

# Welcome

We're glad you've joined us this morning! Feel free to check things out and determine whether we might be a good match for you. We're here to help at your invitation—you set the pace.

When you're ready for the next step, consider checking out one of the additional Sunday activities listed below. All are great ways to connect with others in our church family as you grow in your relationship with Jesus. Pick up a *Guide to Grace Church* for more details!

## Sundays



Our church family gathers for worship through Bible study and song at 9:00 or 10:30 AM.



Children, students, and adults meet at 9:00 or 10:30 for small group study and conversations.



Groups gather in homes on scheduled Sunday evenings to build relationships together.

# Information



Come for the food, stay for the clay shooting, dominoes, and more at Tom Stephens' ranch just southeast of town—\$15 covers it all. Sign up online or in the Main Hall this morning.



Join us (ages 12 and up) as we work together to provide refreshment and encouragement to the cyclists in our community. Sign up online or get more details in the Main Hall today!



We'll open the doors of the new chapel for an open house tour at 1:30 in the afternoon on Sunday, August 21. Our time will conclude with a brief dedication ceremony at 2:30 PM.



Our adult Jamaica team returned last weekend from their week of working together and building relationships in the Deaf Village. They share their story with us this morning.

# Grace Church

July 31, 2016



This morning, we are continuing our summer study of Jesus' parables. In this series, which runs through September 4, various members of our leadership team will teach selected passages highlighting the unique nature of these "teaching stories" told by the Savior. We're glad you're here!

## News and Family Matters

### Upcoming Changes in Student Ministry

As part of our ongoing commitment to student discipleship, and in recognition of changes in the grade structure of many local schools, some areas of our ministry to children and students will be reorganized for the fall semester. Our current Junior High program will expand to become a Middle School ministry encompassing grades 6–8, and our existing 5th–6th grade program will transition downward to meet the needs of 4th–5th grade students. These changes will take effect on Sunday, August 21 when students are officially promoted to the next grade. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Fernberg, Caleb Levell, or George Castro at the church office.

### Family Matters

Please pray for June Moller, Kris and Chuck Warman, and their families as they grieve the passing of June's husband Herb.

Please pray for Charma and Tom Rodgers and their family as they grieve the passing of her father Clegg.

## Grace Church

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## This Week

## Churchwide

## Worship Services

Sunday, 9:00–10:15 AM or 10:30–11:45 AM

## Bible Fellowships

Sunday, 9:00–10:15 AM or 10:30–11:45 AM

## Men

## Samson Society

Thursday, 7:00–8:30 PM in the Library

## College & Career

## Summer Late Night

Tuesday, 7:00–9:00 PM at the G.Y.M.

## Senior High

**Open G.Y.M.**

Monday, 6:00–8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.

## The ARC

Tuesday, 6:30–7:30 PM at Lamar Baptist Church

## Senior High Youth

Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.

## Junior High

## Open G.Y.M.

Monday, 6:00–8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.

## Junior High Youth

Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM

## 5th & 6th Grade

## Monday Funday

Monday, 6:00–8:00 PM in the Loft

## Boys' Grub and Games

Thursday, 3:30–5:30 PM at 3409 Stirling

## Girls' Popsicles and Pool Time

Thursday, 3:30–5:30 PM at 6 Sandpiper

# This Morning

### The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector—*Luke 18:9–14*

Reggie Coe, Family Pastor

- I. **The purpose for the parable:** Christ taught this parable as a rebuke to the self-righteous individuals who failed to realize that God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble—*Luke 18:9*.
- II. **The contrasting characters:** The two men who went up to the temple to pray could not have been any more different, with one being a Pharisee and the other being a tax collector—*Luke 18:10*.
- III. **The prayer of the Pharisee:** The Pharisee does not so much pray as uses prayer as an opportunity to tout his superiority over others, including the tax collector—*Luke 18:11–12*.
  - A. The focus of this prayer was not so much to God but a recounting to himself of his supposed superior character—*Luke 18:11a*.
  - B. Before the Lord, this man exalts himself above other men—*Luke 18:11b*.
    - He views himself above other people whom he sees as guilty of some of the worst sins.
    - He views himself as superior to the tax collector who is praying in close proximity.
  - C. He lists how his behavior goes above and beyond the requirements of the Mosaic law, making his case for his moral and spiritual superiority—*Luke 18:12*.
- IV. **The prayer of the tax collector:** The tax collector refuses to look heavenward and humbly confesses his sinfulness to the Lord, asking for His mercy—*Luke 18:13*.
  - A. The plea for mercy would have been in light of the Day Atonement sacrifice in which the Lord postponed Israel's judgment each year—*Luke 18:13a*.
  - B. The tax collector voices his sinful condition before the Lord and appeals to God's mercy, refusing to claim any right to His forgiveness—*Luke 18:13b*.
- V. **The point of the parable:** The humble tax collector went home right with God, whereas the self-righteous Pharisee did not because God responds to humility and is opposed to self-exaltation—*Luke 18:14*.

## Notes

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