

# Pastor's Pen

A Lifelong Walk with Christ

***"For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."*** Philippians 1:6

Some teach today that a true Christian will never sin after they become a believer. The hyper-grace heretical teachers teach this. In John's first epistle, he destroys this heretical teaching with one sentence, ***"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us"*** ( 1John 1:8)."

It is true that when an individual becomes a born-again believer, their sins, past, present, and future, have been forgiven. Their salvation is secure (Romans 8:1). However, we will still sin as believers. When that happens, we are to repent of that sin and pray that we do not repeat that same sin over and over.

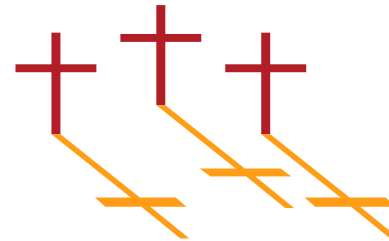
Paul reminds the church in Philippi that our sanctification process is a lifelong endeavor. When someone first puts their faith in Jesus, something amazing happens: God makes them a new creation and calls them His own. But becoming like Jesus isn't something that happens overnight. It's a journey that takes your whole life. We call this progressive sanctification. Theological words that mean, throughout a believer's life, they grow little by little to be more like Jesus.

Sometimes, it's easy to get discouraged. Maybe you stumble, or you feel like you're stuck in the same place. But here's the good news: God isn't done with you. He started a good work in your life, and He promises to keep working until the job is finished.

You're not alone. His Spirit is right there with you, helping you grow in love, patience, kindness, and all those things that make you more like Jesus.

Growing in holiness doesn't mean being perfect all at once. It means taking it one day at a time, choosing to follow God, confessing when you mess up, and trusting Him to help you change. Every small step forward counts. This is a journey, not a race. God's timing is perfect, and He has all the power you need to become the person He made you to be.

Your shepherd,  
Pastor Mark



## Quote of the Week



"Sanctification is the work of the Holy Spirit in us, where the Lord brings us daily nearer to the likeness of Christ."

- Charles Spurgeon

# Grace Gems

Prayer: "Continual Repentance" (from The Valley of Vision)

O God of Grace,

Thou hast imputed my sin to my substitute, and hast imputed His righteousness to my soul, clothing me with a bridegroom's robe, decking me with jewels of holiness.

But in my Christian walk I am still in rags; my best prayers are stained with sin, my penitential tears are so much impurity; my confessions of wrong are so many aggravations of sin; my receiving the Spirit is tinged with selfishness.

I need to repent of my repentance; I need my tears to be washed; I have no robe to bring to cover my sins, no loom to weave my own righteousness; I am always standing clothed in filthy garments, and by grace am always receiving change of raiment, for Thou dost always justify the ungodly; I am always going into the far country, and always returning home as a prodigal, always saying, Father, forgive me, and Thou art always bringing forth the best robe.

Every morning let me wear it, every evening return in it, go out to the day's work in it, be married in it, be wound in death in it, stand before the great white throne in it, enter heaven in it shining as the sun.

Grant me never to lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding beauty of holiness, the exceeding wonder of grace.

# Weekly Gatherings



## Sunday Bible Classes

Elders- Old Testament (Sanctuary A)  
Bereans- New Testament (Sanctuary B)  
Ladies- (Downstairs B, Gray Room)  
Young Adults- (Downstairs B, Red Rm.)  
Youth and Surge (5th-6th)- (Upstairs C)



## Weekday Meetings

AWANA—Wednesday's beginning Sept 17th 6:30-8  
Men's Book Study—Monday & Friday beginning Sept 15th @ 7pm and Sept 19th at 6am



## Family Groups

All Family Groups beginning Sept 25th



## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and need to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address on the back of this bulletin.



## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study & Surge!



## Service Times

Sunday School 9:00AM  
Children's Church 10:30AM  
Sunday Services 10:30AM

Giving from service on 08/10/2025

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| General Offering ..... | \$7,289.13 |
| Building Fund .....    | \$1,675.00 |
| Uganda .....           | \$190.00   |
| Benevolence .....      | \$90.00    |

Total.....\$9,244.13  
Attendance..... 236

## Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org  
Security-security@ghbcva.org



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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# Grace Harvest Bible Church

Aug 17, 2025

Welcome