



I AM THE VINE,  
YOU ARE THE BRANCHES.

JOHN 15:5

Grace Baptist Church • 605 E. McCoy • Santa Maria, CA • 805-925-2671 • [www.gracesantamaria.org](http://www.gracesantamaria.org) • April 11, 2025

*We exist to ignite  
a passion in every  
person to glorify and  
enjoy God everywhere  
and in everything.*



**SUNDAY  
MORNING SERVICE**  
9:00am & 10:30am

"Let's Really, Really, Really,  
Really Love One Another  
(Since God Really, Really,  
Really, Really Loves Us)"  
1 John 4:7-12

<https://youtube.com/live/UIJqgzW0F3k>

Pastor Benji

## Glawspel Rules vs Gospel Freedom

Benji mentioned falling for glawspel (a gospel of law) rules in his Sunday Sermon. We love to cozy up to the law in gospel terms even though its grace that saves us. Paul battles this throughout his letters but particular in Galatians and it culminates in a brutally cutting argument in chapter 5 starting with this incredible statement:

*"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free!  
Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."* Galatians 5:1 (NIV)

Paul slashes and marks up bodies throughout the remaining two chapters of the letter. We cannot run back to law no matter how comfortable it may seem. The holiness we rightly desire comes from new creation (2 Cor 5), Spirit-filled transformation (Romans and Hebrews) and grace rather than rules, even the rules declared in the Law which is what select members of the early church were fighting over with Paul.

You are free in Christ and you are in Christ to enjoy freedom!

Paul is clear in Corinthians (and elsewhere) that we are not to abuse freedom but he never retracts from total freedom itself, even in the cautions not be licentious. The Roman 6 "slaves to righteousness" is the close he comes to approaching that line, yet even this he describes as foolishness because we are slaves no longer.

We ARE free and we are to live in freedom as we enjoy our relationship with God.

- Pastor James

**PALM SUNDAY**  
CELEBRATE THE KING

# Run with us!

Church Running Club  
Saturday, April 12 9:30am

OPEN TO ALL FITNESS LEVELS AND AGES  
EASY 1.5 MILE RUN  
MEET AT THE FOSTER ROAD BIKE PATH  
AT THE END OF FOXENWOOD LN



CONTACT BECCA WRIGHT FOR QUESTIONS: 805.868.8013

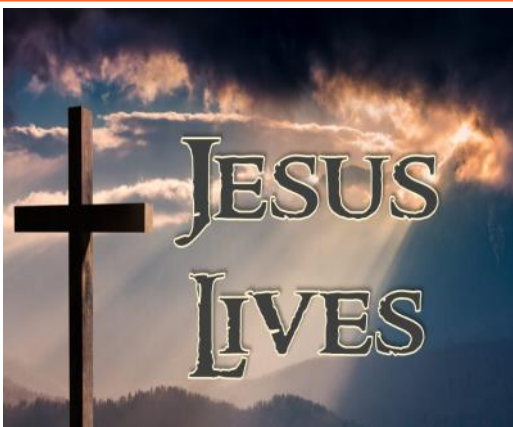
## Grace Youth Ministries

Upcoming events:

Wildwood - June 15-21

Navajo - July 18-26/27

Kickback - Aug 29 - Sep 1



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## Announcements

### MISSIONARY VISIT TO GRACE

Please come join us *next* Sunday **April 13th** at 10:30am in Grace Hall to meet and hear from our Global Worker **Kelley McCutchen** as she visits with us and shares about her work with The Navigators ministries.



### WOMEN'S RETREAT INFO!

Ladies who are registered for our retreat, stop by the Welcome Center and pick up an important information letter. Please make your *final* payment for retreat by **April 13th**. Thank you!

God really, really, really Loves You!

**Have You Checked Out Our Church App?** To load our church app, search for *Church by Ministry One* in the App Store, it's free. Search for Grace Baptist Church in Santa Maria, CA. You can sign-up for events, send a note to the church office, or give your offering. *The Bulletin and Newsletter* are available through our website at [www.gracesantamaria.org](http://www.gracesantamaria.org).



**Awana Clubs**  
Cubbies Sparks Tween Training  
**FAMILY FOOD FOLLIES**  
Beverage, salad, and 2 slices of pizza for only \$1.

**April 16th**

Meet in the Gym  
Dinner at 5:20pm,  
before AWANA

HE IS NOT HERE  
FOR HE HAS RISEN  
AS HE SAID

**NO GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

**Easter Sunday,  
April 20th**

**Worship Service  
9am & 10:30am  
NO EVENING SERVICE**

