

THE ROCK HILL HERALD

Bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



The Lord's Church

Over the past two weeks we have spoken openly about the church that Christ died for. We have followed the Word of God, so that we become more familiar with God's idea for the church, and hopefully help everyone see the value that both God and Christ place on the church. We looked at ***Isaiah 2*** that prophesies about the establishment of the church, and ***Matthew 16*** where Jesus tells Peter in ***verses 18 and 19***, that the church had not yet been established, but is coming very soon. We looked back at ***Acts 2:47***, where the church obviously has been established, because obedient Christians were being "added to it".

In order to realize the purpose of the church, we should more fully understand the plan that God has made. Not a purpose that you and I might have for the church, but the original design and intent of our heavenly Father. In ***Ephesians 1***, the Bible mentions that God has "*blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus; having made know unto us the mystery of his will; which he has purposed in himself.*" It is interesting that the word 'mystery' is used here. It is a mystery because the unique plan of God had never been done before. It was mysterious because the life of the church depended upon the death of the Savior. It was mysterious because it requires the faith of an individual in the spiritual nature of God Himself. It was mysterious because it had only been talked about in prophecy, but had not and could not be understood except by the hindsight that we are now privileged to have, along with a written description of it.

Paul continues in ***verse 10 of Ephesians 1***, and points out the distinct connection between heaven and earth as a result of His plan. Look at the verse, "*that in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and on the earth, even in him.*" In other words, the inspired writer tells us that according to God, and when the time was right, He would bring together the heavenly and the earthly to form a unique association of one-to-the-other. Furthermore, He tells us that this association would be 'in Christ Jesus', that Christ was to be the common denominator between heaven and earth. We know the right time came according to ***Galatians 4:4***. More to follow next week.

Doug Jones

The Rock Hill church of Christ

9426 PGA Pkwy

Frisco TX 75035

(972)347-1919

rhcoc.org • rhillchurch@gmail.com

Worship Times:

- Bible Class — 9:00AM
- Sunday Worship — 10:00AM
- Sunday PM Worship — 6:00PM
- Wednesday Bible study — 7:00PM

Elders:

- Jim Boles
- Charles Haley

Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Doug Jones
- Burley Stinnett
- Fernando Zapata

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

Family News

"For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." Ephesians 2:18,19

If you are a visitor to our church, welcome! If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister (the tall guy) or any other church member.

N . E . W . S .

THE "KICK-OFF" OF CARE

GROUPS was last Sunday and what a wonderful time was had by all. Thanks to everyone who organized and made the day smooth, useful, and (of course) delicious.

THE MEN'S LEADERSHIP CLASS

yesterday was great. We discussed prayer. Our next class will be April 16th, see below, and will be on communion.

APRIL'S MEN'S BREAKFAST will be combined with a men's leadership class on April 16. Mark your calendars!

THE LADIES' CLASS meets in the fellowship hall each Tuesday at 10am. Don't forget; come enjoy the Bible study, discussion, fellowship, laughter, prayer, and lunch.

OUR LADIES' "SPRING FLING" is coming up on April 23rd 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited. The theme will be "What's in Your Purse?" Jessica Stelzer will be the speaker and the cost is \$20 per person! It's always a lot of fun for our sisters; put it on your calendar and plan to come.

A "WIDOWHOOD

WORKSHOP MINISTRY" will be April 2nd, this weekend at the Brown St. church of Christ in Waxahachie, starting at

8:30am. If you'd like to go, there are at least three of us planning on it; call the office for a ride.

WORK DAY — Mark April 9 on your calendar for a work day around the church building. While it is true that we have a lawn service, there are still plenty of things that need to be done around the grounds. Come join in the work and fellowship.

GIVING...We can now give online (rhcoc.org), by mail (PO Box 2301, Frisco TX 75034), or of course in person at worship assembly.

PRAYER LISTS...

New requests...

- Please pray for Johnny Vaz's mother, Victoria Vaz. She is in the hospital in Rhode Island awaiting a scheduled surgery on Monday.
- Donna Elliott's brother, Michael Joe, who has struggled with COVID and its long term effects, just received word that his 33 year old son, Austin, died in Lubbock. Please pray for him in his struggles and grief.

Prayers needed

- Norma Bautista is having vision problems and will have cataract surgery on Mar 28th and April 4th. Please pray for successful surgical outcome.
- Ora Holt
- Our continued search for a part-time youth minister
- Doug Jones' brother, Don Jones, is suffering with cancer

Remember these often:

- brethren in India
- the churches in New England
- our elders, deacons, and preacher

Long Term Requests

- Lori Cloud's father: cognitive confusion
- The Zapata's teenage friend Isabella with a heart lesion
- Carol P.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Trelitha Bryant
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Bonnie B.
- Dianna C.
- Ken C.
- Mary H. and daughter Sharon
- Cheryl F.
- Ann S.



READ-THE-BIBLE-THROUGH-IN-A-YEAR SCHEDULE

- Mar 27, Ruth 1-4
- Mar 28, 1 Sam 1-3
- Mar 29, 1 Sam 4-7
- Mar 30, 1 Sam 8-10
- Mar 31, 1 Sam 11-13
- Apr 1, 1 Sam 14-15
- Apr 2, 1 Sam 16-17
- Apr 3, 1 Sam 18-20

A Word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

Stained Glass Words — "Grace"

The world around us has its own vocabulary, but it generally doesn't include Bible words — at least the way that the Bible uses them. As a result, when the average person reads the Scriptures or hears a presentation of the Gospel, there are a number of terms that they will routinely run across that they will be unfamiliar with, but perhaps too embarrassed to ask about. Sometimes even Christians themselves are a little fuzzy on the exact meaning of some of these religious, "stained glass" words. So, I thought I'd begin a series of bulletin articles on some of the words that have important but sometimes misunderstood meanings from the Bible. And the first one that I'll address is the word "grace".

The world would define it several ways: as a refined movement (graceful), an attractively polite way of behaving (he had the grace to apologize), a "grace period", or a prayer before a meal. But the Bible has a much richer and more meaningful definition.

The essential meaning of the word grace is a gift, but in the Bible it is more than a gift. Sometimes one person gives a gift to another person, which the other person could have purchased themselves — it is given as a token of affection or appreciation. However, in the Bible it has the significance of something of great value given to men, which they couldn't obtain on their own and could do nothing to earn.

With that definition, the Bible refers to the entire breadth of physical blessings that God has given to mankind — life, the physical world, health, food, clothing, shelter, family, and much more — as grace. These blessings are of immeasurable value and things that as mere mortals we could not provide for ourselves. Now, some would argue that we earn our bread, our clothing, our shelter, etc.; but let us remember that each of these are dependent on other God-given blessings like intelligence, place of birth, education, job opportunities, etc. that not everyone *does* have, and could be taken away from us swiftly (remember the story of Job?). They are ours strictly because of God's grace toward us. For these things we

should rightfully give thanks, and that's why the prayer before a meal is often referred to as "saying grace".

But the Bible uses the term grace in its greatest sense with regard to the spiritual blessings given to us in Jesus Christ. He is the supreme example of a gift of immeasurable value, which couldn't be earned, and which is only ours because of God's love and favor toward a helpless mankind.

Ephesians 2:47 — "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."

Through and in Him we have "every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 1:3), including forgiveness of sin, a new and better kind of life, the Holy Spirit, a place among God's chosen, the resurrection to life, and Heaven forever. And while the blessings of God's grace in this world will fade and pass away, the blessings of grace in Christ will never fade away (Matthew 6:19-21).

Grace in the Bible almost always is referring to God generous and merciful gifts to us in the "here" and the "hereafter" — gifts we could never earn or obtain on our own, gifts that were given to us out of love and compassion, gifts of eternal and boundless worth.

And such a definition of grace can be powerful in our lives. It is with this definition of grace that John Newton penned the wonderful song *Amazing Grace* with these lyrics...

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
grace my fears relieved. How precious did that
grace appear the hour I first believed.*

Let God's amazing grace move you to a life of faith and grateful obedience.

Park Linscomb

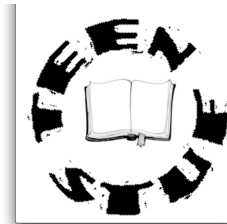
FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN MARCH

20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>First Care Group Meetings</p> <p>Rieven/Ora H. ❤️</p> <p>Burley/Linda S. ❤️</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM Bible classes ■ 9:00 AM New Event ■ 10:00 AM Worship ■ 5:30 PM Putting legs on our prayers ■ 6:00 PM Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Ladies class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7:00 PM Wed. Bible class 	<p>Casey B. 🙏</p>	<p>C.J. A. 🙏</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM Men's leadership class 	

SERVICE IN WORSHIP

March 27	AM	PM
<i>Announcements</i>	John S.	John S.
<i>Songleading</i>	Doug J.	Charles H.
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Jim B.	Ralph L.
<i>Communion</i>	Yaw F.	Doug J.
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Chris S.	Fernando Z.
<i>Greeter</i>	Charles H.	Charles H.

April 3	AM	PM
<i>Announcements</i>	Burley S.	Burley S.
<i>Songleading</i>	Doug J.	Doug J.
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Reiven H.	Yaw F.
<i>Communion</i>	Chris S.	Fernando Z.
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Charles H.	Doug J.
<i>Greeter</i>	Burley S.	Burley S.



Baylee Brackeen was awarded the distinction of being named an "All State Cheerleader" and named to the "Academic All State" roster. Wow, what great

accomplishments these are. We are so proud of Baylee. She also has been a Bible class co-teacher with Linda Stinnett for many years. She will be attending the University of Arkansas in the fall.

Victoria and Alexandria Arnold had leading roles in their school's musical version of "Frozen" Friday night and Saturday afternoon. Victoria played Elsa and Alexandria was Anna".

We wish Kaitlyn Stelzer a great time as she is at a retreat with the Shawnee Trail youth.

Sermon Notes...
