# Welcome

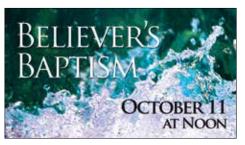
We're glad you've joined us this morning! Feel free to check things out and determine whether we might be a good match for you. We're here to help at your invitation — you set the pace.

If you'd like to explore other options after the service, or if you have questions, please pick up the *Guide to Grace Church* at any exit or speak with a member of our Welcome Team in the hall.

When you're ready for the next step, we'd encourage you to check out a Bible Fellowship (Sunday mornings) or join a Community Group (Sunday nights). Both are great ways to connect with others as you grow in your relationship with Jesus.

# **Notes**


# **Information**



If you would like to publicly profess your faith in Jesus Christ and be baptized, please contact the church office by October 5 to arrange a meeting with a member of our pastoral team.



If you'd like to learn more about Grace Church and our beliefs, as well as your own identity as a believer in Christ, sign up online or in the Main Hall. E-mail leah@gracechurch.com for details.



Guys, join us for a free hot breakfast (or choose a lighter option) as we hear from Reggie Coe and Dr. Barry Prestridge about their trip to India. Sign up online or in the Main Hall if you'll be there!



Join us next week for a study of *I'm Glad You Asked* by Ken Boa and Larry Moody. We'll discuss in-depth answers to difficult questions you may be asked about your faith. Sign up online.

# **Grace** Church

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**Grace Church Wichita Falls** 



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## Tom Rodgers

Lead Pastor

## Reggie Coe

Family Pastor

#### Blake Boyd Worship Leader

Brandon Carpenter
Senior Adults and
Christian Education Pastor

# **George Castro**Junior High Pastor

**Bill Daniel**Church Executive

## Alli Fernberg Women's Ministry

Director

## Josh Fernberg

Children's Pastor

## Caleb Levell

5th & 6th Grade Ministry Coordinator

## **Curtis Lindsey**

College and Young Adults Pastor

## Geoff Meador

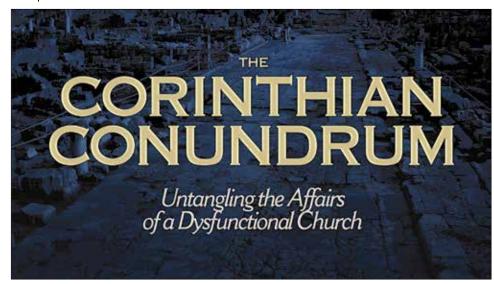
Communications Director

## Nolen Smith

Small Groups Director



September 27, 2015



This morning we continue our study of the book of 1 Corinthians, which began in January and resumed in September after a summer break. If you'd like to catch up on previous lessons, listen online any time at gracechurch.com/podcast

# **Updates and Family Matters**

#### Syrian Refugee Help

When we are exposed to international needs like the plight of Syrian refugees in Europe, it can be difficult to know how to respond or relieve the suffering we see in the news. Samaritan's Purse is an organization we have examined and trust to deliver resources to those in need. If you would like to donate financially toward refugee relief or learn more about the issues involved, please visit them online at SamaritansPurse.org.

#### Israel Trip: June 3-13, 2016

You are invited to join us for a tour of "the Holy Land" as we study and experience the region that helped shape the early church. The cost of \$4,075 includes airfare, ground travel, accommodations, and two meals per day. A payment plan is available after your initial deposit.

#### **Family Matters**

Please pray for the families of Manon and Neil McMullen as they grieve the passing of her father and Cheryll and Stephen Jones as they grieve the passing of his father.

## 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

#### **Small Groups**

#### **Community Group**

Sunday, 5:30–7:30 PM at various locations

#### Community Outreach

#### Fall Festival at Faith Refuge

Saturday, 10:00-2:00 AM

### **Adult Studies**

#### The Book of Matthew

Wednesday, 6:30–7:30 AM in the Dining Room

#### The Book of Acts

Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 PM in the Tejas Room

#### Ouest

Wednesday, 6:30–8:00 PM in the Conference Room

## Men

#### Men's Breakfast

Tuesday, 6:30–7:30 AM in the Gymnatorium

#### **Samson Society**

Thursday, 7:00–8:30 PM in the Library

### Women

#### Engage

Monday, 6:30-8:00 PM in Room 209

#### **Respectfully Yours**

Tuesday, 10:00–11:30 AM or 6:30–8:00 PM in Room 209

#### Breath

Tuesday, 10:00–11:30 AM or 6:30–8:00 PM in Room 208

#### **MOMs Book Study**

Thursday, 10:00-11:30 AM in Room 208

## College & Career

#### Late Night

Tuesday, 7:00-8:30 PM at the G.Y.M.

## Senior High

#### Senior High Youth

Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.

## **Junior High**

#### **Junior High Youth**

Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 PM at the G.Y.M.

#### 5th & 6th Grade

#### Breakaway

Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 PM in the Loft

## Children

#### **Kids Quest**

Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 PM in the Children's Area

### **Senior Adults**

#### **Tuesday Afternoon Study**

Tuesday, 1:00-2:00 PM in Room 111

# **This Morning**

**Lesson 23: The Necessity and Character of Love**—1 Corinthians 12:31b–13:7 Curtis Lindsey, College and Young Adults Pastor

The Corinthians were to live in a way which was beyond compare—they were to live with love—1 Corinthians 12:31b.

Love in context for Paul was exemplified in Christ's death for us—Romans 5:8.

ove in context for us:	I can live with love for	(person).
	I can live with love in	(ministry).
	I can live with love at	(setting).

- **I.** The necessity of love: love is the primary evidence of the Holy Spirit—1 Corinthians 13:1–3.
  - **A.** If we exercise spiritual worship without love, our words are empty—1 Corinthians 13:1.
  - **B.** If we acquire spiritual understanding without love, our efforts are worthless—

    1 Corinthians 13:2.
  - **C.** If we practice spiritual service without love, our sacrifice is wasted—1 Corinthians 13:3.
- **II.** The character of love: love is described in the highest possible way—1 Corinthians 13:4–7.
  - **A.** When we live with love, we trust God to be God.
  - **B.** When we live with love, we exemplify the character of Christ.
  - **C.** When we live with love, we allow the Spirit to work.


## Discuss

These questions are offered each week to facilitate further discussion of this morning's topic in small group settings such as Community Groups or over dinner with family and friends. We hope you find them helpful to your spiritual growth.

- In previous sermons we've looked at spiritual gifts, and taken inventory in our own lives of the things with which we are specifically gifted. But what about love? How would you assess the love that defines and motivates your actions? Do you feel well versed in the area of Christ-like love?
- 2. What does Christ-like love mean to you? What Scripture passage or story comes to mind when you think about the love of Christ, and how does that challenge you to love those around you?
- 3. How easy is it for you to simply go through the motions of worship and Scripture study without love? How can you see the results play out in your life when you do those things without love in your heart?
- 4. When might you have done an act of service out of obligation that would have been better done in love? How does love change the way you approach those activities?
- 5. In what areas of your life is God laying it on your heart to love better or more deeply? Are there people in your life that are difficult for you to love for any reason? What are the challenges to loving those people, and what would it look like to do so?