Paston's Pen

Proclaim the Gospel!

For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, 1 Cor. 1:22-23

What Paul wrote some two thousand years ago still applies today. Paul was writing about the two primary cultures of his day. He writes that the Jews demand signs. Paul knew that the Jewish people of his era wanted to be convinced by miracles and not by faith. Matthew 12:38-39 records a confrontation between Jesus and the Pharisees.

"Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered and said to Him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." 39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation eagerly seeks for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet."

The Greeks, non-Jews, cherished wisdom over any other virtue. The Greeks placed enormous value on human knowledge and a life dedicated to gaining earthly wisdom. Therefore Paul knew that the Gospel was, "to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness," he would preach Christ and Him crucified to both Jew and Greek.

In many evangelism circles, they encourage you to identify with to whom you are witnessing. I agree to a certain degree. Paul's calling was to preach to the Gentiles (Galatians 2:8), which required him to adapt when needed.

"For though I am free from all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. 20 And to the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews. To those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law. 21 To those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. 23 So I do all things for the sake of the Gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it." (1 Corinthians 9:19–23).

I strongly disagree that we must become like the world to reach people with the Gospel. At Grace Harvest, you won't see the men's group meeting at the local bar and grill drinking beer so we can share the Gospel. You won't see smoke machines, windows blacked out, lights turned off, a laser show, or music so loud you can't hear the lyrics being sung.

Hopefully you have shared the Gospel with everyone that God has put in your circle of influence. We all know family, friends, and co-workers who are not Christians. You don't need gimmicks or tricks to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You need to share your faith and tell them what Jesus did for them. And remember that it does not depend on you to convince them to come to saving faith; that is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

My King

- Dr. S M Lockridge

The Bible says my King is the King of the Jews. He's the King of Israel. He's the King of Righteousness. He's the King of the Ages. He's the King of Heaven. He's the King of Glory. He's the King of kings, and He's the Lord of lords. That's my King. I wonder, do you know Him?

"Correct theology will produce the correct methodology." - Todd Friel

Quote of the Week

My King is a sovereign King. No means of measure can define His limitless love. He's enduringly strong. He's entirely sincere. He's eternally steadfast. He's immortally graceful. He's imperially powerful. He's impartially merciful. Do you know Him?

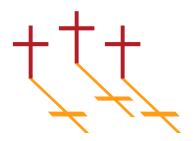
He's the greatest phenomenon that has ever crossed the horizon of this world. He's God's Son. He's the sinner's Savior. He's the centerpiece of civilization. He's unparalleled. He's unprecedented. He is the loftiest idea in literature. He's the highest personality in philosophy. He's the fundamental doctrine of true theology. He's the only one qualified to be an all sufficient Savior. I wonder if you know Him today?

He supplies strength for the weak. He's available for the tempted and the tried. He sympathizes and He saves. He strengthens and sustains. He guards and He guides. He heals the sick. He cleansed the lepers. He forgives sinners. He discharges debtors. He delivers the captive. He defends the feeble. He blesses the young. He serves the unfortunate. He regards the aged. He rewards the diligent. And He beautifies the meek. I wonder if you know Him?

He's the key to knowledge. He's the wellspring of wisdom. He's the doorway of deliverance. He's the pathway of peace. He's the roadway of righteousness. He's the highway of holiness. He's the gateway of glory. Do you know Him? Well... His life is matchless. His goodness is limitless. His mercy is everlasting. His love never changes. His Word is enough. His grace is sufficient. His reign is righteous. And His yoke is easy. And His burden is light.

I wish I could describe Him to you. Yes... He's indescribable! He's incomprehensible. He's invincible. He's irresistible. You can't get Him out of your mind. You can't get Him off of your hand. You can't outlive Him, and you can't live without Him. Well, the Pharisees couldn't stand Him, but they found out they couldn't stop Him. Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him. Herod couldn't kill Him. Death couldn't handle Him, and the grave couldn't hold Him.

Yeah! That's my King, that's my King.



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

Old Testament New Testament Young Parents Young Adults Sunday Morning @ 9AM



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Bible Study Every other Saturday: Women of Grace | 9am



Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM every other week @ Chambers & Cox's & @ Patrick's



Build the Body Teams

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



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM Youth Study



Service Times

Sunday Service 10:30AM Children's Church @10:30AM Giving from service on 5/29/2022

 General Offering
 6,716.96

 Building Fund
 1,256.35

 Uganda
 240.00

 Benevolence
 100.00

 Total
 8,313.31

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
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