

Grace Bible Fellowship Adult Sunday

Objective: To help people to grow in their love for God, through:

- 1) Praying on a regular basis (Pray without ceasing 1 Thes. 5:17)
- 2) Studying the Bible, the Word of God, to increase their knowledge of God (All scripture is beneficial – II Tim 3:15; Like the Bereans study and verify what other say against the Word of God Act 17:11)
- 3) Obeying God's Word to increase in spiritual wisdom (Obey God's word James 1:22)
- 4) Journaling to track their relationship with God over time (Psalms and many other examples from scripture – written memorial of God's faithfulness. Jesus encourages his disciples to remember his words and his life – John 16: 1ff) The Key is HONESTY!
- 5) Sharing with others their pain and joy for mutual edification and growth through reciprocal accountability (Heb. 10:24-25)

God did not put the cookies on the lower shelf, it requires diligent work:

- **Jeremiah 29:11-13** ¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹² Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
- **Matthew 7:7-11** ⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. ⁹ "Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹ If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!
- **James 1:5-8** ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

Regular Schedule

Welcome visitors

Open in prayer

The Lord's (Disciple's) Prayer*

Books of the Bible*

Opportunity to share from Prayer Journal

Laments & struggles, praise, and prayer requests

Bible Study

Assignments

Apostle's Creed*

Close in prayer

(*) Memorize

GBF Statement of Faith – Our view of the Bible & importance of accurate interpretation

The Bible: We believe the Bible is Holy Scripture and includes the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments. The Bible alone is the Word of God, verbally inspired by God, without error in the original manuscripts, and the complete, sufficient, and only infallible rule of faith, life, and practice for every believer (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:19-21; John 10:35; Revelation 22:18-19).

The whole counsel of God, concerning all things necessary is either expressly stated in Scripture or may be deduced from them; and nothing at any time is to be added by man, by new revelations, or from the traditions of men. At the same time, we affirm that the inward illumination by the Spirit of God is necessary for the saving understanding of such things as are revealed in the Word of God. The Bible is wholly self-consistent and is to be read and understood in a normal, literal, face-value manner. Whereas there may be several applications of any given passage of Scripture, there is but one true interpretation (John 6:45; 7:17; 16:12-15; Galatians 1:8-9; 1 Corinthians 2:7-15; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 2:2; 1 John 2:20).

The books commonly called the Apocrypha, not being divinely inspired, are not part of the Canon of Scripture, and hold no authority. Rather, they are to be viewed as being on the same level as other books of merely human origin.

1. The Authority of Scripture – 2 Tim 3:16
¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2. The Canon of Scripture – “measuring stick” or “straight rod, edge, or ruler” to which something can be fastened to keep it straight. Jesus and the Apostles accepted the Jewish Canon of scripture.
3. Hermeneutics (Bruce Waltke) – This science establishes the rules for interpreting Scripture. Both biblical theology and hermeneutics belong together. For “on the one hand, biblical theology depends upon these rules for interpreting the writings of the O.T. (Bible) On the other hand, hermeneutics depends on biblical theology to set forth the longitudinal developments of themes through the various writings of the Bible whereby the interpreter is enabled to see what earlier situation and events were divinely intended to prefigure later events in the history of redemption.
4. Exegesis – means to “lead out” no “read in.” Good exegesis seeks to answer the question, “What was the biblical text written to convey by the divine and human author to its original audience?” One must be a careful student to understand something of the Ancient Near Eastern culture and its ways of thinking. In this discipline the student works carefully with grammar and lexical tools, historical and cultural helps, and other Ancient Near Eastern comparative literature. Above all the goal is **accuracy**.