

TRAIN LIKE A
CHRISTIAN

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INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS
THANKSGIVING

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THE GLORIOUS
CENTER OF
WORSHIP

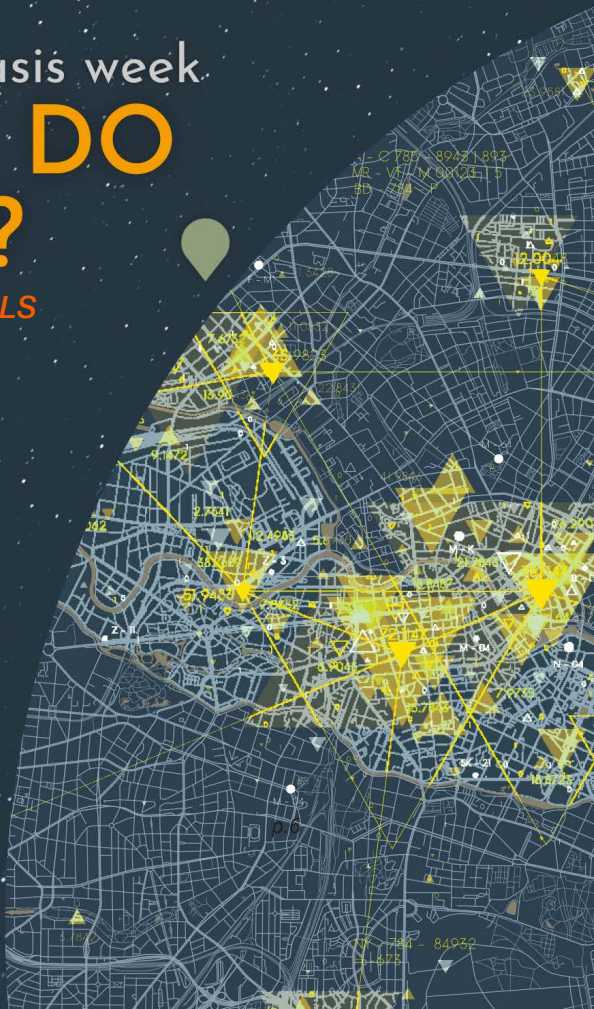
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missions emphasis week

WHERE DO I FIT IN?

FIND THE WEEK'S DETAILS
ON THE BACK COVER

GRACE INSIDER
OCTOBER 2022



UPCOMING EVENTS

Learn more and/or sign up for events at graceb3.org/events

FALL SERIES COMPANION BIBLE STUDY

It's not too late! Pick up a study guide, grab a notebook, roll up your sleeves, and let's get into the Word. Our church-wide 16-week study takes you verse-by-verse through the fall sermon series on 1 Peter.
Series began September 4 and will continue until January 8.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS *Sunday October 2 10:45am – 12pm*

If you consider Grace your home church, this class is for you. Learn how you can join us on our mission to glorify God by being and making disciples who make disciples.

MISSIONS EMPHASIS WEEK *October 9 – 15*

Missions Emphasis Week is a time set aside to focus on missions – locally, nationally, and globally. Our focal point this year is "Missions: Where Do I Fit In?" Look for ways you can participate throughout the week!
Details on back cover.

FALLING IN LOVE WITH JESUS *Saturday October 22 10am – 12pm*

Join your seasoned sisters for an Old Fashioned Harvest Potluck and a special program at Grace North Liberty. Bring a dish to share - main dish, side dish, or dessert. Seasoned Sisters events are open to all women 50 and up. *Register by Oct. 19.*

BAPTISM CLASS *Sundays October 23 & 30 8 – 9am*

This 2-part baptism class is for anyone who wants to learn about baptism and/or pursue being baptized. This class is a requirement to be baptized at Grace.



FALLING IN LOVE WITH JESUS

for seasoned
sisters age 50+

Potluck lunch and program

Saturday October 22 | 10am – 12pm

Sign up by Oct 19:

- at graceb3.org/events,
 - clipboard at info desk, or
 - call the office at 3196262040
-

Join your seasoned sisters for an Old Fashioned Harvest Potluck and a special program at Grace North Liberty.

Bring a dish to share – main dish, side dish, or dessert. Seasoned Sisters events are open to all women 50 and up. Register by Oct. 19.

He has amade everything beautiful in its time. Also,
he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he
cannot find out what God has done from the
beginning to the end.

- Ecclesiastes 3:11

By Global Outreach Pastor Paul Hansen

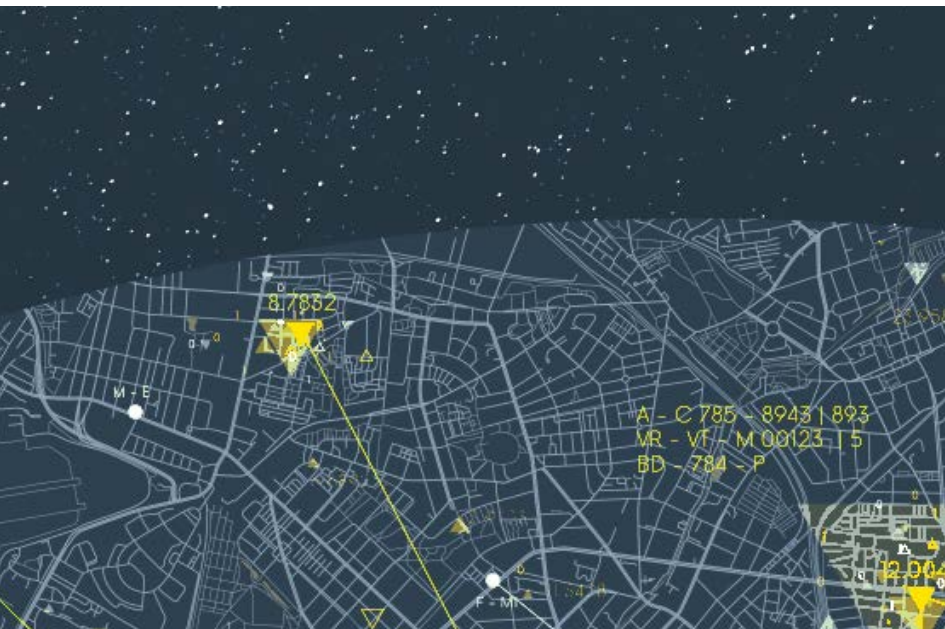
4 Missional Questions and reminders!

1. DO YOU EVER WONDER WHERE YOU FIT IN GOD'S GLOBAL PLANS FOR MISSIONS?

Then join us for our second annual Missions Emphasis Week: Where Do I Fit In, beginning October 9 as we dedicate this time to understanding how each of us fits into the Great Commission. Young moms, please join us mid-week on **October 11 at MOPS** as we see how this call affects you and your little ones. The whole family can join us Wednesday **October 12, for youth and parents night**, and we will have an **exceptional closing event on October 15 at 6PM** to celebrate God's glory. You won't want to miss it!

2. DO YOU EVER WONDER WHAT IT MEANS TO ENGAGE WITH MISSIONS?

We started an effort to help our people answer this question more effectively this fall. Join us at our fall lecture series, Life is About M.E. (Missional Engagement), each Sunday at 8am and learn what missions look like in your life. During a series of ten stand-alone lectures, our pastors and key leaders of missional thought at Grace will discuss how to pray for, practice, and possess a missionally engaged mindset in our homes, schools, and workplaces.



3. ARE YOU CURIOUS ABOUT THE COLLEGE MINISTRY AT GRACE? Scott and Paige Heemstra are part of Grace Community in North Liberty; they serve with the Navigators, and are part of our Global Task Force Leadership. Recently, they have formally taken on a lead role in coordinating how Grace engages with college students! We have the privilege of partnering with organizations like Cru, Athletes in Action, Intervarsity International and Greek, Navigators, and many others. The Heemstras will help us reach students and coordinate with the campus ministries throughout this next year. Questions on how to get involved or just want to encourage them? Contact Scott at scott.heemstra@navigators.org. They will be so glad to hear from you!

4. ARE YOU CURIOUS HOW PRAYER CAN IMPACT OUR MISSION AT GRACE? Do you want to know how to better pray about missions and the needs of our Field Staff? **Every third Sunday**, at all of our services, you can get a **prayer sheet** featuring the latest prayer requests from our Field Staff. Need an extra copy or missed a Sunday? In North Liberty, you can check Missions Central. Downtown you can ask Pastor Jason for one. A very simple tool with powerful effects!



DOWNTOWN UPDATE

By Downtown Pastor Jason Blackley

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:3-6

In these verses, Paul describes a bond, a partnership in the gospel that we share in as followers of Jesus. We need this. We cannot do it alone. We are designed to do it together. This is how the gospel and the great commission work. Men, women, and children filled with the Holy Spirit partner together with their resources, spiritual gifts, and all of who they are to demonstrate and declare the gospel.

I would like to update you on how this is taking place in the Downtown Church as well as show how the Downtown and North Liberty congregations can partner together.

ELDERS IN TRAINING We have some men downtown who desire to be lay and staff elders someday. So, not only are we making sure they have a sound understanding of doctrine, but we are also handing over ministry responsibilities and care for others to them.

MEN AND WOMEN SERVING TOGETHER While the elders at Grace believe that the office of elder and the role of serving the larger body as an elder is described in Scripture as being exclusively for qualified men, every other service team should see men and women serving together. Downtown, we have men working in our nursery, praying for the congregation, welcoming new people on our hospitality team, and running our audiovisuals. We see women leading us in worship, doing the scripture reading, leading teams, and praying for members of the congregation.

PRAYER TEAM Since August 14, we have had a weekly prayer team where men and women from the congregation provide intercessory prayer after the service for anyone who comes forward.

NEW LEADERS This year, we have five new community group leaders who have felt compelled to serve, sacrifice, and care for their groups.

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS Our amazing Children's Coordinator, Melissa Meredith, is working on a resource shelf for parents and casting a vision to the church about how we can partner together to disciple the next generation.

NO STAFF SUNDAY On Oct 23, we will have a "No Staff Sunday" where the Downtown Church will be led by volunteers. This has been a year-long project of solidifying our systems and empowering our volunteers to lead out in a variety of ministries.

PARTNERING WITH COLLEGE MINISTRIES: This fall we partnered with Cru and The Navigators to give away popsicles to students, hand out spiritual interest surveys, and welcome students to Iowa City.

FREE MEALS We partner with community groups in our North Liberty Church to provide free meals once a month to welcome people, build community, and provide for those with food insecurity.

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN CONGREGATIONS For the last nine years, our two congregations have partnered together on leadership teams, financial resources, meals, and through volunteering. We are so grateful for your partnership in the gospel and for our shared vision of making disciples who make disciples. If you would like to more formally partner with the Downtown Congregation, we would love to have more families involved who love Iowa City, graduate students, and the university culture of Iowa City. We have some amazing young disciples who could benefit from seeing the whole church play out their role in the body. We are a whole church that needs each part of the body, not just to reach college students, but to be a full picture of the beauty of the body of Christ.

We cannot fulfill the great commission nor be a fully functional disciple without partnering with other believers to see God work among us and in our world. We can be sure of this, "he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."



ABOVE New U of I students walking past our downtown church and receiving popsicles from our congregation.

membership class

october 2 10:45am-12pm

register at graceb3.org/events





Train Like a Christian

By Pastor Brooks Simpson

I am not a big fan of church signs because I think they are usually cheesy, like this one: *Cheesy: CH CH – WHAT'S MISSING? – UR*. But I have to admit sometimes they are funny and clever, like this one: *THE FACT THAT THERE'S A HIGHWAY TO HELL AND ONLY A STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN SAYS A LOT ABOUT ANTICIPATED TRAFFIC NUMBERS*.

We have no plans to get cheesy, funny, or clever with our church sign, but imagine if you drove into the church parking lot next Sunday and read on the sign: *GRACE – TRAINING PEOPLE TO OBEY EVERYTHING JESUS COMMANDS*.

What would you think? Would you think: *yep, that's what we do*. Or would you, like many people, think: *That sounds arrogant*. But why?

'And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18–20

Does Jesus really expect his disciples to actually train others to become people who would want and be able to

do what he commanded? Or did he tell them those words so they would water it down to mean, *"Just get forgiveness and as for obedience, meh... You don't really want to, and you couldn't if you tried, so just be satisfied with the fact you aren't going to hell."*

When I went on Sabbatical last January, I read a whole bunch of books by Dallas Willard. The subject matter he wrote most often about before he died in 2013 was spiritual formation. Dr. Willard had the audacity to believe that Jesus actually intended for his disciples to be transformed through the indwelling Holy Spirit as they believed and applied the gospel. His most well-known book was *The Divine Conspiracy* which spells out Jesus' plan to usher in the kingdom of God. His book *The Great Omission* examines the sad reality that the church has by and large punted on the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). It was Willard who posed the question to his readers, *"What would you think of a church that advertised itself as a church that actually trained people to obey everything Jesus commanded?"* He states in all his books what you likely already know. The church does a fair job of telling people what Jesus commanded, but misses the mark on training them to become the kind of people who want to and can do what Jesus commands.

Obedience is the benchmark by which a watching world is able to discern who Jesus' followers are. Jesus and the authors of the New Testament were not advocating for perfection and sinlessness. That kind of perfect obedience is not possible this side of heaven. But Jesus does expect his disciples to become people who want to obey him and are growing in their ability to obey him.

More than likely, if you are reading this, you don't need to be convinced that Jesus expects his disciples to obey him. Again, the church has done pretty well telling Jesus' followers what Jesus said. The problem is actually *doing* it.


You hear a sermon on being and making disciples and you think, "*Sure, I know I should,*" but the question is whether you actually want to or if you are even able to. You may have heard a sermon from 2020 about how we want to see one thousand people come to know and follow Jesus, and you think it sounds great, but you also know most people in the church will do little to help their neighbors hear the gospel. Or maybe again in 2021, you heard a whole sermon series on what it looks like when we love well. This year you probably heard a catchy and easy to remember acronym to remind you what love looks like – BLESS. But for most of us, the problem is not our ignorance of what loving your neighbors looks like, but actually wanting to and being able to do so. All we seem to do is remind each other what Jesus said, and tell each other we should be doing it. Always preaching without actually doing what Jesus commands.

DON'T JUST TELL THEM, TRAIN THEM.

Disciples are apprentices of Jesus who learn to live their lives in such a way that *obedience* to Jesus characterizes all they do. We must become people who *can* and *want* to do what Jesus commands. But how? We must train (apprentice) people.

Trying harder does not work. Let's pretend that the gospel of Jesus says that he died to secure your forgiveness, and now that you are in Christ, he wants you to run 26.2 miles for his glory. How many of you would be able to do that today?

Some of you could put your running shoes on right now and knock off a 26.2-mile run, but most of us would not make it. We are not the kind of people who desire or are able to run 26.2 miles. If we follow our typical churchy logic, we tell each other that since Jesus demonstrated his love for us by enduring the cross, that should provide us with the



motivation for running the marathon. So, we decide to run. What do we discover after mile 2? I HATE RUNNING. My knees hurt. I have shin splints and my calf muscles have knotted up into balls. You are in pain and hate it, but you resolve to try again tomorrow. Only when you wake up the next day, your whole body hurts. What's the solution? Do we just remind each other of Jesus' sacrifice? Just think of your dying savior and the love he has for you? That will surely get you across the finish line, right? No. It won't. It will only make you feel like garbage because you still can't run 26.2 miles. Every runner knows that you don't just "try harder" to run 26.2 miles. You *train* to run 26.2 miles. Hard truth – loving as Jesus loved is way harder than running a marathon.

*"A disciple is not above his teacher,
but everyone when he is fully trained
will be like his teacher." Luke 6:40*

This is true whether your teacher is good or bad. If the teacher is bad, you will fall into a pit. If your teacher is Jesus and you are trained by him, you will become the kind of person who can run with him.

DISCIPLESHIP IS TRAINING

When I was a freshman at the University of Iowa, I was faced with a task: becoming the kind of person who could beat most people in the country at my weight class in the sport of wrestling. One major problem – as a freshman I was not that person. You know what my coach Dan Gable never said? *"TRY HARDER."* He didn't tell me to try harder because he could see I was trying hard. After losing and failing to qualify for the NCAA tournament my sophomore year, Gable could see I was trying hard without results. After the loss, he told me, *"You are a fighter. You always leave everything you have on the mat. But you don't know how to wrestle. I can fix that."*

He was essentially saying, *"Listen. You clearly want to be the kind of person who as a matter of course does what great wrestlers do, but you're not a great wrestler. You are going to have to follow in my footsteps. You are going to have to be*

with me, beside me, and behind me. You are going to have to do what I did. Look around. You see those pictures on the wall of all those guys who are All-Americans, NCAA champions, and Olympic medalists? They come from the same raw stuff you come from. We all start somewhere, but if you want to become that person you are going to have to let me train you. You are going to have to be immersed into a community committed to following me."

That may sound like a religious order. That's because it is a lot like a religious order. Young men came to Iowa to restructure their lives under the teaching of a master so that they would become something different than they were when they arrived there. Discipleship under Jesus is the same.

"Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come." 1 Timothy 4:7–8

KNOWING VS. DOING

I wanted to become a good wrestler, so I did what Gable did. If I want to follow Jesus, I will walk as he walked. I will examine the scriptures to see what Jesus did and taught his disciples to do. Some of the disciplines that I see Jesus was engaged in were:

- Read God's Word to know his character and will.
- Often prayed alone and with others to share his heart and draw spiritual power.
- Cared for and received care from others to show and experience brotherly love.
- Served the needs of his neighbors to demonstrate the love of God.
- Shared the good news of his kingdom to bring God's glory to more people.
- Celebrated and worshiped with others to magnify and give God the glory he deserves.

Perhaps most believers know these things, but the fact of the matter is that **knowing and doing are two different things.**

THE MEANS OR THE END?

If we know these are the practices faithful disciples should engage in, why aren't more professing Christians practicing them? I believe the reason is because Christians look at these disciplines and view them as an end rather than the means to an end. They are viewed as boxes to check off, more commands to keep. Jesus did not view them that way. Jesus never viewed being in the Word and prayer as ends in and of themselves. Instead, Jesus read the Bible and prayed so he could commune with his Father and experience his power and presence.

"Whoever says 'I know him' but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked." 1 John 2:4-6

If we want to become people who can and want to do what Jesus commands, then we must do as Jesus did. We have to train spiritually. We have to immerse ourselves into his presence through the disciplines and experience his presence and power. Practicing what Jesus practiced is not the destination; it is the means by which we experience his presence and power. This is what Jesus refers to as abiding.

"If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples." John 15:7-8

IT'S A PROCESS

Are you ready to run this marathon called discipleship? Stop 'trying hard' and start training instead. Take a look at your life and begin to make some practical changes. Adopt the practices of Jesus. Walk as he walked (1 John 2:6). Spend time in his Word getting to know his heart and his purpose. Take time to talk to him in prayer by yourself and with others. Train with others and learn to care for them and allow them to care for you. Take notice of how God has wired you and how you can tangibly begin to meet the needs of the people around you. Pray and look for opportunities to share the hope that is yours in Christ with others.

This is what it looks like to train. We do not train to earn favor with God, but as a means of experiencing God daily. As we experience his presence and power daily, we will discover we are able to spiritually run further and faster. We will find ourselves desiring and able to obey God's commands. It's a process. It takes time. It takes effort. God's grace is not opposed to effort; it is opposed to earning. (Ephesians 2:8-10) It is the Spirit who changes us, but we train.





By Business Director Caleb Stamp

In the winter of 2010, my wife, Amanda, and I attended the first session of a Wednesday night stewardship class at Grace. Our teacher came in, handed every couple in the class a \$5 bill, and said, "This is God's money. I'm giving it to you. You can do anything you'd like with it, but it's still God's money." As a young married couple, that was our introduction to the concept of generosity.

Generosity is a response to the fact that everything we have belongs to God. It results in sharing with others what we've been given. Part of that sharing includes offering financial support for the local church.

Many of us agree that generosity is important, but living it out is a different story. We exist in

a perpetual state of busyness at work, at home, and in the community. It also feels like everyone is asking for money from us: rent, mortgage, utilities, groceries, gas, entertainment, activities... the list goes on and on. That's not even taking into account the mountains of consumer debt that the average person is paying off each month.

It's not that we don't want to give, but it can be hard to make it a priority. We put the loudest voices at the top of the list over things that we know are important like serving and giving to the local church. One of the tools we offer at Grace to help build the habit of generosity is automated giving.

I bristled at the idea of automatic giving in the past. It seemed too hands-off, taking the worship

element away from my giving. More importantly, it felt like I would be giving up control over where my money was going by not giving manually. In reality, I was putting generosity on the back-burner, giving what was left after everything else was paid each month (assuming I remembered at all). While saying I wanted to make giving a priority, I was doing the exact opposite.

In the last couple of years, my wife and I have had opportunities to reflect on things like God's generosity towards us even in the midst of trials, and we have been challenged to steward our resources in a more faithful way. That's why we prayerfully decided to prioritize our giving by making it automatic.

For us, this is how we can ensure we're cheerfully giving our first fruits. Every time a paycheck deposits to our bank account, a portion goes right back out to help fund the work that God is doing in our community and across the world. **We may not be manually writing the check or initiating the transfer, but we're actively deciding that our giving is a priority.**

God has been using automatic giving to lead me a little bit closer in obedience to him. I'm not saying that this is the only correct way to give at Grace. There is not one right way to give. As 2 Corinthians 9:7 says, *"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

If you're interested in setting up automatic giving at Grace, you can visit graceb3.org/ag. You can set up your gifts to occur at whatever frequency and timing that makes sense for your household. If you have any questions or run into any issues, you can email me at calebs@graceb3.org, or call me at 319-626-2040.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY · STUDENT MINISTRY · SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

**SERVING OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE IN THE
NEXT GEN MINISTRY**

**INTERESTED? CONTACT CINDY AT
CINDYS@GRACEB3.ORG**





By Worship Director Zack Stanton

The most joy-filled, meaningful, and clarifying moments of my life have been the times when God has shown me most clearly the glory and goodness of Jesus. This is no coincidence because this is what we were made for.

We've previously explored what it meant in the Old Testament for worship to be done on God's terms and in the way that he alone makes possible. Early in Israel's history, God gave them the sacrificial system, the priesthood, and the tabernacle/temple. But those were only shadows of what was to come! Jesus is the consummation of all that God has required and provided for our relationship to him (stop and read Hebrews 1:1-4). He is Emmanuel — God with us. God's presence is no longer symbolically confined to the temple — Jesus was the presence of God on earth, and now his presence resides in us through the Holy Spirit! The temple is no longer necessary as a place of sacrifice because Jesus has offered the final one! Through his work, we are free from sin and death. The glory and grace of Jesus is truly staggering — how can we begin to wrap our heads around all of this?

Jesus is the priest who leads us in worship, bringing us into God's presence. He's the sacrifice that makes us right with God, and the one who sanctifies us and makes us new creations. Jesus is also the object of our worship, the Lamb who sits on the heavenly throne that now receives all glory because of his saving work. Treasuring, exalting, and obeying Jesus must be the central focus of our life — this is worship.

Think about the magnitude of what Paul says in Philippians 2:

"Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Consider Revelation 5:

*"Then I looked, and I heard... the voice of many angels,
numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,
saying with a loud voice,
'Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!'"*

Picture that in your mind's eye. Can you imagine what an awe-inspiring moment that will be when all bow to him? That's the trajectory of human history. **Everything we do in this life is leading up to worshiping Christ in the new heavens and earth.** While the Bible does not say exactly what life in the new heavens and new earth will be like, it is clear that worshiping Jesus will be the central activity. And if we have a proper view of Jesus and of worship, nothing could sound more exciting!

But we don't have to wait until then to know the joy of worshiping Jesus. That must be the priority of our lives right now. Jesus tells us to abide in him — "abiding" is a constant state of being, meaning every moment of our lives must be lived for and through him. And Jesus must be the focus of our corporate worship. We gather to fix our eyes on Jesus and behold his glory together. We gather to give him the praise he is so rightly due. We gather to drink deeply of him. We gather to be reminded that we, together, are his body, his representatives on earth. And we gather to be refreshed as we seek to share his glory with others, that we may be the fragrance of Christ to the world.

By Connections Director Wade Summers

International Student Thanksgiving

'They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world." John 4:42

When Muhammad chose to follow Jesus, one of the first things he shared with me was the ways God used Christian hospitality.

Muhammad noticed that the Americans who were caring for him and expecting nothing in return had one thing in common, they believed in Jesus. He said if it had just been me, he could have written me off as an anomaly, but so many Christians selflessly care for international students, there must be something different about Jesus. As Muhammad continued to share the key moments in his journey to Jesus, it reminded me of John 4. In the story, the Samaritan town needed the invitation of the Samaritan woman to come and encounter Jesus. Her invitation was



the bridge that allowed them to come and see who Jesus was. In much the same way, our cumulative hospitality and welcome were a bridge for Muhammad. Muhammad told me that **Christian hospitality helped him move from a place of distrust to trust with Christians**. It helped move him from a slight curiosity about what Christians believed to see that the words of Jesus applied to him and finally to a place where he needed to know if the teachings of Jesus are true.

John 4 ends with the Samaritan town telling the Samaritan woman that they no longer believe because of what she shared, but because they heard from Jesus for themselves. Muhammad didn't believe in Jesus because of the love of Christians, but **it was the love of Christians that helped him get to a place where he could see who Jesus is for himself**.

There were no Christians to welcome Lin for her first year and a half in America. Lin attended Cornell where each month is a new class. Lin told me that she longed to make an American friend. At the start of a new class she would get paired with an American student to work on a class project. Lin would work hard and try her best to build a friendship with her American classmate. At the end of the month when the class had finished, Lin was hopeful she had made an American friend. Then she would run into them on campus or in the dining hall and the American acted as if they never met. This pattern repeated as Lin's heart became hard towards Americans. Since she assumed that all Americans were Christians, her heart hardened towards Jesus as well.

"ARE WE GOING TO BE A BRIDGE FOR THE NATIONS TO ENCOUNTER JESUS OR WILL OUR COLLECTIVE APATHY BECOME A STUMBLING BLOCK?"

We have a choice: **are we going to be a bridge for the nations to encounter Jesus or will our collective apathy become a stumbling block?** Would you consider joining other Christians as we seek to extend hospitality and welcome to the international students from 110 countries from all around the world in our community?

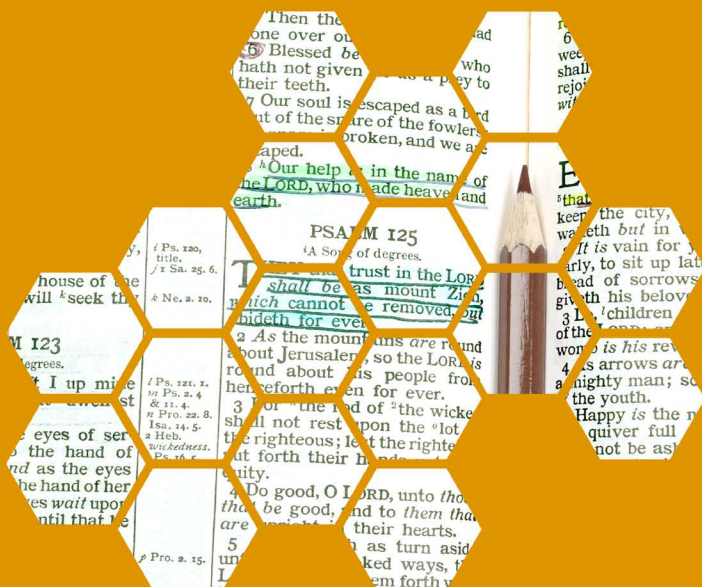
Our **International Student Thanksgiving on November 12 at Parkview Iowa City** is the perfect opportunity to take your first step. Two weeks before Thanksgiving, international students will have a chance to enjoy a light version of a Thanksgiving meal in an American home and then come to hear Brooks share about the history of Thanksgiving, its current cultural meaning, and why people would choose to give thanks to God in the midst of suffering. Afterward, we will have time to talk about what Brooks shared over Thanksgiving desserts.

There are four ways you can volunteer to make this event happen.

1. You can **host** by opening your home and making part of the light Thanksgiving meal.
2. You can **cohost** by giving international students rides and helping the host make the light Thanksgiving meal.
3. You can **bring a dessert** for Brooks' talk.
4. You can help with **setup and teardown** as well as other behind-the-scenes tasks.

Take your next step now and sign up at graceb3.org/thanksgiving





register by Oct 31 at graceb3.org/events

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

workshop

Have you ever asked...

- *I know so little about the Bible. Where do I start?*
- *How do some people get so much out of a verse or passage?*
- *I want to study the Bible more in-depth, but how do I learn?*
- *How can I lead others in a Bible study?*

NOV 5
9AM-4PM
Free Workshop
Lunch provided

Look no further.

The Women's Bible Study Workshop was created and designed out of a desire to see women learn to mine the riches of the Bible for themselves.

Reading, praying, meditating, and memorizing God's word are so very crucial to the life of a Christ-follower, but these practices don't come naturally to everyone. And many are not even sure yet if the Bible is God's word.

No matter where you are in your spiritual life, let's grow together in our understanding of God and his word!

SERMON NOTES		DATE:
MAIN IDEA:	NOTES:	

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DOWNLOAD the "Graceb3" app and enable push notifications.
GET THE NEXT INSIDER sent to your inbox at graceb3.org/insider

missions emphasis week oct 9-15



WHERE DO I FIT IN?

Sunday, Oct 9 | 9am & 10:45am; 5pm

North Liberty: Our morning worship services will highlight a **missionary speaker** and a **flag presentation** to represent the many nations who need the gospel. Several **mission organizations** will have displays in the gym.

Downtown: Our evening worship service will highlight a **missionary speaker** and include the opportunity to interact with an individual who has served on a mission field.

Wednesday, Oct 12 | 6:30 - 8pm

North Liberty: Everyone is welcome to join Grace Student Ministry's Refill gathering - not only students but parents and anyone in the church. Hear how **every individual** can have a place in God's "Great Commission" to share the gospel with the world.

Saturday, Oct 15 | 6pm

North Liberty: Come for an evening to focus on the challenges presented during the week, discuss and discover "Missions - Where Do I Fit In?"

