

Pastor's Pen

They Will Hate You!

"Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name." Mat. 24:9

There has never been a more pronounced divide (outside of the Civil War) in our country between good and evil. There is one party that demands that women have the right to murder their babies in the womb up to birth. That same party promotes the physical and chemical mutilation of children. They refer to this as "gender affirming care."

In our governor's race, the democratic candidate has given evasive answers on 'trans women' participating in girls' sports. She does oppose any law prohibiting gender affirming care or men in women's bathrooms, or boys pretending to be girls playing on girls' teams. She is a supporter of the right for women to murder babies in their womb.

As followers of Christ, we are subject to Him our King first and foremost. As citizens of this country, we have the privilege to vote for our leaders and representatives. It is beyond comprehension that anyone claiming to be a follower of Christ could vote for any candidate that would support the murder of the unborn or support the physical or chemical mutilation of children. How does anyone who claims that Jesus is King turn around and support evil?

Too many Christians remain silent on these issues. Why? Fear of rejection? Fear of being called a fascist? Fear of insults? Fear of ridicule? We must speak up for God's truth while we still can. We must speak that truth in love. We must pray for God's mercy until the time of the Great Tribulation.

Jesus never promised His followers an easy road. Instead, He was honest: discipleship often brings suffering, rejection, and even persecution. The reason is because of His name. To belong to Jesus is to stand apart from the world. In the book of Acts, we see this fulfilled: apostles beaten, imprisoned, and killed for preaching Christ. Yet they rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer for His name (Acts 5:41). Their courage reminds us that following Christ is not about seeking comfort but about

standing firm in truth, even when the cost is high.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus warned, **"Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name"** (Mat. 24:9)." He is referring to the Tribulation that will last 7 years. However, being identified with Christ's name has cost believers their freedom, their rights, their respect, and often their lives. In Nigeria, over 7,000 Christians have been killed so far in 2025 because of their faith in Christ. Yet, there is a time coming after the rapture of the church when the world will cheer the death of Christians.

Until that day, Christians, we must do all we can to be His ambassadors. We must not only share the Gospel but live the Gospel. We must run the race well and finish the race that God has called us to.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Children in the Womb Are Human Lives
- Alistair Begg

Most pro-choice advocates will agree in broad strokes that human life is sacred and should be protected. Where they disagree is over when exactly a child in the womb becomes a human life. On this the Bible is also clear: unborn children are human lives made in God's image from the very beginning of their existence—that is, from conception.

Quote of the Week

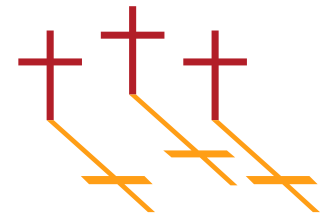


"Take up your cross. Neutrality is not an option."
- Voddie Baucham

The image of God is not a faculty that babies gain at a certain point in fetal development; it is stamped onto their nature as human beings. Worldly philosophies would have us believe that it is what we can think, feel, and do that makes us human. But the Bible nowhere teaches that our God-imaging humanness depends on these things. In fact, it testifies to the value of human beings even before they are born.

In the Psalms, David testifies of and to God, **"You knitted me together in my mother's womb,"** and describes **"being made in secret, intricately woven"** (Ps. 139:13, 15). His development in utero, in other words, was an act of God's creation, just as when God formed man and woman in his image in the garden of Eden. The Creator does not step in at a certain point in the process; He is every infant's Maker from the beginning, and they are made in His image. Similarly, to the prophet Jeremiah, God said, **"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you"** (Jer. 1:5), testifying again that He is the creator even of prenatal life and that it is sacred to Him—even before conception.

In short, a serious reading of the Bible has to reckon with the fact that God counts all human life sacred, that God recognizes the unborn as human lives, and that God commands the protection of human life—including that of the unborn—because it is made in His image. Against the materialism of our age, Christians must recognize that an unborn baby is more than a clump of cells. Against the existentialism and expressive individualism of our age, Christians must recognize that it is not what a baby can think, feel, or do that makes it human. The unborn are human by nature, and they are therefore sacred. Above any right that anyone has, we must prioritize the duty to protect and to care for life, from beginning to end.



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**
Host Families: Tom & Penni Cox, Jesse & Deborah Royall, Larry & Gina Covington, Jeff & Bridget Brown, Alan & Leigh Anne Chambers and Mark & Trisha Keffer



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



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 10/05/2025

General Offering	\$10,477.11
Building Fund	\$3,875.00
Uganda	\$100.00
Benevolence	\$458.00

Total.....\$14,910.11
Attendance 238

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
Widows-admin@ghbcva.org
HH-HomeschoolHub@ghbcva.org



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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Grace Harvest Bible Church

Oct 12, 2025

Welcome