

None Like Him

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?" "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?" For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:33-36

After expounding the great truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ in Romans 1-11, the Apostle Paul launches into a doxology at the end of chapter 11. It is almost as if he cannot contain himself any longer. Paul marvels at the God of mercy, grace, and salvation. There is no one greater or more worthy of praise than God, and the salvation He gives to ruined sinners displays His glory. Even though Paul gives us a thorough explanation of the gospel, his doxology reminds us how incomprehensible God is.

Praise the Lord for the depths of His riches, wisdom, and knowledge. We are unable to plumb the depths of these. Since they are so deep, reaching the end of them is impossible. There are no limits to their vastness. Out of the depth of His riches, God promises, "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). In realizing our need for wisdom, we find an abundance in the storehouses of God, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him" (James 1:5). When overcome by darkness, God gives us the best knowledge we could ever know, "For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6). The riches, wisdom, and knowledge of God are not abstract truths but are truths we have experienced as those saved by His grace. Yet, we have still only scratched the surface of understanding their greatness.

We praise God for His judgments and ways because they are unsearchable and inscrutable. It is humbling to admit we have limitations, especially when we do not know why certain things happen to us in life. Instead of giving up, God's unsearchable judgments make us rely on His power to persevere. "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength" (Isaiah 40:28-29). It comforts us to know His ways and thoughts are higher, better, and more glorious than ours (see Isaiah 55:6-9).

Paul impresses the truths of his doxology on our hearts by asking two questions. "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor? Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?" The answer to both these questions is no one. The Lord's mind is perfect and needs no help or direction, and His plan of salvation is evidence of His flawless wisdom. Everything is His because He created all things, so there is no gift we could give to repay Him for what He has done. He is incomparable, and we worship Him by singing, "Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?" (Exodus 15:11).

With this doxology, Paul invites us to slow down and take some time to contemplate God. He leads us in worship by helping us catch a glimpse of divine glory. These big and weighty truths do not make us abandon worship. They make us want more of God and are the basis of our worship. Superficial thoughts of God only lead to shallow praise. Let us desire to drink of the truth of God as He has revealed Himself to us in His Word and fix our minds on His greatness so we can exclaim with Paul, "To Him be glory forever. Amen."

In Christ, Pastor Tyler



Each month, the Book of the Month is available for our cost at the Welcome Desk in the narthex. There will only be one book highlighted per month. We hope having it readily available will help you. Cash or check to "Grace Bible Fellowship" accepted.

Men's Breakfast

Men, please make plans to join us for our next Men's
Breakfast on February 24 from 8 to 10 AM as we
conclude our study of the book Made For Friendship.
We will consider the final two chapters - A Biblical
Theology of Friendship (6) and The Great Friend (7) - as
we examine the theme of the Redemption of Friendship,
our relationship with God and with others that "halves
our sorrows and doubles our joy."

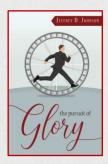
If you're in need of a book, please let Eric Bjerkaas know. Sign-up is in the narthex.

Women's Ministry

A new women's Bible study meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month from 4-5:30pm. There is still time to sign up in the narthex and purchase the book, *Behold* and *Believe*, by Courtney Doctor and Joanna Kimbrel. We will be going over part of chapter 1 on February 1st. Please see Amanda for details about the study if you missed the introduction.

Ladies will also be having a brunch at Rebekah Hays' home on February 17th from 9-11 AM. Sign-up and address cards are in the narthex by the entry doors. We ask that you *bring a brunch dish* to share and gather together with your Sisters for a time of food, fellowship, games, and devotion.

Book of the Month



The Pursuit of Glory by Jeffery D. Johnson - \$5.00

"You and I are looking for something. Though we may not know exactly what it is, we continue to search for it. What is it? It is glory." Explaining this pursuit as part of our human condition, the author considers the ways we try to fill that empty place in our hearts through happiness, purpose, freedom, companionship, truth, peace, holiness, and life. He shows us, from Scripture and personal experiences, why and how we will ultimately find satisfaction when our search leads us to the glory of God. Each chapter includes questions for further thought, making this an engaging and useful book both for individuals and groups.

February @ Grace

February 1, 15th

Women's Bible Study @ 4-5:30PM

February 5th

College Care Packages Due to Office

February 7, 14, 21, 28th

Bible Study @ 6:30-7:30 PM

February 17th

Women's Brunch @ Hays' Home 9-11AM

February 20th

Elder/Deacon Meeting @ 6:30 PM

February 24th

Men's Breakfast @ 8-10 AM

Worship Through Prayer ...

Specific Prayer Requests...

- Pray for John Lindenmeyer to find rest and refuge in the Lord while he suffers with pain.
- Pray for Don Faux as he seeks ongoing help and care for his headaches. Praise God he has had some relief a current injection.

*If you have a prayer request you would like added or one removed, please email the office, place your request in the prayer box at the Welcome Desk, or drop a note in Amanda's mailbox across from the offices.

Our Missionary Partners...

- Sillas & Wanger Campos, Brazil
- Karl & Glynn Peterson, South Africa
- Destin & Jennifer Detwiler, Sioux Outlook,
 Canada

Almighty God, and most merciful Father, we humbly submit ourselves, and fall down before your Majesty, asking you from the bottom of our hearts, that this seed of your Word now sown among us, may take such deep root, that neither the burning heat of persecution cause it to wither, nor the thorny cares of this life choke it. But that, as seed sown in good ground, it may bring forth thirty, sixty, or a hundredfold, as your heavenly wisdom has appointed. Amen.

Middelburg Liturgy

Annual Chili-Cook Off

Our annual chili cook-off will be Sunday, February 25th following the worship service. Sign-up is in the narthex for the meal and for those wishing to enter the contest. Some donated items are needed as well. Join your Brothers and Sisters for some fantastic chili, fellowship, and fun! Please see Christine Kleinau with any questions.



Elders/Deacons

Elder - Pastor Tyler Elder – Eric Bjerkaas Deacon – Jason Lafferty Deacon – Jeff Schenck

Ministry Volunteers

Pastor Tyler & Alyssa
Eric & Andi
Paul & Renée
Dennis & Lori
John & Mary
Dan & Christine
Matt & Rebekah
Jason & Amanda
Jeff & Jill

Aaron, Christian, Graeham Yessie, Valerie, Patty, Kris, Kailee Evangeline, Caleb, Lydia, Marcos, Ashley

Sunday School Teachers

Pastor Tyler Sultze: Adult Amanda Lafferty: 3rd – 8th grade Elder Eric Bjerkaas: Pre-K – 2nd grade

Wednesday Kid's Bible Study Teachers

Renée Kim & Kris Wallin

Women's Conference - TGCW24

Behold & Believe June 20-22, 2024 Indianapolis, IN

Ladies, check out this Gospel-centered conference happening this summer. Early registration is open now!

Amanda & Denice Lafferty have rented a 4 bedroom villa and there is room for 2 or 3 more ladies!

See Amanda or check out the link for more details!

TGCW24 Behold & Believe Conference



FEBRUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ 4:00 PM	2	3
4 SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9AM WORSHIP SERVICE: IOAM	5	6	7 BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 PM	8	9	10
11 SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9AM WORSHIP SERVICE: IOAM PRAYER SERVICE @ 5PM	12	13	BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 PM	WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ 4:00 PM	16	17 WOMEN'S BRUNCH 9-II AM @ HAYS' HOME
18 SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9AM WORSHIP SERVICE: IOAM	19	20 ELDER/DEACON MTG: 6:30 PM	21 BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 PM	22	23	24 MEN'S BREAKFAST 8-IO AM
25 SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9AM WORSHIP SERVICE: IOAM CHILI COOK-OFF: NOON	26	27	28 BIBLE STUDY: 630 PM	29		
WORSHIP SERVICE: IOAM			BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 PM			

March @ Grace

March 6, 13 – Bible Study @ 6:30pm March 7, 21st – Women's Bible Study @4pm

March 10th – Prayer Service @ 5pm

March 18th – Full Carpet Cleaning @ 8:30 am

March 20th – Voice of Martyrs Video @ 6:30pm

March 26th – Elder/Deacon Meeting @ 6:30 pm

March 29th - Good Friday Service @ 6:30 pm

March 31st - Easter Sunday - No Sunday School

Nappy Birthday

3rd - Robin Pearson

4th - Eva Bedgood

9th - Troy Bedgood Jr.

10th – Simeon Bjerkaas

10th - Denice Lafferty

11th - Dee Barrera

13th - Yessie Castro-Yanez

20th - Aaron Marshall

22nd - Beckett Sultze

25th - Andi Bjerkaas

26th - John Lindenmever

May the **peace** of God be with you On this special day.

May His gifts of *grace* surround you As you follow His way.

May His **blessing** rest upon you And His **wisdom** guide you, too, And always, in all places,

May He love and care for you.

Happy Birthday!!