



life@grace
online

lordship

evangelism

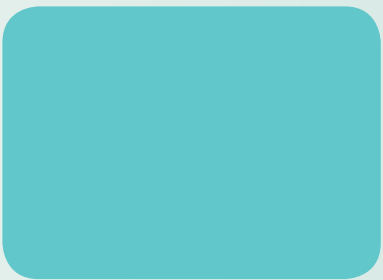
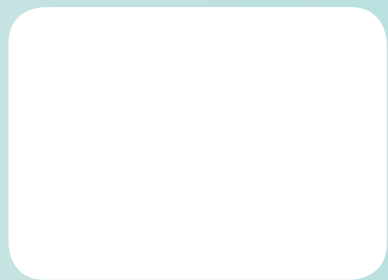
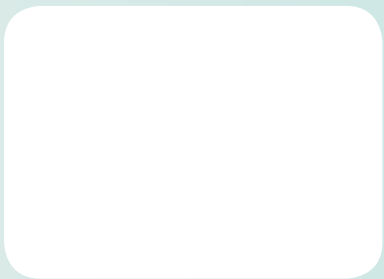
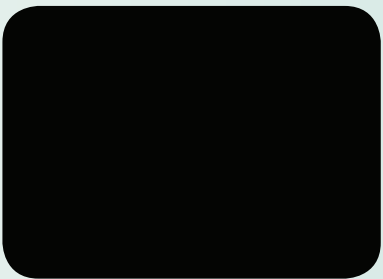


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discipleship

leadership
development

spiritual
family





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A Video Introduction to Grace Covenant Church

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introduction

Welcome to Grace Covenant Church! We're glad you're here!

This video series, Life@Grace OnLine, has been designed for you—to help you know who we are at Grace Covenant Church. We have two goals in mind for this series:

- First, to give you an easy-to-use and informative introduction to Grace Covenant Church: something of our history as well as our beliefs, our core values and our mission. But don't worry! You won't find this long or dull. Each of these sessions is brief—most are only about 20 minutes—and you can watch them at anytime you choose.
- Second, Life@Grace OnLine serves as the doorway for those interested in becoming members of GCC. We understand that you need to know something about our character and our purpose before you can put down roots in this spiritual family. This series will help you do so!

Keep in mind that becoming a member of Grace Covenant Church is a two-step process.

Step One: View the Life@Grace OnLine video sessions at our website or by typing gracecov.org/connect/becoming-a-member into your web browser. Fill in the blanks in this notebook as you follow along. When you have completed the sessions, register for the final, 1-hour “Life@Grace LiVE” session offered monthly on Sunday mornings. You can register for this class on our website – Gracecov.org – by using the Events tab and going to our Calendar. Be sure to bring your completed notebook to the class!

Step Two: Attend the two Saturday “intensives” we offer, both of which are aimed at helping you walk out your life with Christ more richly.

- “Life in the Spirit” – We believe in the present-day work of the Holy Spirit among God's people. We understand that walking in the power of God is part of normal Christian living, so it is important that we learn more of who the Spirit is and what it means to be filled with His life. This class is an opportunity for greater awareness of the Holy Spirit and deeper experience of his power.
- “Life of Freedom” – Freedom is our birthright in Christ. Being empowered to walk in that freedom is essential for a normal Christian life. This class provides insight into the spiritual bondages that limit our progress in Christ and points out the steps for breaking free.

Both classes are offered regularly throughout the year on Saturdays from 9a.m. to 3p.m. Childcare is offered and lunch is provided. To register, go to our GCC website and register under Events.

Thank you again for your interest in Grace Covenant Church. If you have any questions about this material, please contact us at info@gracecov.org.



session 1

The Vision of GCC

Pastor Brett Fuller is interviewed by Dr. Stephen Mansfield

Called to Ministry

1. Pastor Brett Fuller came to Washington, D.C., in _____.
2. He grew up in _____ going to church regularly.
3. After pushing away, he got right with God in 1981 at _____, following a life-altering conversation with another student.
4. He had a passion to _____ the gospel from that moment on.
5. After a failed first attempt, he began preaching the gospel not in a confrontational way but in a _____ way.
6. All he wanted to do was _____.
7. He graduated in December, _____. He had two choices at that point: the ministry or _____.

Starting Grace Covenant Church

1. Pastor Brett came to Washington in 1982 at the age of _____.
2. He came to _____ University to establish a ministry. Others came to join forces at other _____ around Washington, D.C.
3. There was a team of _____ people.
4. By 1991, there were around _____ people at GCC.
5. The senior _____ eventually chose to leave GCC and asked Pastor Brett to take the church.
6. For _____ years, Pastor Brett continued to lead without feeling like he knew what he was doing. But he and the people stuck together and God was faithful.

The Vision

1. Pastor Brett wanted the church to “look like _____.”
2. In the late 90's, God gave him a _____; He told Pastor Brett to believe Him for the city. He was fine with just pastoring a _____ of people, but God wanted him to believe for _____.
3. The goal isn't about the numbers who fill the building on Sunday; the goal is about those who _____.
4. Many pastors and churches want to win their city; GCC needs to play their _____.

Ethnicity

1. Pastor Brett's parents moved their family from the inner city of Kansas City to the _____—not a popular decision back then.
2. His dad wanted to remove him from the _____ of the inner city; they suffered for their move. _____ were burned in his neighborhood; but his parents showed only love toward their white neighbors.
3. Pastor Brett grew up in a _____ environment.
4. God saw fit to put him in a predominately _____ church. God had instilled in him to be a _____-builder.
5. The task: how could he get white folks to _____ him? The answer: make the setting one in which people of all races could come and say "I can follow that preacher."
6. For example, the music had to be more _____ over in style.
7. He followed the image of producing spotted and _____ sheep.

Opposition

1. The progress is slower building multi-ethnically, but GCC wouldn't be the _____ it is if it ministered any other way.
2. Mono-ethnicity for other churches is fine. But this is GCC's vision: reaching _____ nations.
3. Pastor Brett's family adopted a _____ nineteen years ago. An Asian woman gives a blonde-haired child to a black mother. They live with multi-ethnicity in their home.
4. The perfect example of reconciliation: the story of Naman—a slave girl tells her master, Naman the leper, of a prophet who can _____ him.

Where Are We Going From Here?

1. GCC is about to erect a new _____. But it's just a _____, a house. It's not who the church is.
2. There are mega-churches all over, but GCC wants to be a church with mega-_____.
3. The purpose: For people to come get whole and go out to make a _____, to win this city.
4. We are raising up a "second generation" to take it to the next _____.



session 2 What's In a Name?

Pastor Brett Fuller: interviewed by Dr. Stephen Mansfield

Where Did We Get the Name "Grace Covenant Church"?

1. GCC was renamed when Pastor Brett was taking the role as Senior Pastor. The transition from one pastor to the next was a good time to _____ the church. The earlier name, "Maranatha," was a confusing name for many people. "Grace Covenant Church" was suggested and adopted.
2. Pastor Brett loved the word "_____." Grace is the _____ of God to accomplish what you need to do in ministry. It is the starting point for God's work in us.
3. God had a _____ that was eternal. God added bits and pieces, but it was the will of God for us. It extends back to Adam and proceeds through the covenants with Abraham, Moses and ultimately Jesus Christ.

4. We not only want to be a people of grace, but we want to be a people who exemplify what _____ means. Covenant has to do with relationships and the commitment that is required to maintain and strengthen them.
5. We want to be a great _____. Jesus said that's what He was going to build. We want to build something that allows people to find help and to allow people to be equipped with all of God's gifts. We want to provide for our community.

Who Are We?

1. We are connected beyond just our local community. We are part of a _____ of churches called "Every Nation."
2. We're located on every continent where there are _____. We share a vision with Every Nation. We have campus ministries at many universities. We have world missions to establish orphanages in Africa and India. We plant churches around the globe.

Accountability and Support

1. Pastor Brett has always been in relationship with people who could help him, always surrounded by a band of _____ who could speak to him honestly.
2. The _____ _____ gives us the words to pray every day for protection and guidance.

Where Are We on the Theological Map?

1. GCC believes in the presence of the _____ _____ to empower us to be Jesus' witnesses to the entire world. We experience many of the gifts of the Spirit in church.
2. The church can also benefit from the _____ being exercised outside the church.
3. We may not agree with other churches about some doctrine, but we can agree on the core beliefs regarding who _____ is, so we are brothers. Being able to join with others who hold to these same truths helps avoid the danger of becoming exclusive.



session 3 Beliefs, Core Values, and the 3 “E”s

Presented by Pastor Jim Critcher

Striving for Balance

1. Sometimes church can be strange. Because there are “strange things” in the church, it’s important to know what we _____.
2. Some churches express their beliefs in a very rigid way. We want to communicate truth in gentle and helpful ways that help people live their lives. We strive to proclaim the truth of _____.
3. A kingdom _____ can only be attained by people who are living according to the truths and _____ set out in Scripture.
4. Grace Covenant Church is “_____” holding to key truths upheld through the centuries by the believing Church (but not “Orthodox” in the sense of the Eastern expression of Christianity).

We Believe:

1. The Bible is the _____, living Word of God. [1 TIM 3:16]
2. There is one eternal, almighty God who makes Himself known in _____ forms: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is the doctrine of the Trinity. [JN 15:26]
3. We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ: that He was born of a virgin, He atoned for our sin by His shed blood, He was raised from the dead, He ascended to God's right hand, and He will return in _____ and _____. [COL 1:15-20]
4. Regeneration by the _____ is essential. He does for us what we _____ do for ourselves. [ROM 8:2]
5. The present _____ of the Holy Spirit indwelling us makes it possible for the Christian to live a godly life [JN 14:16-17]. God living inside of us in this way makes our lives a _____, a dwelling for God!
6. We believe in the resurrection and _____ of all mankind. [REV 20:12]
7. We believe in the spiritual _____ of believers in our Lord Jesus [EPH 4:4]. The Church is singularly unique because it is made up of all those who believe in God.

Our Core Values

Our shared commitment to the truth leads us to also share a set of _____ values:

- Lordship
- Discipleship
- Leadership
- _____
- Evangelism

These _____ values knit us together with our broader Every Nation family of churches around the world.

Here at Grace Covenant Church we've condensed those core values into what we call the _____. These set forth how we live life and do ministry, expressing the unique purpose, mission, and _____ that God has given this church.

The Three Es Are:

- We _____ Christ
 - We _____ Community
 - We _____ the Kingdom of God Through Outreach and Evangelism
1. **Encountering Christ** begins with _____. Him in the initial encounter with faith, called salvation. ACTS 4:12 says, “There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven...by which we must be saved.”
 2. **Experiencing Community** affirms the importance of our being together: “We are _____ together than we are apart.” In this context of relationship we are encouraged and we grow in Christ as we are joined together and each part does its work.
 3. **Extending the Kingdom** is our _____. In MATT 28:19-20, Jesus said, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations...” This doesn’t require us to go to another nation; in this Washington, D.C. area, the nations are all around us.



session 4

Encountering Christ, Part 1: Understanding the Gospel

Presented by Dr. Stephen Mansfield

Becoming a Believer

There is a lot of misunderstanding about what it means to be a believer. When you come into GCC, it's important that you know:

- How you _____ a believer in Christ
- That you are a believer in Him
- What we believe about Christ here at Grace Covenant Church

Born Again

1. To become a Christian you must be “_____”. Jesus used this term to describe a change that allows us to enter the Kingdom of God.
2. To be “born again” doesn’t mean simply to believe certain things or be a part of a _____.
3. When we were born the first time, we were born into _____. As such, we lived according to our own passions.
4. In this condition, the Bible describes us as “_____ in our trespasses and sins.”
5. Sin is primarily a condition of the _____.
6. We need a “_____” spiritually speaking: a conversion experience.
7. This change is described as being “born again” and occurs when we welcome Christ into our lives, submitting to the work He accomplished on the _____.
8. The basis of the Christian life is always _____.

The Price

1. Once we realize we are disconnected from God, we realize that we need a _____. To be a Christian means that I believe Christ died for my sins, that He paid the price for the sum of all my wickedness and bad deeds AND removed the stain of unrighteousness from my heart.
2. Jesus shed His blood and this was the _____, the payment back. The greatest issue was our disconnection from God, that we were “far off” from Him. In dying for us, He “brought us near to God.” [EPH 2:13]
3. So are you “born again”? We become “born again” by God’s grace working in our lives _____ faith. [EPH 2:8-9]
4. Salvation is a _____ from God to us.
5. We may hear the truth about Christ and his death on many occasions, but at some point we hear it differently, as applying to us. That is God’s _____ giving us the ability to believe and to grasp the _____ that changes our heart.

6. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" [1 JN 1:9]. We _____ to God's grace and recognize the need in ourselves for change, forgiveness, and God's life.
7. Being "born again" is a _____-for-_____ exchange.
8. As we respond to this gift from God by faith, He gives us a " _____ " in Christ and we are "born again." "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." [2 COR 5:17]
9. The great sign of this belief in our lives is that we are _____.

Coming into Grace Covenant Church, it's important to understand that the way you come into the Kingdom of God, the way you become a believer, is by being " _____ ." If you never have come to believe in Christ in this way, now is a great time to do so and we want to help you. If you've never been baptized, we want to help you do that, too. We want you to know Jesus Christ and experience the new life found only in Him.



session 5

Encountering Christ, Part 2: A Converted Life

Presented by Pastor Danell Perkins

The Converted Life

1. Once we are “born again” we are now able to walk a _____ life. As believers in Christ, we are to live out our lives as “_____.”
2. To abide in Christ means abiding in His _____ where we see more of who He is and what is in His heart toward us. As we live a converted life, we begin the process of becoming a disciple.
3. As we walk out the converted life, we are _____ by His Word. As liquid takes the shape of the container it’s poured into, so our lives are to be shaped by Christ’s nature as we grow in Him.

4. Living a converted life means walking in repentance. Repentance occurs when we make a _____-degree turn in how we live—turning away from the direction of sin in our lives and turning toward God and His way.
5. Repentance is the daily exercise of aligning our lives with God's _____.
6. The converted life is also a life of _____. Faith is defined as “the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” [HEB 11:1]
7. G.R.A.C.E.: God's Righteousness At _____ Expense
8. The converted life is a life _____ by the work of the Holy Spirit.
9. When we are born again, we are born of the _____; He abides in us, making God's power available to us. We are not intended to do God's work apart from the power of God working in us.
10. As we are filled with the Holy Spirit, the _____ of His gifts come forth in our lives. There are talents, abilities, and access to supernatural gifts available to us that become evident as we are increasingly filled with God's Spirit.
11. The goal of a converted life is to embrace the _____ of the Holy Spirit.
12. Grace Covenant is a _____ - _____ church. We embrace the empowerment, out-working and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

To Better Equip All Who Become Members of GCC, We Ask Them to Take Two Intensive Courses:

- Life in the Spirit helps you to understand the work of the Spirit in _____; how He works in your life, how to recognize what He is doing, and how to better work with Him in every area of your life.
 - Life of Freedom gives practical instruction regarding the _____ that Christ has made possible for us. Christ died that we might gain our freedom; this class helps you better understand how to _____ the freedom He won for us.
1. Living under Christ's _____ is another characteristic of a converted life.
 2. God comes _____ to teach us what Lordship is all about.
 3. Lordship means not just to declare but also to _____ the power of God's Word.
 4. What is obedience? Obedience means _____ to Christ no matter what because it's about our relationship to God.
 5. Living out our relationship with Christ is not just doing the work of God; it is about doing His _____.

6. _____ means the absolute rule of Jesus in our lives.
7. We want to get God's heart about what it is to _____ Him.
8. Confession isn't just about what we say but what we _____.
9. As each of us come into the church and take our place in His Body, we have the opportunity to discover the " _____ " Christ has written for us to carry out and make the contribution He intends.
10. In this way, our relationship fulfills God's will and produces the _____ He intends.
11. It's important that we come _____ in our obedience. Delayed obedience is still disobedience.

12. God is to be Lord of _____.

- He is to be Lord over our _____. We believe in tithing: returning 10% of our increase to the Lord. In this way, we put Christ first in our lives believing that God will do what He said and pour out blessing. [MAL 3:10]
- He is to be Lord over our _____. We are each blessed with a “gift”—talents and abilities that are intended to bless others. God intends our talents be used to build up His _____. As we do so, we are bringing the first fruit of our lives to Him.
- He also intends to be Lord of our _____. God desires to be intertwined into all aspects of our day.
- Jesus’ Lordship also extends to our _____. He intends for us to forgive those who offend us and be reconciled with them. Forgiveness is a decision. We forgive by going to those who’ve hurt us in order to see the relationship restored. As we do so, we learn about God’s strength and His faithfulness to uphold us.

13. One word describes a person who lives a converted life in the newness Christ provides, empowered by the Holy Spirit, walking under His Lordship—that person is a _____.

notes...



session 6

Experiencing Community

Presented by Pastor Dihan Lee

Only the Blood of Jesus Can Bring About Reconciliation and Community

1. Being a member at GCC means walking as a disciple of Jesus Christ and walking with Him into _____. Jesus didn't call his disciples simply as individuals but He called them to live as a family, to experience life _____.
2. Jesus' _____ for us is no different. Jesus builds us into a community because He lives in perfect community with his Father and the Holy Spirit.
3. When God made us, He made us in His image with the capacity to _____. As such, we don't feel ourselves to be whole unless we are in relationships with others.
4. The problem, however, is that _____ has ruined our capacity to walk in meaningful relationship with others. We need community and no "tribal" association based upon shared interests, political opinion, sports affiliation or economic status can truly satisfy us.

5. This is why we continue to seek out other groups: we still need to _____. We need community but we've forgotten what it means to really be in it.
6. Jesus comes to pay the _____ for our sins.
7. But in Jesus Christ, the sin that keeps us from relationship with God and with one another is overcome; the "_____ of hostility" is dismantled. On the cross, Jesus deals with all the things that ruin our relationships so that we can be reconciled to God.
8. In Christ it is now possible for us to love people who are not like us, to even love our enemies. He has made it possible for us to become the _____ of God.
9. Jesus calls his community the _____, the "called out ones" who live distinct from the world around us. The characteristic of this community is "unity," like that which Christ shares with the Father.
10. In Christ we become "citizens" of _____, participants together in a new order of things lived out here in this world. We are God's "household," God's family living out relationships of care and commitment, extending grace to one another. And we are "cemented" together as "building blocks" of God's temple. In all these ways, our lives are to be bound together in such a way that we reflect Christ's design for His people.

Why Should We Belong to the Church?

1. God has designed us for _____. We're "wired" for relationship and if we don't find community in the church, we'll try to find it in places and in ways that are destructive.
2. It is the only context for _____. As part of the "body"—the community of Christ—we grow through all the aspects of interaction we have with those we are joined to, both positive and challenging.
3. It is the best context for healing and _____. In this setting, we each grow as we have opportunity to minister to one another and to find healing as we allow others to minister to us.
4. The best evidence of the _____ of God is found where people are joined together and walk in unity of purpose and love for one another. This is so different from how people normally live together.
5. The community we experience now is an anticipation of the _____ we will one day enter into as "the Bride of Christ."
6. Some practical ways we _____ here at Grace Covenant Church are:

- The most basic way we experience community is in _____. Like the early church, we meet together “house to house” in groups small enough to allow ministry, fellowship, and service. Only in settings like this can the important elements of Christian living be expressed and lived out. The small groups at GCC meet in a variety of locations and are structured around differing interests, life stages, and areas of _____.
 - Larger gatherings, wrapped around life seasons or various _____, are also offered:
 - _____ At the Well is a bi-monthly gathering that focuses on life-skills, spiritual enrichment and getting to know ladies here at GCC.
 - _____ Challenge provides opportunities for men to meet and get into Bible study and small groups.
 - Singles, Young Married Couples, Single Parents—these and many other ministry opportunities can be found on our website.
 - Another great way to connect at Grace Covenant Church is through service, by taking part in one of the variety of ways that people serve people. Hospitality, Kids Ministry, ushering, etc., all provide an opportunity to work alongside others in support of our mission together.
7. Jesus compares His church to a _____. We want to help you discover how you can be connected to God’s _____. Keep in mind that we all benefit from what each member brings and offers the group.



session 7

Extending the Kingdom

Presented by Pastor Duke Bendix

Opportunities to Get Involved

1. The third “E” has to do with _____ the Kingdom of God into this Washington, D.C. area and on into the world. To do this, we must rely on the power of the Holy Spirit.
2. Grace Covenant is part of Every Nation Churches and Ministries. It's mission is to honor God by reaching out onto _____ campuses, planting churches, and doing so in nations throughout the world. Currently, Every Nation has churches in more than _____ nations. GCC is joined to Every Nation for the purpose of building together in ministry and reaching the world in partnership with churches like ourselves.
3. Extending the Kingdom is _____ responsibility. “One Another” is a ministry providing opportunities for outreach. Through “One Another,” GCC extends itself in partnership with schools and food banks as a way of relevantly touching and ministering to our _____.

4. "One Another" also provides training to equip people in using "The _____ Test" and in extending the Kingdom to others using our own testimony.
5. "One Another" in cooperation with Every Nation's "_____ ministry" offers opportunities for short-term missions to nations around the world. The aim is to provide a practical outlet to touch the broader world with the power of _____. As we do so, our faith grows and is challenged.
6. Campus ministry is an important part of our outreach at Grace Covenant Church. Over the past few years, a dynamic campus ministry has grown up at _____ University.

Extending the Kingdom produces a challenge: _____. This has required us to construct a new facility adjoining our current building. This project is an opportunity for each of us to join in extending the Kingdom, not only by our own witness and testimony, but also by our pledge of _____ and consistent giving.

Being a Disciple of Jesus Christ Means Living Out All 3-E's:

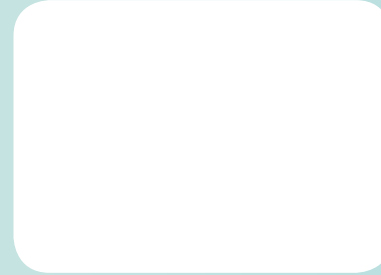
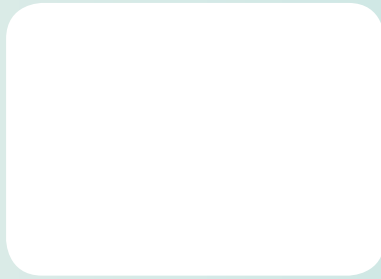
- Encountering Christ
- Experiencing Community
- Extending the Kingdom

Upon Completion of the Seven Online Sessions:

Please go to our GCC website under the Events tab and register to attend a one-hour Sunday morning session of Life@Grace LIVE. There, you will meet some of our pastors, hear more of what we are doing here at GCC and provide us with some important information so that we can:

- Get to know you better
- Identify the area(s) where you would be ready to serve and join in ministry
- Affirm your commitment to be a part of Grace Covenant Church

Be sure to bring this notebook with you to confirm that you have completed Life@Grace On-Line.



Thank you for viewing this series.
We look forward to meeting with you at

life@grace
LIVE!



lordship

evangelism



4600 Brookfield Corporate Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151

www.gracecov.org

discipleship

leadership
development

spiritual
family