



## *The Pastor's Corner*

### WHAT DOES YOUR FAITH COST YOU?

When you look at the history of believers, their call to follow God cost them dearly. Christ was crucified on a cross, Peter was crucified upside down, John the Baptist was beheaded, Stephen was stoned to death, James, the son of Zebedee was executed with the sword, Phillip's head was bound to a column and was stoned, James, the son of Alphaeus, half brother of the Lord, was cast down from the temple, stoned, and beaten to death with a club. Barnabus was dragged out of the city and burned. Mark was dragged to the stake to be burned but died along the way.

Paul talked about how following Christ cost him in **2 Cor 11:24-28**

Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. <sup>25</sup>Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, <sup>26</sup>I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. <sup>27</sup>I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. <sup>28</sup>Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.

Look at the modern church – Does your faith cost you anything? People say they can't come to Sunday School because that is the only day they have to sleep in. People don't come on Wednesday nights because it means they would have to rush from work. People aren't willing to give their money to the work of the Lord because they foolishly think that is their money for them to do whatever they want with it. People say they have no time to read the Word but have plenty of time to watch the television, search the web, read books and text and any other pleasure trip they want to take. People aren't really witnessing because they have begun to believe all the excuses they and other so called believers are shouting out, like you have to be careful you don't offend people, when the real reason many are not willing to share their faith is they are unwilling to talk about Jesus if it may cost them the approval and acceptance of others.

When you look at today's churches you may find that many only want God if there is no price to pay. As long as serving Christ means I don't have to go out of my way or make my life uncomfortable then I will serve the Lord. Any service to God that doesn't cost you something is a service to yourself, that you may feel better about yourself. I wonder how much service churches say are going on in the name of the Lord are really only to make ourselves feel better?

## Weekly Worship Services

### Sunday

Sunday School

9:00 AM | Various

Worship Service

10:00 AM | Sanctuary

### Tuesday

Celebrate Recovery

6:15 PM | Various

### Wednesday

AWANA

6:15 PM | Children's Church

Bible Study

6:30 PM | Sanctuary

### Thursday

Ignite Youth

6:30 PM | Sanctuary



Why don't we evaluate our lives and determine whether or not we are actually paying a cost to follow the Lord. Whether or not we are willing to unashamedly and boldly serve the Lord no matter the cost. You say may ask, how much does it cost to follow the Lord? Jesus answered that question in Luke 9:23-26. Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. <sup>25</sup> What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? <sup>26</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels."

## GPCC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

GPCC is hosting a Leadership Conference on **Friday, February 24th** from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Full nursery and children supervision will be provided.

### **Who needs to attend:**

Anyone (including youth) who serves in any capacity: leadership team, nursery workers, Sunday school teachers, singers, instrument players, media folks, home fellowship groups, children's workers, youth workers, women's groups, men's groups, secretarial volunteer positions, security folks, maintenance folks, greeters, ushers, AWANA workers, cooks, if you set up chairs, if you clean, if you pass out bulletins, if you serve the homeless, if you are a witness for Jesus Christ, if you print bulletins, prayer lists, absentee sheets, if you cook meals for the sick, if you contribute to the newsletter, if you are a prayer warrior, if you have invited someone to come to church, if you have given any money to the work of the ministry then we need you to attend this conference!

See Andrea Hodges at the Welcome Center ASAP to sign your children up for child care.

## 2011 NEW MEMBERS

### January

Anzley and Lori Hughes  
Debbie Woodard  
Frank and Terry Schaller  
Rachel Gates  
Scott and Galerie Beckham  
Andrew and Stephanie Crawford

### February

Marty and Debra Krauel

### March

Steve and Amber Hudson

### APRIL

Kim and Tom Whittfield  
Lynn Mallows  
Andy and Betsey Patchel

### May

Josh and Katie Dennis  
Melanie Wallace and Alex Akers  
Colin Lewis

### July

Scott and Donna Grier  
Bill and Dawne Magee

### September

Thad and Wendy Henley  
Martin and Anita Silva  
Steve and Anita Patterson  
Taron Jordan

### October

Jessica Atchley  
Nancy Sprayberry Blair  
Yvonne Waites  
Amy Stephenson  
Jamie Thornton  
Greg Bryan  
Abby Bryan  
Samantha Bryan  
Kelvin Lewis

### November

Don, Chelsea and Dekkar Wagon  
Ramona Stewart  
Shawn, Becky and Ashley Secrest



## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

The Children's program is excited about the new curriculum (Generations of Grace) that we are using during Children's Church. From ages 3 to 6th grade, we will be going through the Bible every 3 years. That's right, if your child starts in our program at age 3 and stays in until 6th grade, he/she will have gone through the Bible 3 times! How awesome is that. Parents, you better keep up or our little scholars will know more about God's Word than you! We want you to know that you are not dropping your children off to a babysitter, we are worshipping God and studying His Word. "... they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true." Acts 17:11b

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

We want to encourage everyone to attend Bible Study on Wednesday evening. Brandon is teaching verse by verse through the book of Mark in a series called, "Scandalous Tales of the Kingdom."



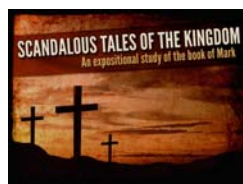
**SOUL FIRE STUDENT MINISTRY MISSION:** *To know Christ and to make Christ known (Jer. 20:9). We do this by making a great commitment to the Great Commandment (Deut 6) and the Great.*

## SOULFIRE STUDENT MINISTRY VISION FOR 2012

Our 2012 emphasis is on the **FAMILY**, which we are calling, **"ALL IN!"** With the attrition rate (approx. 8 in 10 teens graduate from high school and their faith at the same time), breakdown of the family, extreme busyness of families and disconnect between 'church' and 'home', we desire to connect to parents and help them disciple their students and families (Deut. 6:4-9). We desire to see the Biblical model and roles of the family (Eph. 5-6) lived out and to see students who do not have a Biblical family to change that with their generation. It is our soul's passion to see the **Gospel restored as central in families** (including single parent homes). **Christ's family (the church) and your family together should shine His glory!**

## 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.

January 12th we will have a **Night of Restoration** bonfire. Pete Stultz will give his testimony of how God restored his broken family past for the Gospel. Youth, please be in prayer about who God wants you to bring to this bonfire. This event will be behind GPCC from 5:45 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 21st is Junior and Senior night with the Youth Leaders. We will leave GracePoint at 4:00 p.m. and return at 9:00 p.m. Bring a lawn chair.



**February 17 & 18**, we will have an area-wide retreat/service weekend with a total of 15 churches from around Elmore County. GPCC students will stay in host homes from our congregation with only GPCC students on Friday and Sat nights. We'll have joint services with the other churches on Fri/Sat nights. Then, we'll team up with Redland and Mountain View for local mission work on Saturday. Parents and any adults please see Brandon as we need a lot of leaders and helpers. See Mrs. Kristy to pay (\$40 each, \$30 for additional siblings) and turn in a notarized permission slip for 2012 for you and any friends you bring no later than Wed, Feb 1 (you can sign up later, but will not be guaranteed a shirt and Bible study book).

**Parents of Youth!** GPCC is hosting a Leadership Conference (more information can be found in this newsletter) on **Friday, February 24th** at 6:30 p.m. The Youth Leaders will be encouraging your teens to attend as we want our Youth to become 'active members' of the Church as a whole (not just at youth events). Parents, please plan to attend this conference and bring your teen with you.

## YOUTH T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER

The youth would like to thank you for purchasing a t-shirt from our fundraiser. The money raised will be used for youth ministry and missions.

Thanks to each of you, we sold 137 t-shirts.

**We appreciate your investment in the next generation!**

## UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

January 8th –Money due for Girl's Retreat

January 12th—Night of Restoration Bonfire

January 21st—Jr. and Sr. Night Bonfire

January 22nd—First Priority Praise at Mt. Hebron

February 10-11—Men's Conference/Women's Retreat

February 17-18—Area Wide Discipleship NOW Retreat

February 24th—GPCC Leadership Conference

## CHURCH WITH NO WALLS MINISTRY

Christmas Day was an exceptionally awesome day at Overlook. We had a traditional Christmas dinner with turkey, ham, and all the trimmings. Lots of desserts, fellowship and RAIN. Even the rain did not dampen the spirits of many people who were there today. There was more food than people, but that is a good thing. There were gift boxes for everyone, with special treats for each of our friends. To stand in ...the rain while serving God's children, shows some awesome dedication of some Godly people. Thank you ALL for taking time out of your Christmas day to make it even more special for those who might not have had one otherwise. This has to be one of the best birthday parties ever!! Thank you all who donated, came, served, and just wanted to love like Jesus!



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

The GracePoint Men will meet on Sunday, **January 29th** at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and fellowship. If you are a man, you need to attend!!!

### COLLEGE AND TWENTY SOMETHINGS MINISTRY

Be sure to join our Facebook group "GPCC Young Adults," and see Brandon to get on the group text list for details and events. Also, if you haven't already, mark your calendars for **Jan 2-5, 2012** for the Passion Conference in Atlanta and save money!

### MARRIAGE MISSIONS

[WWW.MARRIAGEMISSIONS.COM](http://WWW.MARRIAGEMISSIONS.COM) is a Christian based website for married couples. On this site, you will find topics ranging from Marriage and Finance, Romantic Ideas, Military Marriage, Children's Effects on Marriage, etc. You can sign up and on Monday they send an article with scripture and things. It's written by a husband and wife team and is a great resource.

**Feb 10-11: Men's Conference** – Join us for the annual Men's Conference as all of our men go to First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Ga. As we agreed last year, all Gracepoint men are responsible for seeing Ray Scroggins to purchase tickets and a hotel room and filling their hotel room with coworkers, friends, and neighbors who need to go. Make plans to join us, see Ray ASAP...tickets will go fast!

### 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 [gpcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:gpcinfo@gmail.com) to be added to the list.

## DECEMBER PRAYER REQUESTS

### Ongoing:

Chloe Whaley  
Amanda Ward  
Jean Higdon (Niki Treadaway)  
Tim Wellman  
Jacob Johnson (Cathie Callins)  
Sybil Redmon

### Members:

Vernon Callins and Family  
Allie White (Terry and Lisa)  
Tonya Caudle  
Randelle Luster and Family

### Family of Members:

Katina Harris (Brad and Tammy Cope)  
Dave and Iris Slagle (Cinda Walton)  
Dakota Miranda (Sue Stanfield)  
Chris Swaney (Michelle Swaney)  
Kim Bryant (Laura Bryant)

### Friends of Members:

Montressa Spivey (Lisa White)  
Angee Ellis (Linda Miller)  
Clayton Ladd (Andrea Hodges)  
Lydia (Niki Treadaway)  
Karlie (Rhonda Thrower)  
Austin's Family (Sue Stanfield)  
Charlie Butler (Crystal Rucker)  
Caleb Blackburn (Sybil Redmon)  
Mary Ella Cordell (Meme Ratliff)

**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: Passover, 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 began on August 14 and will be lead by Luke Garner. It will be held in the Journey classroom, across from the copier.

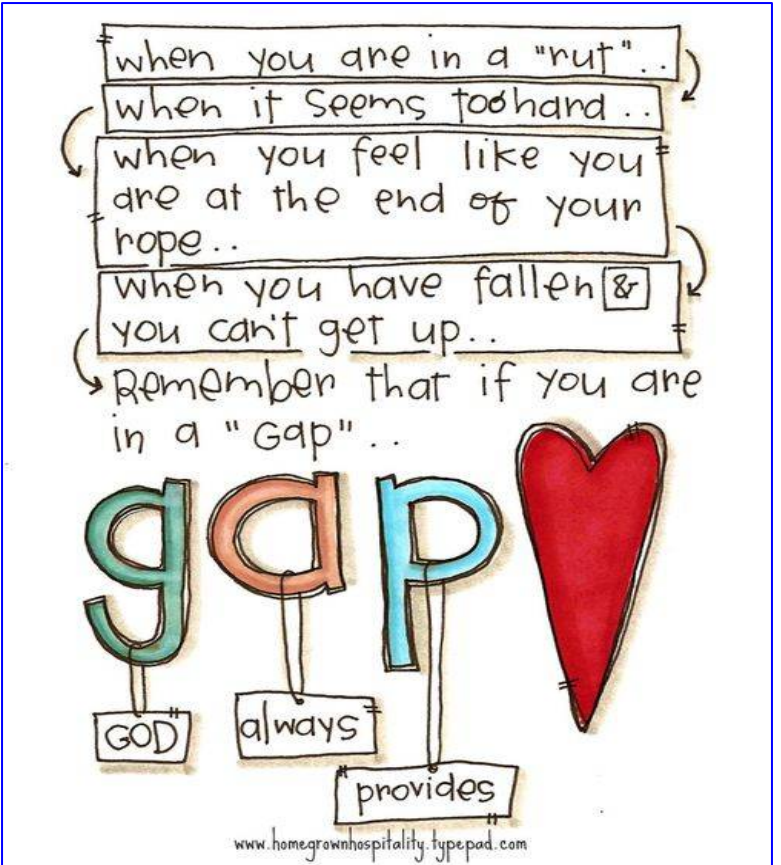
**Koinonia** - A place where you can get to know other believers, who you will build quality relationships with so that we can spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Every week we take a new passage of scripture, discuss it, and encourage one another to be more like our savior - Jesus Christ.

**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. We are currently reading through the Book of Psalms.

"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 upstairs behind the sound booth. We are currently studying the book Radical. If you have been considering joining a Sunday school class, please come check us out!

**The GAP** Sunday School Class is the only **all Ladies class** at GPC and is facilitated by Debbie Woodard. We meet in the Kitchen 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. We are not quite half through the Gospel of John, so it is not too late to join in this 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." You are welcome to join our class at any time. We are a small group at present, and if you are looking for a class that will help you understand God's word and how to apply it to your everyday life, this is it! For more information about the class, you can call Debbie Woodard at 233-3553 or email her at [deborahswoodard@gmail.com](mailto:deborahswoodard@gmail.com).



when you are in a "rut" ..  
 when it seems too hard ..  
 when you feel like you are at the end of your hope ..  
 when you have fallen & you can't get up ..  
 Remember that if you are in a "gap" ..

gap

GOD always provides

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## TOUCHING YOUR TOES—NEW YEAR'S EDITION

### WHAT SORT OF NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION SHOULD A CHRISTIAN MAKE?

The practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3,000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is just something about the start of a new year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. In reality, there is no difference between December 31 and January 1. Nothing mystical occurs at midnight on December 31. The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of New Year's resolutions. However, if a Christian determines to make a New Year's resolution, what kind of resolution should he or she make?

Common New Year's resolutions are commitments to quit smoking, to stop drinking, to manage money more wisely, and to spend more time with family. By far, the most common New Year's resolution is to lose weight, in conjunction with exercising more and eating more healthily. These are all good goals to set. However, [1 Timothy 4:8](#) instructs us to keep exercise in perspective: "For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." The vast majority of New Year's resolutions, even among Christians, are in relation to physical things. This should not be.

Many Christians make New Year's resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, and to attend church more regularly. These are fantastic goals. However, these New Year's resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual resolutions, because there is no power in a New Year's resolution. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

[Philippians 4:13](#) tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." [John 15:5](#) declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success, depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it. If a resolution is not God honoring and/or is not in agreement in God's Word, we will not receive God's help in fulfilling the resolution.

So, what sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make? Here are some suggestions: (1) pray to the Lord for wisdom ([James 1:5](#)) in regards to what resolutions, if any, He would have you make; (2) pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God gives you; (3) rely on God's strength to help you; (4) find an accountability partner who will help you and encourage you; (5) don't become discouraged with occasional failures; instead, allow them to motivate you further; (6) don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory. [Psalm 37:5-6](#) says, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."

**LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SERVE?**

**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.

**Children’s Ministry**— We are in need of help on both Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings. Please see Jennifer Boyd or Jason Lavigne if you would like to serve in our kid’s ministry.

**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 6:30 am – 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

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Vernon Callins **334-224-1441**  
Licensed & Insured **334-514-6717**

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.

**GUITAR LESSONS??**

If you are interested in learning to play the guitar, contact **Luke Rackliffe** to start your lessons!!!

334-315-6241

[Lrack89@yahoo.com](mailto:Lrack89@yahoo.com)



**ADAMS MOTORSPORTS** (Terry and Lynn Adams), we sell motorcycles, jet skis, scooters, ATV (four wheelers), utility vehicles (Kawasaki Mules and Rangers), and generators. We sell fun for the whole family so you can **get out and enjoy God’s creation!** Come see us at 528 N Eastern Bypass, Montgomery, Al 36117, call us at 334-271-5500 or check us out on the web [www.adamsmotorsports.com](http://www.adamsmotorsports.com).

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**Jeff March** owns and operates **BREEZE HEATING AND AIR** in Alex City; serving in Tallapoosa, Elmore, Montgomery and surrounding counties. Breeze Heating and Air offers free estimates and 24-hour service. If you need a new system, repair to your old system or you’re considering installing an energy-efficient, geo-thermal system, please call Jeff at 256-452-4809 for all of your heating and cooling needs.