# **Giving at Grace Brevard**

**Budget YTD: \$79,326** 

Giving YTD: \$52,017

**Difference:** -\$27,309

Giving isn't a guilt-driven religious obligation, but...

...a declaration that all we have has been given to us by Him...

...is a powerful means God uses to propel His Gospel locally and globally...

...is an opportunity God gives us to encounter His generosity.

We have been called to serve and bless our town and the world. Join us in this mission as we each, according to the Lord's calling and blessing, synergize our Time, Talents and Treasures.







# HEBREWS

Hebrews 5:11 – 6:8 "Minus Jesus; Plus Jesus; Only Jesus"



## **Context is King**

Sacrifices

Ceremonies

**Eternal Life** 

Jesus is Greater....

Angels

Word

Rest

**Prophets** 

Priests

Kings

Abraham, the Father Moses, the Deliverer

Aaron, the Great High Priest

#### Hebrews 5:11 - 6:8

<sup>11</sup> About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. 12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, <sup>13</sup> for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

6:1 Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, <sup>2</sup> and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. <sup>3</sup> And this we will do if God permits. <sup>4</sup> For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, <sup>6</sup> and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

<sup>7</sup> For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. <sup>8</sup> But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.

1. The Soil

2. The Tree

3. The Fruit

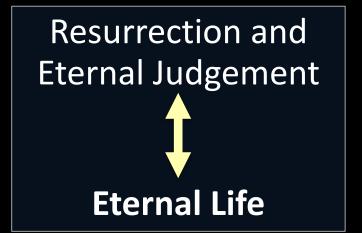








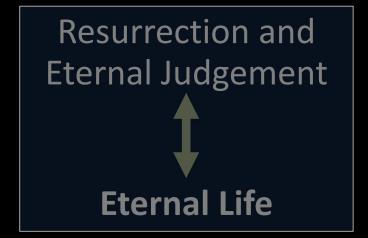




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They had been planted and nourished for thousands of years, culminating in Christ's Life, Death and Resurrection

# The Tree

Healthy Tree Struggling Tree Diseased Tree

## **Healthy Trees**

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Self-Feeding

Discernment

Other-Feeding

## Struggling Trees

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UnTeachable

Stunted Growth

Spiritual Consumers

<sup>4</sup> For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, <sup>6</sup> and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

When confronted with a passage that is hard to understand, build on what we do understand.

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Scripture Cannot
Contradict
Scripture

Salvation is solely dependent upon Jesus

God cannot lose any that are His

Jesus Plus Nothing

## Can I lose my salvation?

John 10:28-29

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

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Your behavior didn't get you in; Your behavior can't get you out.

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Your behavior didn't get you in; Your behavior can't get you out. If you could lose your salvation, then you already have.

<sup>4</sup> For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come...

Enlightened

Tasted the Heavenly Gift

Shared in the Holy Spirit

Tasted Goodness of Word

Tasted the Powers of the age to come

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Enlightened

Tasted the Heavenly Gift

Shared in the Holy Spirit

Tasted
Goodness of
Word

Tasted the Powers of the age to come

Fully participated with the church with their Eyes, Hands and Mouth

#### Minus Jesus

They were deeply involved in the Gospel Community, MINUS Jesus.

They didn't "lose their salvation" because they never had it in the first place.

Wolves in Sheep's Clothing

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They kept (or fell back into) their old Jewish ways, PLUS Jesus.

They didn't "lose their salvation" but are painfully living out of a self-reliant works-based faith.

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## Jesus Plus Nothing

#### How can I know that I'm saved?

#### Matthew 7:22-23

On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

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Believing that I have offended a perfect God and can't pay the debt myself

Believing that Jesus is God and fully paid my debt on the cross.

Repenting of my debt and accepting Jesus' payment as mine.

<sup>7</sup> For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. <sup>8</sup> But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned.

Thorns and Thistles

**Useful Crop** 

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#### Thorns and Thistles

The same "fruit" as Genesis 3

Psalm 51:16
For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

## **Useful Crop**

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Psalm 51:16
For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

## **Useful Crop**

Psalm 51:17
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Luke 22:60-62
But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed...<sup>62</sup> And he went out and wept bitterly.

John 21:7
That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea.

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Regret or Repentance?

Am I sorry for personally offending Jesus... or for getting caught? or for disappointing myself or others?

Healthy Tree

Struggling Tree

Diseased (fake?) Tree

Healthy Tree

Self-Feeding Other-Feeding Struggling Tree

Diseased (fake?) Tree

Healthy Tree

Self-Feeding Other-Feeding

Struggling Tree

Diseased (fake?) Tree

Luke 18:27

"What is impossible with man is possible with God."

Healthy Tree

Self-Feeding Other-Feeding

Struggling Tree

Diseased (fake?) Tree

Luke 18:27

"What is impossible with man is possible with God."

John 15:4

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

If you can still hear the HS warning, then it's not too late!

## **Prayer of Confession**

Psalm 51

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

<sup>2</sup> Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

## Prayer of Confession

<sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. <sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. <sup>5</sup> Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. <sup>6</sup> Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

## **Prayer of Confession**

<sup>7</sup> Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. <sup>10</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. <sup>11</sup> Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

## Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:8-13 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. <sup>9</sup> He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. <sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup> As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

## Benediction

#### Matthew 28

<sup>19</sup> 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,
 <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Please join us up front after worship if you'd like for us to pray with you