



ACTS

The Church Empowered
for Mission



CALL TO WORSHIP

- 1 I love you, O Lord, my strength.
- 2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
- 3 I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,
and I am saved from my enemies.

Psalm 18:1-3

ACTS

12:1-19 EARNEST PRAYER

1 About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. 2 He killed James the brother of John with the sword, 3 and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. 4 And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. 5 So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

ACTS 12:1-19



ACTS

12:1-19 EARNEST PRAYER

6 Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. 7 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his hands. 8 And the angel said to him, “Dress yourself and put on your sandals.” And he did so. And he said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.”

ACTS 12:1-19



ACTS

12:1-19 EARNEST PRAYER

9 And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. 10 When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. 11 When Peter came to himself, he said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”

ACTS 12:1-19



ACTS

12:1-19 EARNEST PRAYER

12 When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. 13 And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. 14 Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that Peter was standing at the gate. 15 They said to her, "You are out of your mind." But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, "It is his angel!" 16 But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed.

ACTS 12:1-19



ACTS

12:1-19 EARNEST PRAYER

17 But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, “Tell these things to James and to the brothers.”[a] Then he departed and went to another place.

18 Now when day came, there was no little disturbance among the soldiers over what had become of Peter. 19 And after Herod searched for him and did not find him, he examined the sentries and ordered that they should be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and spent time there.

ACTS 12:1-19



ACTS

12:1-19 EARNEST PRAYER

1. Herod the Great (grandfather) = had all the 2yr old and younger killed *Matt 2*
2. Herod Antipas (Uncle) = Tetrarch that beheaded John the Baptist *Matt 14*
3. Herod Agrippa I = father was killed, he was sent to Rome and lived in the house of Caesar and was eventually appointed King of Israel. Beheads James and imprisons Peter *Acts 12*
4. Herod Agrippa II (son) = Paul shares the Gospel with in *Acts 25*





ACTS

The Church Empowered
for Mission



ACTS

TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY

SLEEP: TRUST HIM AND REST IN THE LORD

**“True peace is found only when we rest wholly in God’s providence, not in the shifting winds of circumstance.”
John Calvin**



ACTS

TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY

SLEEP: TRUST HIM AND REST IN THE LORD

“True peace is found only when we rest wholly in God’s providence, not in the shifting winds of circumstance.”

John Calvin

“The peace Jesus gives is not the peace of escape, but the peace of conquest. It is the peace that is independent of circumstances.”

— My Utmost for His Highest O. Chambers



ACTS

TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY

WAKE UP: HAVE A SENSE OF URGENCY AND PREPAREDNESS

“The church has become a sleepy giant. The greatest need of our time is for men and women who will wake up and put on spiritual courage.” A.W. Tozer



ACTS

TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY

WAKE UP: HAVE A SENSE OF URGENCY AND PREPAREDNESS

“The church has become a sleepy giant. The greatest need of our time is for men and women who will wake up and put on spiritual courage.” A.W. Tozer

John 16:33 I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world.”



ACTS

TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY

PRAY: vs 5 So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

“Earnest”=

1. serious and zealous in intention, purpose, or effort:
2. showing depth and sincerity of feeling:
3. seriously important; demanding or receiving serious attention.



ACTS

PRAY:

TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY

“To live without prayer being woven into every part of every day is stupid, foolish, senseless, or is an evidence that your belief in the existence of the Creator, who has said we are to call upon Him, is an unsure belief. Common sense Christian living takes place in an atmosphere where prayer is as natural as breathing, as necessary as oxygen, as real as talking to your favorite person with whom there is no strain, as sensible as reaching into the bag of flour for the proper supplies for making bread.” – Edith Schaffer



ACTS

TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY

The church at prayer lights the explosive power of the Holy Spirit.

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,
15 from whom every family[a] in heaven and on earth is
named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may
grant you to be strengthened with power through his
Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in
your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and
grounded in love,

Ephesians 3:14-21



ACTS

TAKEAWAYS FOR TODAY

The church at prayer lights the explosive power of the Holy Spirit.

18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21



ACTS

CHALLENGE THIS WEEK

Earnest Prayer This Week

- 1. Begin and End Each Day in Prayer**
- 2. Pray Scripture**
- 3. Pray for One Person Specifically Each Day**
- 4. Trade One Habit for Prayer**
- 5. Keep a Simple Prayer Journal**
- 6. Pray with Someone**
- 7. Fast and Pray for Gospel Revival**

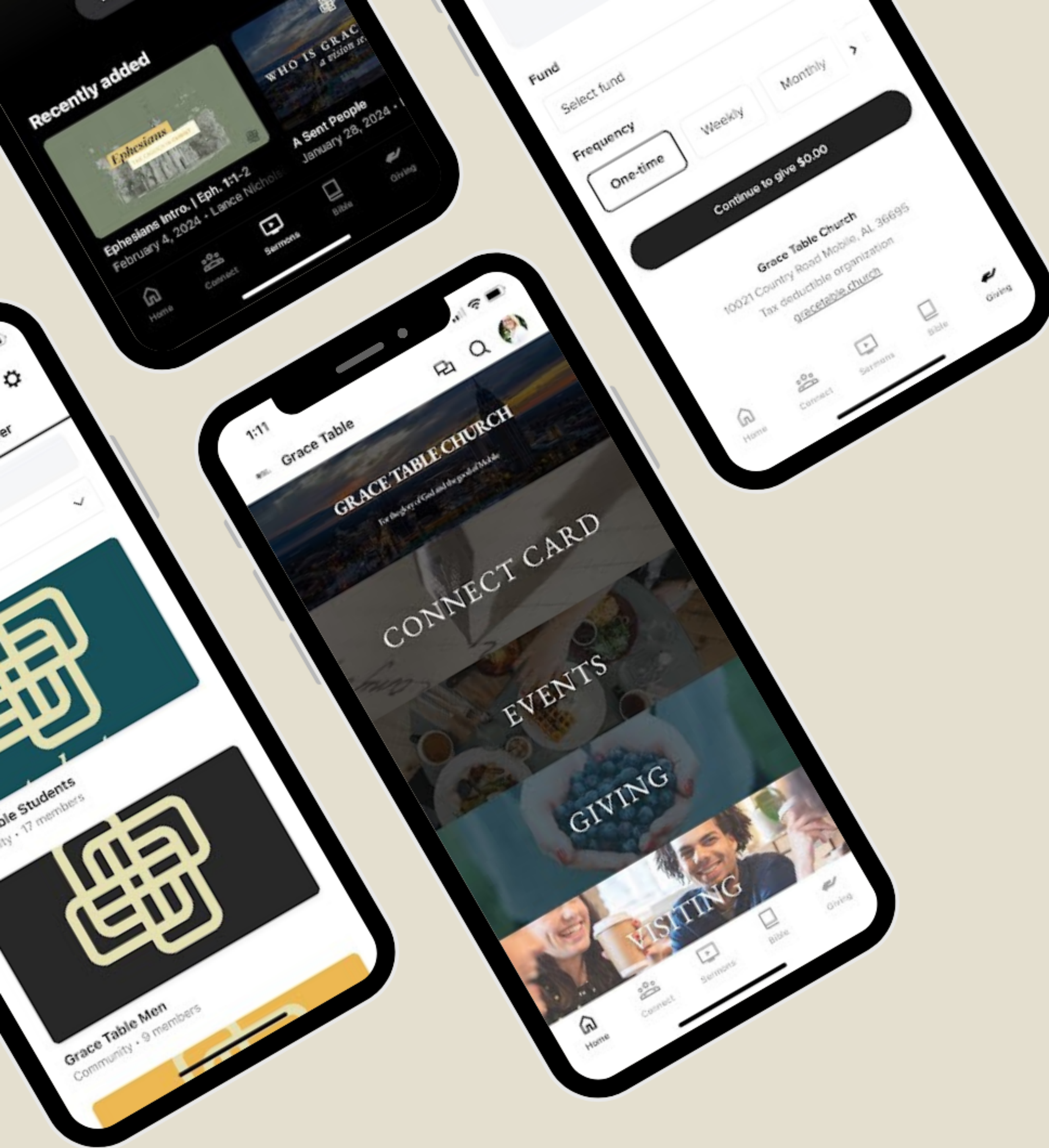




ACTS

The Church Empowered
for Mission





Download the Grace Table App



Available in your app store





CHURCHWIDE

WORK DAY

AT NEW FACILITY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH / 8 AM-12 PM



college/young adults

BCM Cookout



USA BCM

5904 Old Shell Rd.

Tuesday, Nov 4 | 6:30 pm



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.



ACTS

The Church Empowered
for Mission

