



GRACE NOTES

April 2016

If you're looking
for a sign,
this is it.

Thanks to a donation from A&K Product Specialties (Kris and Gane Roberts), we have a new sign outside the church. A group of skilled servants took time to hang it up last week. Thanks to Jason Carney (not pictured), Jon Stovall, Benny Hood, Gane Roberts, Jerry Shuler, Jeremy Devore and Justin Ferguson.



Prayer Ministry

What this is: Praying for the service, for our pastor and for the church body during the Sunday morning service.

Get involved: If you would like to be a part of our Sunday morning prayer team please sign up in the kitchen this Sunday and you will be contacted with further information.

If you are interested in hearing more about the prayer ministry or have questions, please contact Keelie (903-821-3371) or Karen (972- 971-2652)



Devin Mize tells children about resurrection eggs on Easter Sunday.



Please
sign up to make
[Coffee](https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=30E0B49A4AE2FA3FB6-coffee&useFullSite=true)
It's easy! Click here!

[https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?
go=s.signup&urlid=30E0B49A4AE2FA3FB6
-coffee&useFullSite=true](https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=30E0B49A4AE2FA3FB6-coffee&useFullSite=true)

We have a couple of spots
to fill this month

Family Ties

THE WALIGURAS

DIXIE, CORBIN, JASON, NIKKI,
DAKOTA AND LANDON



A Waligura family of three joined GBF in 2006, and ten years later, they are a complete family of six due to God's calling to foster parenting and adoption.

Landon, 12 years old and in the 5th grade, scored two new brothers - Corbin, 7 years old, and Dakota, 6 years old - and a sister, Dixie, 9 years old, over the past few years. Jason and Nikki are the leaders for GBF's Foster and Adoption Ministry (F.A.M.).

Jason is the Credit and Collections Manager at GenBand, while also serving as a Grace Group leader at the church. Nikki keeps things running smoothly in their busy household and serves as a leader in the student ministry.

Their favorite family activities include camping, watersports, hunting, and playing cards with the Bairds.

What is your favorite thing about GBF?

Jason and Nikki: *The people*

Landon: *We are always learning about God.*

Dixie: *Getting to sing songs about God.*

Corbin: *Getting to go to Mrs. Nikki's room.*

Dakota: *Being in small groups at IMPACT.*

What is your favorite memory of GBF?

Jason and Nikki: *Watching Landon get baptized.*

Landon: *Feeding Devon (Mize) baby food while blind folded.*

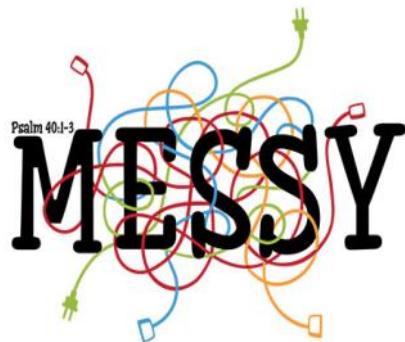
Dixie: *My adoption celebration and dedication at GBF.*

Dakota: *Playing with friends.*

F.A.M. - FAMILY AND ADOPTION MINISTRY

- **Interested in fostering and/or adoption?** Visit the Buckner website: <http://beafamily.org>. Options include Foster Care, Foster to Adopt, Waiting Texas Children/CPS Adoption, Domestic Infant Adoption.
- **Not able to foster or adopt but still want to serve and bless these families? Here are some ways you can help:**
 - Meals – providing meals is an inexpensive, easy way to help families that are fostering or have recently adopted children.
 - Clothes and supplies – It can be expensive to buy everything needed for a child or children. Buying or donating clothing and other necessities is another way you can serve these families.
 - Babysitting – This option requires a little more effort and paperwork (if fostering), but is a HUGE blessing to the parents.
- **Contact Information:** If you are interested in any of these opportunities to serve, contact Jason or Nikki .
Nikki Waligura, 214.287.1427, nrw_2000@hotmail.com, Jason Waligura, 214.587.1427, jason_waligura@hotmail.com

JULY 11 - 14
For Students entering
3rd through 6th grade



**AUSTIN COLLEGE
IN SHERMAN**

Student Life for Kids Camp! Sign up by visiting <http://gbfkids.blogspot.com> and clicking on Camp Sign Up or Contact Nikki 214-592-7091 or nikki@thegbf.com

Lara is updating information for the church regarding your mailing address, email address and phone number. Please send her this information at lara@thegbf.com as soon as possible. Also, let her know if you are interested in being added to the text message alert list and the email list for Grace Notes. Thank you so much in advance for cooperating in this effort.

When a man follows the principles of biblical manhood, those around him benefit from his leadership and care. Kingdom Man challenges and equips men to fully understand their position under God as well as their position over what God has given them. The biblical definition of a man is one who has learned to operate under the authority of Jesus Christ while carrying out responsible and legitimate leadership within the sphere of influence that God has placed him. Kingdom Man provides concepts men can follow that will help them to actively pursue ways to maximize and develop the character qualities of biblical manhood in their lives.

Beginning January 5, Roy will be leading a Men's Bible Study using the book Kingdom Man, by Tony Evans, as a guide.

The men will cover and discuss the topics addressed in the book, one chapter a week. Men are encouraged to buy the book, but not required to.

The study will meet TUESDAY MORNINGS, from 6 - 7 am, at the church, south hallway entrance, 4th room on right. All men are invited. No dress code, age, marital status, or level of Bible knowledge required.

If your work schedule prohibits you from coming every week, come once, or twice, or as often as you can. The only prerequisite is that you be a man who admits you need God, be willing to learn more about Him and His plan for your life.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ GBF

TUESDAYS, 6 - 7 AM

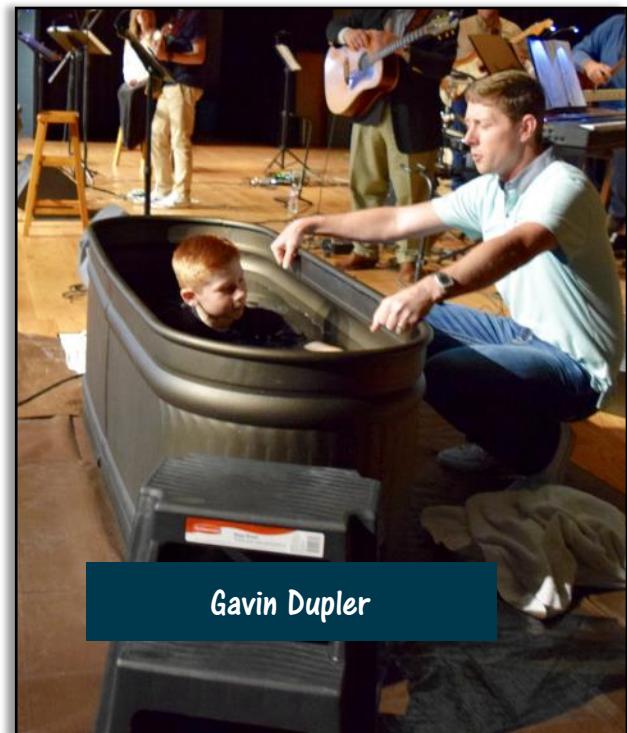
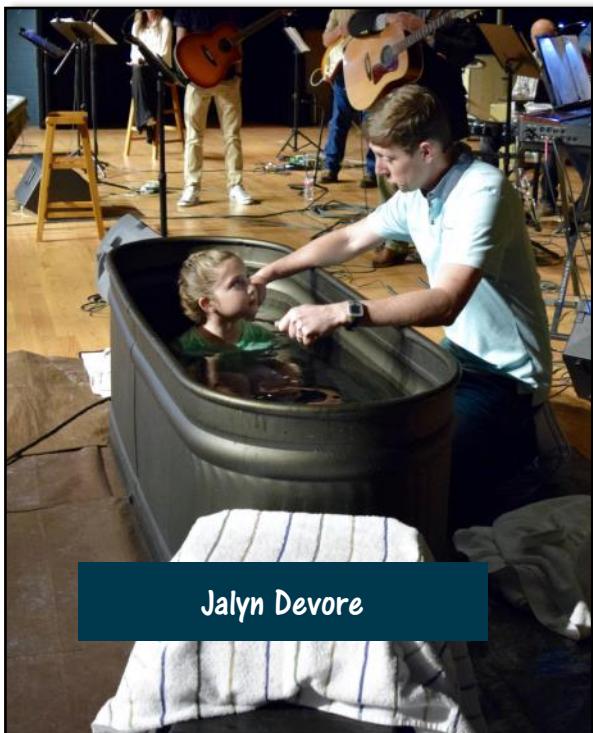
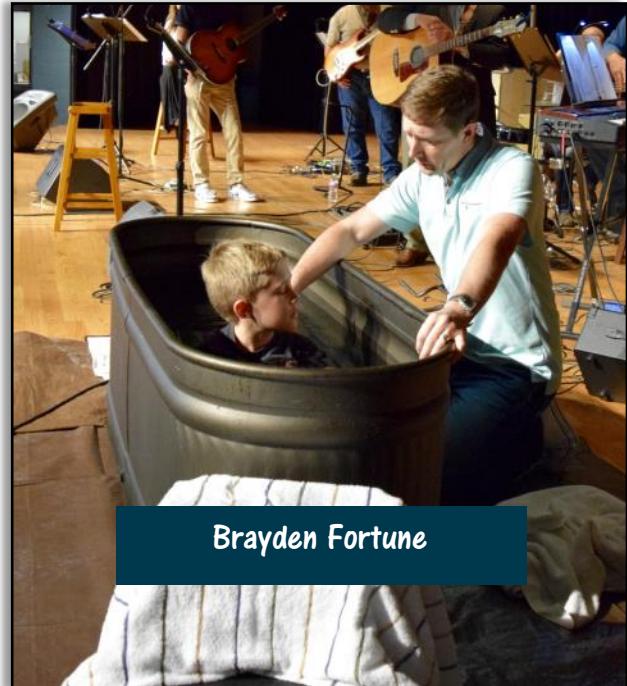
**STUDY: Kingdom Man
by Tony Evans**

You can buy the book here
http://www.amazon.com/Kingdom-Man-Every-Destiny-Womans/dp/1589977475/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1448985953&sr=8-1&keywords=kingdom+man



BAPTISMS

ON EASTER



10 Ways Churches Get Off Mission

It's been said that if everything is the mission, then nothing is. There are things that the church *can* do, but those things should not be confused with the what the church *must* do. The church's mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Most would agree on that. But while we agree that's what we must do, we still have to be careful that we stay ON MISSION, that we not get distracted away from our central calling of disciple-making. Jared Wilson, Director of Content Strategy for Midwestern Seminary, offers 10 common hazards we can fall into that can get a church off of our mission:

- 1. They over-program.** In this way, we mistake activity for mission and busy-ness for fruitfulness. And while Christians fellowshipping and "doing life" with each other is important, some churches fill the calendar with so many programs and meetings, etc. that their people have little to no margin to be on mission.
- 2. They pour all their energy into the weekend service.** For many churches, the extent of their weekly thinking, planning, strategy, creativity, etc. is channeled into the production of the weekend gathering. They justify this inward focus by trying to design this service as evangelistically and seeker-minded as possible, but it effectively turns the "go and tell" of mission into the "come and see" of attraction.
- 3. They use too much insider lingo.** The church service in particular is biblically *for the Christian*, but the New Testament still tells us it ought to be intelligible to "outsiders." Some churches communicate only "inside baseball" in their services and groups so that it becomes difficult for interested unbelievers to follow and seek to understand.
- 4. They are just plain unwelcoming.** We all know about churches that don't acknowledge visitors. There are also community groups that don't have an open door for curious unbelievers and other visitors. There are people who look down their noses if someone is in their parking space or pew. Some church communities just aren't interested in growing or reaching out.
- 5. They are preoccupied with politics.** Their pastors are too busy culture-warring to be soul-winning and their people are too busy arguing about who should be President to consider how their anger and worry might (or might not) adorn the gospel.
- 6. They are still stuck in the past, culturally speaking.** Some churches look frozen in time. While there are lots of rich things from our history and tradition worth holding onto, having a church that looks like it stepped out of a time machine in the 1970s probably isn't it. Some churches are so committed to preserving how they've always been, they cannot adequately contextualize the gospel for their communities today.
- 7. They're trying to re-create the past.** Some churches have moved on from the past, but are desperate to get it back. But a church can kill its future by constantly trying to recapture "the good ol' days," mainly because this is an inward focus and also because outsiders, visitors, and the lost don't care one bit about your church's "good ol' days."
- 8. They are preoccupied with social justice causes but not doctrine.** Meeting people's felt needs and addressing systemic, cultural ills can be biblical and valid implications of the gospel, but a lot of churches forget the gospel part. They trade in the primary purpose of the gospel for its implications. This is a particularly deceptive mode to be in, because socially-conscious churches look like they're on mission. But if the gospel is not at the center of what we say and do, it's not God's mission that we're on.
- 9. They are doctrinally rigorous but socially withdrawn.** The opposite of the above problem. These churches are hearers of the word only. Sometimes they are so suspicious of "social justice" and the "social gospel" that they'd rather die than be caught making a concerted effort to care for the poor, the widow, and the orphan.
- 10. They are divided or otherwise riddled with conflict and power plays.** Some churches are fertile ground for power-hungry folks or divisive personalities jockeying for position. In many of these churches, the leaders may be interested in kingdom mission but find that so much of their energy is occupied in mediating arguments, managing contentious member meetings, defending themselves, or just trying to keep the peace. In these cases, people have forgotten what a church is even for.



"I am the Lord who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."

Leviticus 11:45



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

www.gbfkids.blogspot.com

4/13/16: IMPACT/Youth Night of Worship/pizza

6/20-6/23: Mega Sports Camp

MARCH GRACE KIDS

God Gave Rules for Sacrifice

BIBLE PASSAGE: Leviticus 1–27

MAIN POINT: Because God is holy, God requires a sacrifice for sin.

KEY PASSAGE: Leviticus 11:45

BIG PICTURE ?: Who can keep God's law? No one can except Jesus.

Worship Only God

BIBLE PASSAGE: Deuteronomy 1; 3:23–4:40

MAIN POINT: The Lord alone is God; there is no other besides Him.

KEY PASSAGE: Leviticus 11:45

BIG PICTURE ?: Who can keep God's law? No one can except Jesus.

God Reminded His People of His Covenant

BIBLE PASSAGE: Deuteronomy 5:1–6:25; 8:1–11:1,26–28

MAIN POINT: God reminded His people of His covenant with them.

KEY PASSAGE: Leviticus 11:45

BIG PICTURE ?: Who can keep God's law? No one can except Jesus.

GRACE KIDS

SMALL GROUP LEADERS FOR
APRIL

Pre-K/Kindergarten:

1st & 2nd Grade: Mary G.

3rd & 4th Grade Girls: Carrie S.

3rd & 4th Grade Boys: Grayson

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STUDENT MINISTRY

Breakaway Weekend April 30 – May 11

Straight Arrow Camp (www.straightarrowcamp.org)

Cost is \$45 which covers food, housing, t-shirt, and activities.



Breakaway Weekend is a time for students to grow closer to God, to each other, to their leaders, all in a setting that is fun for everyone involved! In short, it is a time for students to break away from the influences that discourage them as young Christians, and a time to be encouraged by the love of God, their leaders, and one another.



We have started our new series based out of the book of Daniel called "Set Apart."

Romans 12:2 says, "Do not be conformed to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind." Christians will never bring the world to God by becoming just like them. We are to be something different than what we see in the world around us. The life of a Christian is counter-cultural.

In the book of Daniel, we see many examples of how a young person living in culture that does not honor God can still live a life that is God glorifying.

High School Bible Study (9th-12th grade)
Sunday Nights from 7:00 - 8:30 pm
at The Layman's house



STUDENT MINISTRY UPDATE

In March, the student ministry finished our series *Love, Sex, and Lasting Relationships*. Most of our time was spent looking at the 12 Tests of Love. In Romans 12:9 Paul says, "Let your love be genuine." Some translations read "without hypocrisy." Most of us have learned how to pretend love others – how to speak kindly, avoid hurting feelings, and appear to feel moved with compassion when we hear of others needs or troubles.

A lot of us even learned how to show love in order to get something from someone. We use love as a tool to use people. But God calls us to real and genuine love that goes beyond simply being polite because it benefits you. Genuine love requires a deliberate effort on our parts. It demands our time and our effort. Genuine love is giving the other person what he or she needs the most when they least deserve it at great personal cost to you. Below are the 12 tests we looked at:

1. **The Test of Time:** Love benefits and grows with time; Infatuation ebbs and diminishes with time. Infatuation can come suddenly. I've never really been a fan of that term "falling in love". We don't fall into love. We fall into infatuation. We grow into love. Infatuation can explode out of nowhere, but real love takes time.
2. **The Test of Knowledge:** Love grows out of an appraisal of all the known characteristics of the other person. Infatuation may grow out of only an acquaintance with these characteristics of the other person. With infatuation, you may not even know the person, but a glance in your direction, a smile, or even a catching of the eyes can act as a trigger that sets off the chemicals in your brain. There is no basic knowledge about the other person. Love wants to study the other person's needs, desires, dreams, and hopes because it wants to do everything to make them a reality. How well do you know the other person?
3. **The Test of Focus:** Genuine love is other-person centered. Infatuation is self-centered. Infatuation is always more concerned with what they are receiving. Love is always more concerned with meeting the other person's needs.
4. **The Test of Singularity:** Genuine love is focused on only one person. An infatuated person may be "in love" with two or more persons simultaneously. You can and will be infatuated with a lot of different people, but that is not love.
5. **The Test of Security:** Genuine love requires a sense of security and feelings of trust. An infatuated person seems to have a blind sense of security, based on wishful thinking instead of careful consideration. Infatuation is blind to problems. Infatuation has insecurities that often times show itself as jealousy. Jealousy is often a sign of a lack of trust, and a lack of trust is a sign of infatuation.
6. **The Test of Work:** An individual in love works for the other person, for his or her mutual benefit. An infatuated person loses his or her ambition, appetite, and interest in everyday affairs. A woman in love may study to make her husband proud. A man in love may have his ambitions spurred on by planning and saving for their future together. People genuinely in love daydream about the potential of their relationship, and strive forward to make it happen.
7. **The Test of Problem Solving:** A couple in love faces problems frankly and tries to solve them. Infatuated people tend to disregard or try to ignore problems. If there are barriers in front of a couple planning to get married, they will address them and remove them. They do not go into marriage blindly.
8. **The Test of Distance:** Love knows the importance of distance. Infatuation imagines loves to be intense closeness, 24/7, all the time. In you spend some time separated from the person you claim to love, the time apart will teach you a lot about the quality of your relationship. Since genuine love is not based on just emotions, some distance will often let you know what is really in your heart. If there is not a sense of separateness, a distinct life, relationships with other people, and healthy balance, then the relationship is probably more infatuation than genuine love.
9. **The Test of Physical Attraction:** Physical attraction is a relatively small part of genuine love, but it is not the central focus of infatuation. "Small part" does not mean "no part." If you are not physically attracted to that person you are thinking about spending the rest of your life with, I would call that a problem. The reality is that sexual attraction has a part in genuine love. God's word does not talk down about being physically attracted to someone. What goes wrong here is when we decide that sexual fulfillment is the quickest and best way to find love.
10. **The Test of Affection:** In love affection is expressed later in the relationship, involving the external expression of the physical attraction we just described. In infatuation affection is expressed early on. Sometimes even at the beginning of the relationship. Affection pushes both people towards greater and greater physical intimacy.
11. **The Test of Stability:** Love tends to endure. Infatuation may change suddenly and unpredictably. With infatuation, the wind determines where you're in love. Real love is stable. There is commitment. This is something that needs to be measured over time by observing the other person in the context of his or her other relationships. How is he or she with her parents, friends, or enemies?
12. **The Test of Delayed Gratification:** A couple in genuine love is not indifferent to the timing of their wedding, but they do not feel an irresistible urge to drive toward it. Genuine love is about understanding that there is something really worth waiting for.

GRACE GROUPS

At GBF we firmly believe that the grace of God has the power to transform lives. Our home groups are where much of that power is able to take effect. Current **GraceGroups** are wrapping up for this semester, but we are in need of more homes and leaders for next fall. Please be in prayer about joining a GraceGroup or volunteering to be a leader. Below is a list of leaders, study topics, meeting times and places. If you are interested in leading a group, please contact Rick Nevil or Theron - james.t.whitley@gmail.com

Women's Bible Study

225-933-4204

215 Preston Glen

Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm

Women's Bible Study

Shelly Baird

903-819-2074

105 Forest Meadows Dr.

Friday 9-11 am

KINGDOM MAN

Jon Stovall

469-323-2393

GBF

Mondays @ 7 pm

Justin & Keelie Ferguson

903-821-3371

10434 Hwy 289

Sundays, 5 - 7:30 pm

To LIVE is CHRIST

Jason & Nikki Waligura

214-587-1427

82 Forest Hills Circle

Every other Sunday,

6 - 7:30 pm

To LIVE is CHRIST

Jarod & Lara Martin

903-815-0562

413 Autry Blvd

Sundays, 6 - 7:30 pm

KINGDOM MAN

Roy Layman

roy@thegbf.com

GBF

Tuesdays @ 6 am

PRAYERS OF PAUL

Rick & Nancy Nevil

469-401-2615

699 Wallace Road

Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

THE REASON FOR GOD

Jason Carney

903-819-8087

107 Arrowhead Dr

Every other Sunday @ 5 pm

MARK BY MAX LUCADO

Jeff & Amy Crelia

Gane & Kris Roberts

903-815-1182

515 Kerfoot Drive

Every Other Wednesday

6:30 pm



An opportunity to bless others...



Help Kris battle
Ovarian Cancer again!

<https://www.youcaring.com/kris-roberts-435881>



Help the Rigsbys during their
time of crisis!

<https://www.youcaring.com/kyle-and-staci-rigsby-429510>

IT'S COMING!

MEGA SPORTS CAMP

JUNE 20 - 23

Details available soon!



In
Sympathy



The GBF Family extends heartfelt sympathy to Casey Layman and her family on the loss of her grandmother,
Joann Thornhill.

Contact Us

www.thegbf.com

Phone: 903.433.1732

Grace Bible Fellowship
101 West Pecan, P.O. Box 96
Gunter, Texas 75058

Senior Pastor: Roy Layman

Family Life Pastor: Adam Cavalier

Elders: Brent Wilkens, Jeff Crelia
THERON WHITLEY, Roy Layman

Follow Pastor Roy's blog

<http://roylayman.wordpress.com>

where he shares resources,
Grace Bible church life, and pastoral
insights from a small church pastor
in a mega-church world.

You can also access the blog
by going to the church website

www.thegbf.com

March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am Youth Bible Study 7 pm	4	5 Men's Bible Study 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm	6 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm STUDENT MINISTRY 6:30 pm	7	8	9
10 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am Youth Bible Study 7 pm	11	12 Men's Bible Study 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm	13 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm STUDENT MINISTRY 6:30 pm	14	15	16
17 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am Youth Bible Study 7 pm	18	19 Men's Bible Study 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm	20 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm STUDENT MINISTRY 6:30 pm	21	22	23
24 FAMILY WORSHIP 10:45 am Youth Bible Study 7 pm	25 GISD No School Bad Weather Day	26 Men's Bible Study 6 am Women's Bible Study, 6:30 pm	27 IMPACT 252 6:30 pm STUDENT MINISTRY 6:30 pm	28	29	30 BREAKAWAY thru May 1.