## 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**



Men, come build friendships and learn from guest speaker John Lynch during this weekend at Quartz Mountain Lodge in Oklahoma. \$175 covers your room and meals. Get details and sign up online or in the Main Hall today.



Join us for this four-week introduction to "grace living" and the work of Men's Summit speaker John Lynch. Beginning this Tuesday at 6:00 AM or 6:30 PM in the Loft.



Registration is now open for the 2016 adult Jamaica Deaf Village trip. Get details or sign up at the information table in the Main Hall or by contacting Leah Walker at 940-692-4251 or leah@gracechurch.com. July 16–23.



This summer camp for teenagers in Glorieta, NM is built on the idea of being set apart for Jesus. Activities include hiking, watersports, skits, Bible study, and worship. \$150 non-refundable deposit due at registration by March 30.

# **Grace** Church

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**Grace Church Wichita Falls** 



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## Tom Rodgers Lead Pastor

Rennie Coe

### 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

Senior High Pastor



February 28, 2016



This morning we're continuing our study of the book of 1 John. In this series, we'll learn how to fellowship with the Father and enjoy His free gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. We're glad you've joined us!

# **Updates and Family Matters**



## Spring Nights@Grace—Wednesday, March 9 at 6:00 PM

We hope you'll make plans to join us for this year's Spring Nights@Grace, a fun evening for our entire church family to get together and enjoy a meal. Please be sure to sign up if you're coming!

## Follow us on Instagram

You can now find pictures from the life of your church family in the Instagram app, available for most smartphones and tablets. Be sure to follow our primary account at **gracechurchwf**, along with other ministry-specific accounts that interest you such as **gracechurchcollege** or **gracechurchstudents** (with more on the way).

If you're not an Instagram user, be sure to check our website at **gracechurch.com** regularly—the new photos should begin appearing there in the next few weeks, as well!

## 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

#### GriefShare

Sunday, 9:00-10:15 AM in the Library

#### **Premarital Weekend**

Saturday, 1:00-5:00 PM in the Library

## **Small Groups**

## **Women's Community Group**

Sunday, 5:30-7:30 PM in the Loft

## **Adult Studies**

#### The Book of Matthew

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

### The Feast Days of Israel

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

#### What Did You Expect?

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

## Men

## A Primer on Living in Grace

Tuesday, 6:00–7:30 AM or 6:30–8:00 PM in the Loft

#### Samson Society

Thursday, 7:00–8:30 PM in the Library

#### **Friday Morning Study**

Friday, 6:30-7:30 AM in the Tejas Room

## Women

#### **Engage: Understanding Purpose**

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

#### The Armor of God

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

#### MOMs Study: Calm My Anxious Heart

Thursday, 10:00–11:30 AM in Room 208

## **Senior Adults**

#### **Tuesday Afternoon Study**

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

## 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**

### **Foundations Study**

Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 PM at 2921 Moffett

#### **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

# **This Morning**

**Lesson 8: Scrutinizing Agape-love**—1 John 3:10b–18

Tom Rodgers, Lead Pastor

#### A review of last week's lesson on 1 John 3:4-10a:

- Who I am as a child of God can only be expressed as I live out of my new heart and allow Him to express Himself through me.
- Sin will never be the result of abiding in Him.
- When God isn't the source: The absence of righteous living and love for those in the family
  of God is never sourced in God—1 John 3:10b.
- **II.** The reason why God isn't the source: God would be self-contradicting if He wouldn't enable us to do what He has expressly directed us to do—1 John 3:11.
- **III.** The proof of why God isn't the source: Cain's reaction to Abel's righteous life by taking his life demonstrates that God is never the source of our failure to live righteously and love the brethren—1 John 3:12.
- **IV.** The sequel to God's not being the source: The world system will hate the children of God, just as Cain hated his brother Abel—1 John 3:13.
- V. The positive implication to God being the source: Possessing an internal inclination to love those in the family of God is a manifestation that we are spiritually alive—1 John 3:13.
- **VI.** The negative implication to God being the source: A believer who hates or murders has not allowed his new heart to be at home in him, so as to direct his life—1 John 3:15.
- **VII. Understanding the nature of agape-love:** Love is giving ourselves to meet another's legitimate needs as modeled for us by Jesus Christ—1 John 3:16–18.
  - **A.** The measure of agape-love is the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ in dying for us—
  - **B.** His sacrificial love places on us the obligation to give ourselves for the well-being of one another—1 John 3:16b.
  - **C.** Agape-love is expressed by meeting another's legitimate needs, when we have the capacity to do so—1 John 3:17.
  - **D.** The true expression of love is not verbal, but the physical act of meeting legitimate needs—1 John 3:18.

## Discussion

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.

- 1. Why can't God ever be the reason or source of our failure to love another believer?
- 2. What universal truth arises out of the incident involving Cain and Abel in Genesis 4:1–8? What role do you think Satan played in that historical incident and in the universal truth that arises from it?
- 3. Why do we have a natural tendency to "marvel" at the world system's hatred toward us as children of God? What would you have to give up if you accepted this harsh reality?
- 4. According to this passage, what two primary factors are absolutely essential to be able to express agape-love for others?
- 5. What has to happen for a person who has "passed out of judgment into life" to hate another member of the family of God, even to the point of murdering him?
- 6. How does this passage describe agape-love? Is the source of agape-love the person doing the loving or the person being loved? Why is the answer to this question so important?
- 7. What normally passes as love in the secular world? What is the lowest expression of love among Christians? When have you seen true agape-love expressed in the Body of Christ? What impact did it make?