



## *The Pastor's Corner*

### WHERE ARE THE ELIJAH'S OF GOD

BY LEONARD RAVENHILL

To the question, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" we answer, "Where He has always been-on the throne!" But where are the Elijah's of God? We know Elijah was "a man of like passions as we are," but alas! we are not men of like prayer as he was. One praying man stands as a majority with God! Today God is bypassing men - not because they are too ignorant, but because they are too self-sufficient. Brethren, our abilities are our handicaps, and our talents our stumbling blocks!

Out of obscurity, Elijah came on to the Old Testament stage, a full-grown man. Queen Jezebel, that daughter of hell, had routed the priests of God and replaced them with groves to false deities. Darkness covered the land and gross darkness the people, and they were drinking iniquity like water. Every day the land, fouled with heathen temples and idolatrous rites, saw smoke curling from a thousand cruel altars.

Elijah lived with God. He thought about the nation's sin like God; he grieved over sin like God; he spoke against sin like God. He was all passion in his prayers and passionate in his denunciation of evil in the land. He had no smooth preaching. Passion fired his preaching, and his words were on the hearts of men as molten metal on their flesh. Brethren, if we will do God's work in God's way, at God's time, with God's power, we shall have God's blessing and the devil's curses. When God opens the windows of heaven to bless us, the devil will open the doors of hell to blast us. God's smile means the devil's frown! Mere preachers may help anybody and hurt nobody; but prophets will stir everybody and madden somebody. The preacher may go with the crowd; the prophet goes against it. A man freed, fired, and filled with God will be branded unpatriotic because he speaks against his nation's sins; unkind because his tongue is a two-edged sword; unbalanced because the weight of preaching opinion is against him. Preachers make pulpits famous; prophets make pris-

ons famous. The preacher will be heralded; the prophet hounded.

Ah! brother preachers, we love the old saints, missionaries, martyrs, reformers: our Luthers, Bunyans, Wesleys, Asburys, etc. We will write their biographies, reverence their memories, frame their epitaphs, and build their monuments. **We will do anything except imitate them.** We cherish the last drop of their blood, but watch carefully the first drop of our own!

We try to help God out of difficulties. Remember how Abraham tried to do this, and to this day the earth is cursed with his folly because of Ishmael. On the other hand, Elijah made it as difficult as he could for the Lord. He wanted fire, but yet he soaked the sacrifice with water! God loves such holy boldness in our prayers. *"Ask of Me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession."* (Psalm 2:8)

Oh, my ministering brethren! Much of our praying is but giving God advice. Our praying is discolored with ambition, either for ourselves or for our denomination. Perish the thought! Our goal must be God alone. It is His honor that is defiled, His blessed Son who is ignored, His laws broken, His name profaned, His book forgotten, His house made a circus of social efforts.

Does God ever need more patience with His people than when they are "praying"? We tell Him what to do and then how to do it. We pass judgments and make appreciations in our prayers. In short, we do everything **except pray!** No Bible school can teach us this art. What Bible school has "prayer" on its curriculum? The most important thing a man can study is the prayer part of the book. But where is this taught? Let us strip off the last bandage and declare that many of our presidents and teachers do not pray, shed no tears, know no travail. **Can they teach what they do not know?**

The man who can get believers to praying would, under God, usher in the greatest revival that the world has ever known. There is no fault in God. He is able. God *"is able*



# GRACE POINTS THE WAY

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to do according to the power that worketh in us." God's problem today is not communism, nor yet Romanism, nor liberalism, nor modernism. God's problem is - dead fundamentalism!

**"So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spew you out of my mouth." - Rev. 3:16**

This generation of preachers is responsible for this generation of sinners. At the very doors of our churches are the masses - un-won because they are unreached, unreached because they are unloved. Thank God for all that is being done for missions overseas. Yet it is strangely true that we can get more "apparent" concern for people across the world than for our perishing neighbors across the street! With all our mass-evangelism, souls are won only in hundreds. Let an atom bomb come and they will fall by the millions into hell.

Sin today is both glamorized and popularized, thrown into the ear by radio, thrown into the eye by television, and splashed on popular magazine covers. Churchgoers, sermon-sick and teaching-tired, leave the meeting as they entered it - visionless and passionless! Oh God, give this perishing generation ten thousand John the Baptists! Just as Moses could not mistake the sight of the burning bush, so a nation could not mistake the sight of a burning man! God meets fire with fire. John the Baptist was a new man with a new message. As a man accused of murder hears the dread cry of the judge, "Guilty!" and pales at it, so the crowd heard John's cry, "Repent!" until it rang down the corridors of their minds, stirred memory, bowed the conscience and brought them terror-stricken to repentance and baptism! After Pentecost, the onslaught of Peter, fresh from his fiery baptism of the Spirit, shook the crowd until as one man they cried out: "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Imagine someone telling these sin-stricken men, "Just sign a card! Attend church regularly! Pay your tithes!" No! A thousand times no!

"Oh, my God! If in our cultivated unbelief and our theological twilight and our spiritual powerlessness, we have grieved and are continuing to grieve Thy Holy Spirit, then in mercy spew us out of Thy mouth! If Thou cannot do something with us and through us, then please God, do some-

thing without us! Bypass us, and take up a people who have not yet known Thee!"

## GPCC CHILDREN'S CHURCH UPCOMING EVENTS



Our summer lock in is Friday, **August 5th** at Camp Chandler. If you have any questions or would like to serve in Children's Church, please contact

Jennifer Boyd @ 430-1535 or Jason Lavigne @ 221-4390 or

[Jennifer@gracepoint.info](mailto:Jennifer@gracepoint.info) or [Jason@gracepoint.info](mailto:Jason@gracepoint.info)

**7Up Party:** On Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup> - All incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders will move up into the Youth Group on this day. Please be sure to join us for Youth Sunday School and plan to attend the pool party afterwards at Chet and Jessica Sanford's house.



**SOUL FIRE STUDENT MINISTRY MISSION:** *To know Christ and to make Christ known (Jer. 20:9). We do this by making a great commitment to the Great Commandment (Deut 6) and the Great.*

### **SOULFIRE STUDENT MINISTRY VISION FOR 2011**

Psalms 119:165 - "Great peace have they who love your law and nothing can make them stumble."

Our ministry theme verse is Jeremiah 20:7 which states, "...his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot." Our youth leaders are personally challenging every TEEN and PARENT to join with us as we read through the Bible in 2011 as a student.



# GRACE POINTS THE WAY

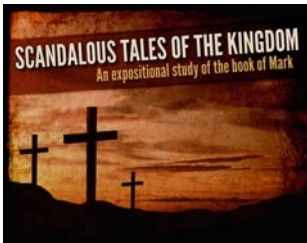
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## IGNITE YOUTH WORSHIP—THURSDAY NIGHTS

During the Summer Break Ignite Youth Begins at 6:00 p.m. If you're looking for genuine worship, intense study of God's Word, and authentic relationships, we have a seat saved for you on Thursdays from 6-8pm with some hang out time playing volleyball and other games. On three (3) special BRING A FRIEND nights, we'll also have dinner.

## IGNITE YOUTH WORSHIP—FALL SERIES

Fall Series: "SCANDALOUS TALES OF THE KINGDOM"



Everywhere Jesus went, He was a scandal. His family thought he was crazy. The religious leaders called him blasphemous and wanted to kill him. His own disciples even had trouble understanding Him. God becoming man to take on the sins of the world on a cross, an instrument of torture: that's SCANDALOUS! We're going to study verse by verse through the Book of Mark.

Over the next few months, the Youth are going to be busy!!! We have scheduled a Parent/Youth meeting on Sunday, August 7th following service to discuss the many upcoming events. Parents and Youth, PLEASE plan to attend.

GPCC Youth will host First Priority Praise on Sunday, September 18th. Our first practice to prepare for event will be Sunday, August 7th at 2:30. We will meet every Sunday (except August 14th: 7Up Party) through the 18th for practice. Please go ahead and mark your calendar, we will have a full practice on Saturday, September 17th which you must attend.

Another date we Youth Leaders ask you to put on your calendar is Wednesday, September 28th for SEE YOU AT THE POLE. This event is very near and dear to our hearts. We will not have Ignite Youth on the 29th, instead we will meet on Wednesday (28th) with all of the youth groups county wide at night for worship. Youth—be in prayer now for who God wants you to invite to this event.

## YOUTH EVENTS

- August 7—Parent Meeting
- August 7—FPP Practice at 2:30
- August 14—7Up Party
- September 17—Final FPP Practice
- September 18—First Priority Praise
- September 22—FCA Banquet
- September 28—See you at the Pole

### NURSERY GAB

Overheard in the GracePoint nursery



Never underestimate the wild hair, frazzled looks and rolled eyes of a nursery worker...they deserve it!

### What you won't hear in the GracePoint nursery



And Jesus took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me" (Mark 9:36-37)



## GET PLUGGED IN AND GENERAL CHURCH INFORMATION

### MISSIONS TRIP TO GUATEMALA

Last day for signing up for the Guatemala trip to Casa on the Rock ( <http://casaontherock.org/> ) is August 15. The trip will depart October 9 and we'll return 10/15. We'll be working there with the kids, in the compound, and doing a village block party. Please ask the Lord if He'd like you to go or to help sponsor someone else that wants to go but can't afford it. Total cost is not known yet but expect \$800-1100. We'd like everyone to be ready to buy the plane tickets on September 1. We may not purchase them then but we'll be ready to pounce if ticket prices drop. For questions, more info, or to sign up see Cuyler Murphy, call 334-850-2746 or write [murfalert@yahoo.com](mailto:murfalert@yahoo.com)

### COLLEGE AND TWENTY SOMETHINGS MINISTRY

COLLEGE AND TWENTY SOMETHINGS MINISTRY: We are starting a new area wide ministry with a couple local churches (Redland and Mountain View) for college aged students and singles in their twenty's. We'll meet at the Stultz's house on **Sun, Aug 7** and will meet at the Dees' home on **Sun, Aug. 14**. Mark your calendars for **Jan 2-5, 2012** for the Passion Conference in Atlanta and save money! This is a great opportunity to help start a new much needed ministry as we fellowship together, take mission/conference trips, study the Word, and connect to others with a kingdom mindset!

### SASSY SINGLES END OF SUMMER BASH

Sassy Singles next get-together will be on August 27th at Debbie Woodard's house. We are having an End of Summer Bash! Can't wait to see all you Sassy Single gals! Bring a friend with you! And bring your favorite cool summer salad! For more info: call 233-3553 or email me at [deborahswoodard@gmail.com](mailto:deborahswoodard@gmail.com).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

August 7—Senior Adult Appreciation Day

August 28—Men's Breakfast

October 2—Friend Day

November 4—Secret Church

### JULY PRAYER REQUESTS

#### Ongoing:

Chloe Whaley  
Amanda Ward  
Natalie Callins

#### Members:

Juanita, Phil, Olivia and Malachi Wellman  
Cuyler and Barb Murphy  
Lakin Mears  
Cathie Callins  
Terry White  
Tammy Cope  
Church With No Walls Ministry (Tim and Lisa Robison)  
Buddy Ward  
Stephanie Callins  
Ortiz Family

#### Family of Members:

Tim Wellman (Phil Wellman)  
Toni (Max and Evelyn Cain)  
Katie Justice (Wendy Garner)  
Carl Fletcher (Mike Ray)

#### Friends of Members

Dan Silvey (Donna Higgins)  
Eva Bishop (Keisha Ray)  
Steven Boston (Melanie Wallace)  
Megan Worden (Lisa White)  
Owen Bryant (Melissa Greathouse)  
Katelyn Do (Juanita Wellman)  
Mr. and Mrs. Higdon (Niki Treadaway)  
Panama City Christian Rehab and Mission (Mike Ray)

### NEW MEMBERS

Scott, Donna and Ella Grier  
Bill and Dawne Magee & Kami Grimes

### JULY BAPTISMS

Laura Maddox

**GRACEPOINT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

**Dive IN** Sunday School Class is led by Brandon Scroggins and Terry White. We meet in the Children's Church classroom. We are currently going verse by verse through the Book of James.

**New Feasts of the Lord Class** God's Appointed Times are like a doctor's appointment – God has made an appointment to meet with you at a specific date, time, and place. These appointments are found in Leviticus Chapter 23 and are referred to as The Feasts of the Lord or God's Appointed Times. There are seven feasts: Pass-over, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Pentecost, The Feast of Trumpets (Rosh HaShanah), The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), and The Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot).

The purpose of this study is to increase your faith and knowledge of the scriptures. We'll study the historical, messianic, and spiritual aspects of each feast, and we'll see how God is always on time for His appointments. In Luke 24: 44-45 Jesus says, *"This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."* This study shows you how Jesus does this - in the past and in the future.

The new Feasts of the Lord class will begin on August 14 and will be lead by Luke Garner. It will be held in the Journey classroom, across from the copier.

**The Gap** - The GAP Sunday School Class has morphed into a Ladies class and is facilitated by Debbie Woodard . We meet in the Kitchen (quite fitting wouldn't you say) each Sunday morning at 9:00 AM. We are currently studying the Gospel of John, and your study guide will be provided for you if you decide to join the class. Our class encourages open discussion as we take verse by verse from one of the books of the Bible written by the "disciple that Jesus loved".

**Koinonia** - A place where you can get to know other believers, who you will build quality relationships with so that we can spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Every week we take a new passage of scripture discuss it and encourage one another to be more like our savior - Jesus Christ.

**New Beginnings** Sunday School Class is led by Hud Abrams and Mark Lewis. We meet in the 2<sup>nd</sup> classroom on right. Our class offers a complete study of the Bible starting in Genesis and going through Revelation.

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."

**The Vine** Sunday School Class is led by Paul Thornton and Cuyler Murphy. We meet in upstairs behind the sound booth. We are currently studying the book 'Crazy Love' on . If you have been considering joining a Sunday school class, please come check us out!

**HELPING HANDS MINISTRY**

God's amazing grace calls us to respond with love for others within our church and our community. One of the **Helping Hands Team** purpose is to build connections by helping meet the needs of those who may need a meal or food in times of sickness, death, births, and any other special need. We need you to be our eyes and our ears and let us know if you know of someone. Please contact Bill & Cinda Walton @ 514-0294. If it is a member of our church they will contact the Sunday School teacher or leader of the small group so that they can follow up and take the necessary steps to provide to that person. If it is someone who is not in a small group or class then the Helping Hands Team will handle that need. Please don't assume we know about someone in need...We need you to help us...Once again please contact Bill & Cinda Walton @ 514-0294.





## GET PLUGGED IN AND GENERAL CHURCH INFORMATION

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

The GracePoint Men meet at 7:30 a.m. the last Sunday of each month for breakfast and fellowship. If you have not attended, and you are a man, please plan to join them **Sunday, August 28th**.

### CRAFTER'S BIZARRE AT GPCC.

Anyone interested in displaying and selling their crafts for a Christmas Sale in the fall, please see Cinda Walton to sign up. Also, if you are interested in serving on the Bizarre's Planning Committee, contact Cinda at 514-0294.

### GPCC FOOD PANTRY

The GPCC Food Pantry is open to any church member who needs assistance. Please continue to support this ministry by donating food and other dry-goods. A blue bin located in the back of the sanctuary for donations.

Bill and Cinda Walton operate the GPCC Food Pantry. If you need assistance, do not hesitate to call the Walton's at 514-0294.

### CHURCH CALENDAR and USE OF CHURCH FACILITIES

The Church Calendar can be found on our website, [www.gracepoint.info](http://www.gracepoint.info), on the home page click on Resources, in the pull down menu click on Calendar. Events for church wide activities, Children activities, Youth events, CR meetings, as well as fellowship groups are listed. Check out the calendar and see what is coming up. Additional contact information may be obtained by clicking on an event.

As our Church grows and more activities are available and scheduled we have instituted a way to schedule an event or fellowship so there will not be an overlap of events.

Request forms are available for individuals to complete and present to Adam for approval. Once Adam has approved use of the Church Facilities or for a Church related event and signed off on the request form, the request may be submitted to Nancy House for entry on the Church Calendar. To receive a request form contact Nancy at 201-7214 or [nchouse61@gmail.com](mailto:nchouse61@gmail.com).

## SECRET CHURCH

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and plan to be at GPCC on Friday, **November 4th from 6 p.m. to midnight...**Yes, I said 6:00 p.m. to midnight!!!! **WE WANT THE ENTIRE CHURCH BODY TO COME OUT FOR THE SECRET CHURCH SIMULCAST EVENT!!!!!!** David Platt, one of my former seminary professors and world renowned author of "Radical" has been hosting an event called Secret Church for years now. The event is hosted at his church in Birmingham and literally sells out within minutes, so they began simulcasting the event twice a year. Over 100,000 people from around the world attended at different host sites in April. Platt has a burning passion for world missions and praying for the persecuted church abroad in which he very dangerously has spoken to on many occasions. During the evening, we (people of all ages except young children) will intensely study God's word on behalf of the persecuted church, pray for them, and the sessions will be recorded, translated and illegally (in many cases) slipped to the underground churches around the world who will potentially give their lives for what we do every Sunday and Wednesday in worship. Adam and I challenge every single one of you...don't make excuses as to why you can't come that late or for that long...don't take your freedom for granted...don't waste an incredible opportunity...see ya at Secret Church at GPCC from 6pm to midnight...see Jessica Sanford for details and tickets. We'll be sharing more about this even in the coming weeks. See [secretchurch.org](http://secretchurch.org) for info and watch the promo video. (Eat before you come, light snacks will be offered during breaks).



# GRACE POINTS THE WAY

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## LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SERVE?

GPCC has several ministries which are in need of assistance.

**Church With No Walls**—This ministry feeds approximately 100 homeless people every Sunday after service. Needs: Prayer, people to offer to prepare food, people to help serve. See Tim and Lisa Robinson for more information.

**Celebrate Recovery**—Needs people to prepare food for the 'Serving Grace' fellowship portion of their meetings. See Cathie Callins if you want to help in this area. CR also needs Accountability Partners. If you would like to help in this area or would like more information, please see Gwin Greathouse.

**Nursery**—We always need help in the Nursery. If you would like to serve, please see Melissa Greathouse.

## GET ON THE CHURCH EMAIL

Prayer requests and ministry announcements are posted through our Church's email. If you are not yet receiving these emails, email Sherry Galbreath at [gpccinfo@gmail.com](mailto:gpccinfo@gmail.com) to be added to the list.

## HAVE AN IDEA FOR THE NEWLETTER?

Remember the Grace Points The Way newsletter is **YOUR** newsletter. If you have an idea for an article, would like to submit a special thank you, etc., please email it to Andrea Hodges ([aphodges@elmore.rr.com](mailto:aphodges@elmore.rr.com)) by the 25th of the month.

## CHURCH DVD DIRECTORY

The dvds are available at the sermon cd station by the coffee area. We ask you to only take 1 copy per family.

## MEMBER OWNED BUSINESSES

### Jennifer Boyd owns and operates **WEE ONE'S DAY CARE**.

Wee One's accepts children from 6-weeks up to school age. Hours of operation are from 7am - 6pm and is located at 80 Red Eagle Drive in Wetumpka. For more information, please contact Jennifer Boyd, 478-3838 or [weeones@elmore.rr.com](mailto:weeones@elmore.rr.com)

**Need to get in shape before summer??** Check out **RUMBLING WATER FITNESS CENTER** located in downtown Wetumpka. Rumbling Water is owned and operated by GPCC members **Jamie** and **Jenni Cole**. See Jamie or Jenni for more information or visit the gym at 223 Hill Street.

### IN THE POTTER'S HANDS CERAMICS

Looking for summer fun for the kids? Bring them by the shop for fun making and painting ceramics!

If you would like more information, please see **Cinda Walton** or contact her at 514-0294.

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