

Grace Fellowship Baptist Church

The Church
With a Heart 

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Devotional Thought From the Pastor...

Keep Going by Faith

Hebrews 12:1, "Let us run with perseverance."

To become a lawyer in California, Maxcy Filer had to pass the state's grueling, three-day bar exam. So he took it not once, not twice, but forty-eight times before passing the tough test. His goal? To advocate for the underprivileged in Compton, his beloved city. Between his first and last attempts at passing the exam—across twenty-five years—Filer and his wife raised seven children, all who went to college. When Filer was sworn in, the judge said, "Three words about Maxcy Filer: perseverance, perseverance, perseverance."

His story prompts me to think of people in the Bible who persevered. The writer of Hebrews recognized some: Noah, who "by his faith . . . became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith" (11:7). Or Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (vv. 8-21), Moses (vv. 23-28), and others. Such examples inspire us.

The writer then exhorts believers in Christ: "Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles" (12:1). We then read, "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (v. 1). How will we do this? By "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith" (v. 2). As we consider Christ's sacrifice for us, we "will not grow weary and lose heart" (v. 3).

Challenges to our faith give us opportunity to endure in His name. In His power, we persevere.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

May 3—9, 2026

Sunday School	9:45 am
Worship	11:00 am
Church Council	12:15 pm
Int. Harvest Church	1:30 pm
Praise Team	4:30 pm
Evangelism	6:30 pm

Mid-Week

FB/YouTube Bible Study

Wednesday

Bible Study	6:00 pm
Praise Team	7:00 pm

Thursday

National Day of Prayer 

Worship Service

TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

TIME TO GATHER

I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymn 2

SCRIPTURE: Joel 3:16

Special Music

Bro. Bill

TIME OF GIVING

Stewardship Thought
Offering*

This Is Your House

TIME IN GOD'S WORD

**Message: The Eschatological Day
of the Lord**

Joel 2:28-3:21

Bro. Oscar

CLOSING PRAYER

*Please place offerings in the wooden box in back of the church.

Stewardship Thought...

Leviticus 7:1,11—"These are the guilt regulations for the offerings, which are most holy. These are the regulations for the fellowship offerings a person may present to the Lord."

The Hebrew's worship of God was prompted by commitment. Commitment resulted in guilt offerings and fellowship offerings. For Christians, Christ has made a once-and-for-all-time sacrifice for our sin.

Contact Us At:

3801 McCart Ave
Fort Worth, TX 76110

Office: 817.924.2415

Bro. Oscar: 817-791-0311

— www.gfbc-fw.org —

Email: gfbc-fw@sbcglobal.net

May Birthdays

Annie Hayes	5/10
Zara Leonard	5/23
Oscar Pruitt	5/22
Frank Rike	5/19

Ministry Gifts

Offerings for Budget	\$1,034.00
Designated Offerings	\$ 894.50
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$1,928.50
10% Taken out for Missions	\$ 103.40
Needed This Week for Budget	\$ 903.30

Announcements...!

•**Mid-Week Bible Study**—EVERYONE is invited to join Bro. Frank for mid-week Bible study on YouTube any time and at the church on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. This week, the study will begin in 1 Thessalonians 3.

•**Ladies Brunch**—Ladies, would you like to meet for brunch one Saturday morning (date to be determined). Belenty's Love has the best vegan Mexican food in Fort Worth! If you are interested, let us know by signing the clip board on the back table.

•**Upcoming Important Dates:**

Mother's Day - May 10th!

VBS Power Session - May 17th

Graduation Reception - May 24th

VBS Safety Meeting - June 14th

Father's Day - June 21st

VBS—see below

250 Birthday of U.S.A.— July 4th

Our U.S.A. Celebration—July 5th

•**VBS—Coming this Summer**

Theme: Rainforest Falls

Dates: June 22-26

Times: 6:30-8:30

We still need helpers—take a look at the sign-up sheets to find out what spots are open.

* VBS Family Day - June 27th

•**Toiletry Items for the Homeless**—Since the homeless are always in need, please continue to collect travel-size toiletry items,

and bring them to Becky at the church.

•**Donations Toward Our Church and Various Ministries**—Please consider donating toward some of our ministry needs such as Sharing the Load, VBS, 2nd Floor A/C fund, Together We Build, Children/Preschool fund, Youth fund, Benevolent Ministries, Music Ministry, North American and International missionaries, J & T, Texans on Mission, and Samaritan's Purse. And please remember our CHURCH BUDGET, WHICH IS OUR MOST CRUCIAL NEED.

—When you place your donations in the offering envelope, remember to put your regular tithe on the short line after the words, "Budget Offering." Then write the name of each ministry/organization on a "Special Offering" line (the amount goes on the right). Place all donations in the offering box in back of the church. Or—you may send your donations through the mail or Zelle. The church's Zelle address is gfbcfw@sbcglobe.com.

•**Church Website**—If you have internet you can go to our website—<https://www.gfbcfw.org>—to find lots of information such as sermon notes, pastor's weekly YouTube messages, Bro. Frank's YouTube Bible studies, giving opportunities, the ability to leave prayer requests and more.

•**Instagram**—Also, please remember to follow our church on Instagram at @gfbcfw where you can receive inspiration and information!

•**Budget Needs**—Please, prayerfully consider your part in support of our church missions, ministries, utilities, and upkeep. This week we need to pay our dumpster and water bills. How can you help? Please pray, trust God and be faithful. God bless you!



Breaking News:

Disaster relief teams are deployed to serve in North Texas following severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. TXM has sent chainsaws, box and shower/laundry teams to the areas where these thunderstorms and tornadoes have left severe damage.

Wherever a hurricane, tornado or other disaster strikes, as they have in North Texas, our natural instinct is to reach out and help those who have been affected. Whether it's serving meals, cutting down limbs or cleaning out a home, helping after a disaster starts here.

TXM mobilizes Christ followers to live on mission with Christ by meeting crucial needs wherever we can after a disaster. TXM provides clean drinking water for people around the globe, undertake construction projects and share God's love to hurting people in Texas, across the United States and around the globe.

Please pray for those who have been affected and for those who will be meeting needs. Also, please consider donating to Texans on Mission's efforts to help.



Last Sunday ended our AAEO Push! Our church gave \$1,280!

Wow God!

You've done this through us!

Gifts are accepted online or mail all year. **100%** of our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering gifts support thousands of missionaries in church planting and compassion ministry. The North American Mission Board-NAMB actually accepts funds all year.

www.anniearmstrong.com

North American Mission Board
P.O. Box 116543

Today's Scripture

Joel 3:16—"The Lord will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the heavens will tremble. But the Lord will be a refuge for His people, a stronghold for the people of Israel."

The Eschatological Day of the Lord

Joel 2:28-3:21

Before the Day of the Lord

- Before the day of the Lord, the Spirit will be poured out.
- Many Old Testament prophecies are interpreted to us by the New Testament.
- Peter interpreted what happened on the Day of Pentecost as the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy.
- A distinguishing mark of a person being filled with the Holy Spirit is witnessing to the work of Jesus Christ.
- Before the day of the Lord, the Spirit will be poured out on all those who become believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

On the Day of the Lord

- On the day of the Lord, judgment will be poured out on unbelievers.
- God's judgment on unbelievers will

take place in the Valley of Jehoshaphat.

- God issues a summons to all the unbelieving nations of people to come for judgment.
- On the day of the Lord, there will be no second chance for unbelievers to turn to Jesus in faith and repentance.

After the Day of the Lord

- After the day of the Lord, four blessings will be poured out on believers in Jesus Christ.
 - ⇒ God will inaugurate a new heaven and a new earth.
 - ⇒ The land will be restored to what it was like in the Garden of Eden.
 - ⇒ God will put inhabitants in the holy city and restored land who shall live there forever.
 - ⇒ God Himself will live in the midst of His saved people.
- After the day of the Lord, there will be eternal peace and harmony, with



no more sin and suffering for the people of God.

Conclusion

- We must live our lives in light of the ultimate day of the Lord.
- Judgement begins with the house of God, starting now in this life.
- Once the Spirit has been poured out, the way is clear for the arrival of the final Day of Judgement.
- On the day of the Lord, the wicked will be utterly destroyed, and the righteous will stand vindicated forever in God's presence.



Remember in Prayer . . .



†Each week, please read through and update our prayer requests. Let us know if we need to keep praying for something or if the prayer has been answered.

†**Please pray for strength and total healing** for Kylie from cancer; for health issues for Bill and Alice; for continued healing for Tony from cancer & broken ribs; for 5-yr-old Lexus for kidney and other complications; for Lori who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer; healing for Victor from cancer and for Liz's many issues; for Mark H. from cancer; for Lisa's upcoming surgery and healing and for her husband to find a new job; healing for Tonya from traumatic brain injury and surgery; Laura Thompson's vision loss; Frank's hip and back to heal; for Carmon from her illnesses and hip repair; for Gwen from pancreatic cancer and for Dale as he cares for her; for Cliff and Stacey's poor health, and for Sharon as she cares for them; for Kevin to heal from



pancreatitis; healing for Herbert, Barbara and Kitty; healing for a growth on Ashlyn's brain; for Paige and Kristie's health issues; healing for Virgie and Rose E; for Oscar A, Robert and Annie, Nora and Doyle; for John's head and memory; for Laura's vision and memory issues; and for Susen's eyes, stomach and feet.

†**Miscellaneous praises and prayer needs**—Please pray for comfort for JerriAnn in the loss of her husband, Carlos; for an unspoken request for Becky; praises and prayers for Paige, Jacob and Stetson; for Genacie and her little family; for an unspoken need for Nick; for an unspoken prayer for Donna; for an unspoken need for Tiffany; for an unspoken need for Richard; for Jim and his need; for family challenges for Daisy; for Paige and

Brian, Carla and Tony as they continue to care for Dakota's type 1 diabetes; for Jourdeah's best interest in her family and for unity in the Maroney family; for Chris and his little girl, Amiyah, and for their unspoken needs; for Genna, Nick and RJ's needs; and for Shannon and Allison's relationship.

†**Pray for the Children**— Please pray for the children and youth in our church and for those who will come to our VBS; and for teachers and staff who are leading them in all areas of their lives.

†**Pray for our church**— pray for our pastors and their families; for REVIVAL among our members; for a preschool teacher to come forward; and for a miracle involving the demolition of the south building.

Prayer Works!

Prayer Requests & Announcements
You may email new prayer needs, announcements, edits and deletions to gfbf-fw@sbcglobal.net or enter them on the website by Tuesday at noon, 12:00 pm. You may also text your prayer requests to 817-937-5974.

Remember in Prayer . . .



†International Harvest Church and Ministries—

Please continue to pray for the International Harvest Church and Ministries as they worship and praise God in the GFBC facilities. Pray for the missionaries they are supporting in Myanmar.

†Pray for wisdom, peace and protection in our nation—

for state and North American missionaries; for Texans on Mission and Samaritan's Purse and their works; for first responders and those who have suffered loss from various disasters; for homeless, refugees and those suffering from hunger in our nation; for churches that are struggling; for wisdom for our political leaders, including our president, VP,

governors, senators and congressmen. Especially be in prayer for our president to make wise decisions when it comes to other nations; pray for our nation during the mid-term elections and for wisdom for us



this fall in choosing the right leaders.

†Pray for Peace Among the Nations—

for Samaritan's Purse as they minister to hurting people around the world; for our International missionaries; for J and T as they

are ministering in different areas during their furlough; for a peace agreement in Israel and the Middle East; for the situation in Ukraine to be resolved; for Burmese Christians in Myanmar; and for other Christians, missionaries and refugees who are suffering from persecution in the Middle East, Taiwan, N. Korea, India, Africa, Viet Nam, China, Russia, Turkey, etc.

"The Bible is the book of my life. It's the book I live with, the book I live by, the book I want to die by."
— N. T. Wright

"Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years." --Charles Spurgeon

Please Pray for VBS

Jesus, we pray that through VBS, kids in our community will grow in their relationship with you. We ask that you begin to break down any walls that might be preventing their young hearts from receiving your love. We ask that the truth of who you are sink deep into their hearts. Let them leave knowing who you are and the overwhelming, joyful love you have for each and every one of them. May the impact of VBS last a lifetime.

