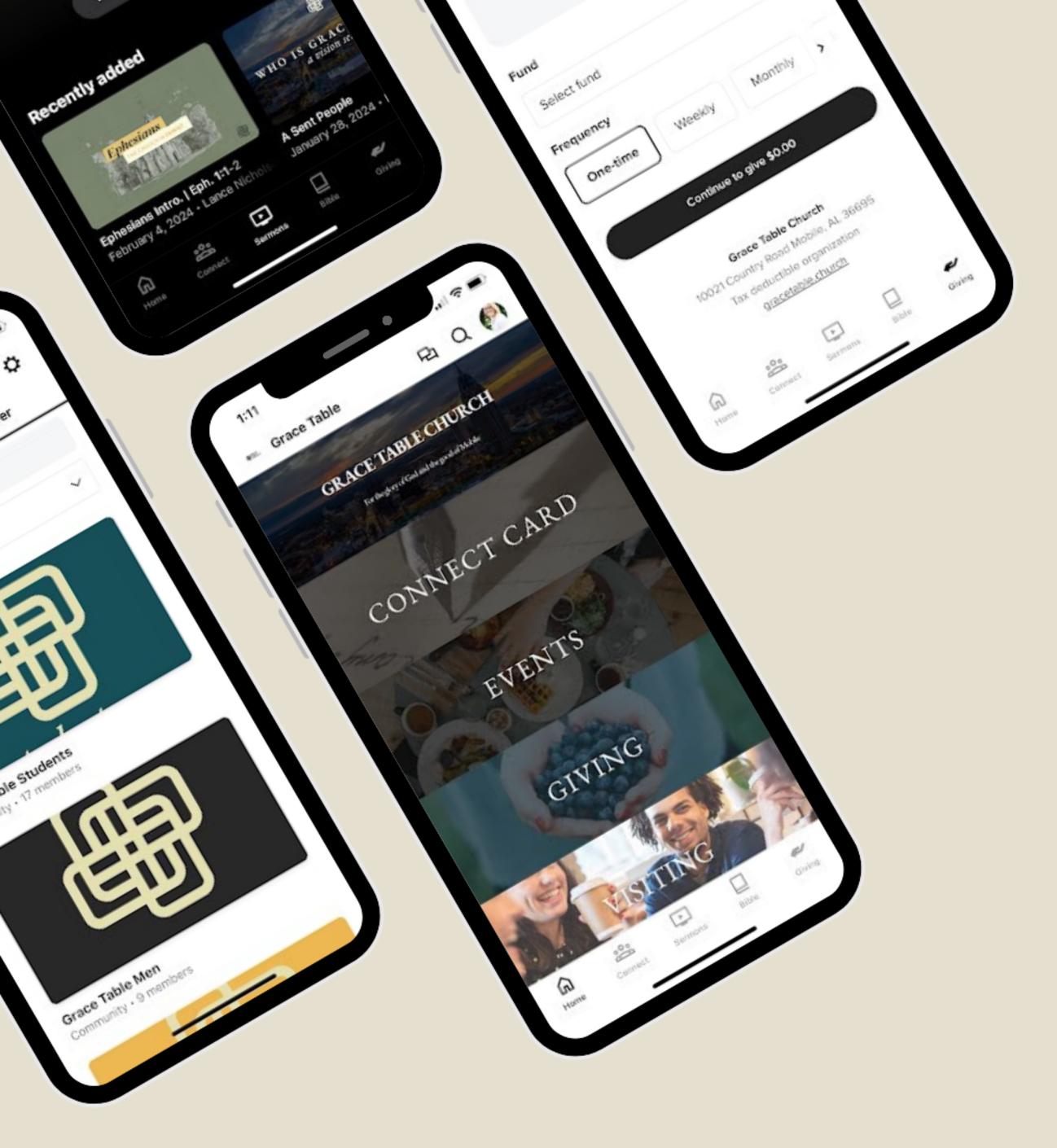












Download the Grace Table App



Available in your app store











BENEDICTION

Leader:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
-2 Corinthians 13:14

People:

And also with you.













