

Grace Fellowship Baptist Church

Sunday, August 16, 2026

The Church
With a Heart

Devotional Thought From the Pastor...

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

August 16—22, 2026

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

Mid-Week

FB/YouTube Bible Study

Wednesday

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

Worship Service

TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

TIME TO GATHER

Opening Hymn: Great and Mighty

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
Hymn 333

SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 4:12

Where the Spirit of the Lord Is

TIME OF GIVING

Stewardship Thought & Offering
Trusting Jesus Hymn 417

TIME IN GOD'S WORD

Message: Ruin Zephaniah :1-3
Bro. Oscar

Closing Prayer

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

August Birthdays

Austin Gonzales	8/31
Robert Hayes	8/11
Noelia Mendoza	8/23
Laura Michelle	8/02
Oscar Pruitt	8/16
Susen Pruitt	8/27

Ministry Gifts

Offerings for Budget	\$ 845.00
Designated Offerings	\$ 29.36
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$ 874.36
10% Taken out for Missions	\$ 84.50
Needed This Week for Budget	\$ 608.25

God's Drastic Love

John 3:16, "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son."

Daniel was born into a Romanian orphanage. For seven years, he only left his crib to go to the bathroom. When he turned eight, a family from another country adopted him. They knew about attachment disorders—that Daniel could have difficulty attaching to them as his parents. Slowly, Daniel started to trust them. Over time, though, he began to rage to the point his parents hired a bodyguard to protect them from Daniel's outbursts. They decided on a controversial therapy: For the next five years they were never away from Daniel even if he had a meltdown. On his thirteenth birthday Daniel broke down and, for the first time, told his parents he loved them very much. His mother summarized the experience: "Creating love is not for the soft and sentimental. Love is a battlefield."

We're all born knowing that something or someone is missing. Like Daniel, we have an attachment disorder. But God "so loved the world" so much that he took drastic action—"he gave his one and only Son" (John 3:16), meeting us on earth's battlefield in what we call the *Incarnation*. "Light has come into the world" (v. 19).

God took drastic measures to demonstrate His great love for the world. For you. His strong, determined Father-heart beats to hear from us the words Daniel's parents finally heard: "I love you very much."

Stewardship Thought...

2 Peter 3:18—"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

The New Testament supports growth in Christlikeness. All Christians are to grow in all areas of life. Growth in the grace and knowledge of Christ will have visible expressions. For many Christians, growth in giving is one tangible evidence of spiritual growth.

Contact Us At:

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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 Ezra 4.

★**Coming Soon: the Mary Hill Davis Mission Offering for Texas Missions**—September is the month we set aside to study about and give to state mission needs. The Week of Prayer is September 13-20th, but the emphasis will continue throughout the month of September.

•**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, 2nd Floor A/C fund, VBS, Together We Build, Youth fund, Children/Preschool fund, Music Ministry, J & T, Texans on Mission, North American and International missionaries, and Sa-

maritan's Purse, and Benevolent Ministries. 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@sbcglobal.net.

•**Church Website**—If you have internet you can go to our website—<https://www.gfbcfw.org>—to find a lot 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 copier bill. How can you help? Please pray, trust God and be faithful. God bless you!

Missions is what believers do to reach beyond the needs of their congregations to witness and minister for the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission. Few in our congregation are able to leave our homes and jobs to go throughout the world to share the good news about Jesus' birth, death and resurrection.

In our church we do have several opportunities to pray for and give to missions. We support four large SBC mission emphases throughout the year:

1. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® for International Missions.
2. The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® for North American Missions.
3. The Mary Hill Davis Offering® for State Missions.
4. The Cooperative Program, for which a certain percent of budgeted donations is sent each month.

We also give to missions through the Texans On Mission and the Samaritans' Purse, both of which are still serving the physical and spiritual needs of the people in the Texas Hill Country who have suffered from storms and floods over the last two years. These two organizations are also serving the needs of various people in other states and countries who are fighting different catastrophes such as weather, earthquake, drought, and war.

Today's Scripture

Hebrews 4:12—*"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."*

Ruin*Zephaniah 2:1-3***Gloom and Doom**

- Zephaniah predicted the future for the people of Judah and for the nations around them.
- Israel did not obey the voice of God, listen to God, trust in God or draw near to God.
- Zephaniah brought words of gloom and doom because Israel needed to be shaken from their sin and pointed in the direction of repentance and salvation.

Sin Is Ruin

- Sin in the form of idolatry and gross immorality exposed the Jewish people to a terrible doom.
- Sin is the cause of all human suffering.
- God gets angry at one thing: sin.
- Zephaniah preached and taught the people of Judah that because

they did not obey the voice of God they were the focus of His anger.

Repentance Rebuilds the Ruin

- Zephaniah's message gave the people a pathway back to God.
- Repentance rebuilds the ruin.
- Zephaniah knew repentance was more lasting and had more strength when we surround ourselves with people who are also repenting.
- The Word of God will always direct us to what is right and good and in God's will.
- Repentance requires humbly seeking the best way to God no matter how it feels.

Conclusion

- Zephaniah's message is a call to repentance.
- If you do not know God, then



seek a relationship with Him by the blood of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Zephaniah 2:3, "*Seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you will be sheltered on the day of the Lord's anger.*"



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 Ky-lie from cancer; for health issues for Bill and Alice; for Lisa's upcoming surgery; 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 Dale; healing for Victor from cancer and for Liz's many issues; for Mark H. from cancer; for healing from surgery for Lisa and for additional surgeries she will need; 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 an unspoken request for Becky; for an unspoken need for Nick and for care and protection for his family; praises and prayers for Paige, Jacob and Stetson; blessings for Gennacie, Nick, RJ and Celeste; 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 comfort for JerriAnn in the loss of her husband, Carlos; 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 came to our VBS; and for teachers and staff who lead them in all areas of their lives.

†Pray for our church—

pray for our ministers 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. Bless them as they continue for many years. 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 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 in the U.S. and 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.

"We should be astonished at the goodness of God, stunned that he should bother to call us by name, our mouths wide open at his love, bewildered that at this very moment we are standing on holy ground." — **Brennan Manning**

"In strategy, the longest way round is often the shortest way home." — **B. H. Liddell Hart**

Please Pray for the Children

Jesus, we continue to pray that children in our community will grow in their relationship with You. We pray that You will continue to break down walls that might prevent young hearts from receiving Your love. We pray that they will know Who You are as well as the overwhelming love You have for each and every one of them. May the impact of this year's VBS last them a lifetime.

