

Grace Fellowship Baptist Church

The Church

With a Heart

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Devotional Thought From the Pastor...

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

October 19-25, 2025

Sunday School	9:45 am
Worship Service	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

Stewardship Thought...

Isaiah 55:2—"Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare."

Our use of money should produce a quality of life that is fulfilling and eternal. Primary in the use of money is giving: to share the gospel and to help people in need.

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Worship Service

TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

TIME TO GATHER

Opening: Before the Throne of God Alone

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hymn 485

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 15:1

Hymn 476

TIME OF GIVING

Offering*

Better Is One Day

TIME IN GOD'S WORD

Message: Our Shield and Reward

Genesis 15:1, Psalm 84:11, Ephesians 6:16

Bro. Oscar

CLOSING PRAYER

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

October Birthday

Mason Fraire	10/08
Zayne Fraire	10/24
Helen Martinez	10/13
Frankie Rike	10/17

Ministry Gifts

Offerings for Budget	\$ 1,140.00
Designated Offerings	\$ 268.86
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$ 1,408.86
10% Taken out for Missions	\$ 114.00
Needed This Week for Budget	\$ 320.00

Saving Lives

Acts 20:19, "I served the Lord with great humility and with tears and in the midst of severe testing."

Adolfo Kaminsky knew how to remove indelible ink from paper. As a member of the anti-Nazi resistance in France, he altered identification cards to save hundreds from concentration camps. Once he was given three days to forge nine hundred birth and baptismal certificates and ration cards for three hundred Jewish children. He labored two straight days without sleep, telling himself, "In one hour I can make thirty blank documents. If I sleep for an hour thirty people will die."

The apostle Paul felt a similar urgency. He reminded the church in Ephesus how he'd "served the Lord with great humility and with tears and in the midst of severe testing" (Acts 20:19). Paul said, "I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you" (v. 20). This urgency compelled him to share with everyone the necessity of repentance and faith in Jesus (v. 21). Now he was sailing back to Jerusalem, eager to "finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus [had] given [him]—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace" (v. 24).

Paul couldn't save people. Only God does that. But he could tell them God's good news about Jesus, the only "name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Announcements...

•**Mid-Week Activities—Bible Study**—EVERYONE is invited to join us for mid-week Bible studies on YouTube prior to Wednesday and at church on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. This week we will study in 2 Chronicles 19:4-11 and 20:31-21:1.

✍️ •**Pray for Revival to Continue**—Did revival begin in you this week? In us? Pray for revival to continue and begin anew each day!

•**November Activities—**

***Fall Festival**—11/9, 5:30 pm

***OCC Packing Party**—11/16, 6:00 pm

***Hanging of the Greens**—11/22, 10 am.

•**Donations Toward Our Church and Various Ministries**—Please consider donating toward our CHURCH BUDGET, WHICH IS OUR MOST CRUCIAL NEED. Some of our ministry needs are Sharing the Load, 2026 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, Samaritan's Purse, etc.

Today's Scripture

Genesis 15:1—"After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward."

You may place your donations in an offering envelope and write the name of the ministry/organization on a "Special Offering" line (the amount goes on the right). Remember to place your regular tithe on the short line after the words, "Budget Offering." Then place all donations in the offering box in back of the church. Or—you may also send your donations through the mail or Zelle. The church's Zelle address is gfbcfw@sbcglobal.net. Please do not make donations through PayPal.

•**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](https://www.instagram.com/gfbcfw) where you can receive inspiration and information!

•**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.

•**Budget Needs**—Please, prayerfully consider your part in support of our church missions, ministries, utilities, and upkeep. How can you help? Please pray, trust God and be faithful.



Friends,

Disasters leave people searching for help, hope and healing. Through a partnership in Israel, Texans on Mission volunteers respond with mobile kitchens that can serve thousands of meals a day. In the last five years, more than 750,000 meals have been shared in Jesus' name. Now, you can be part of it.

Texans on Mission Israel training trips prepare you to serve in culturally sensitive ways, while



experiencing Old Jerusalem and walking where Jesus walked. You'll learn how to cook for large groups utilizing Kosher protocols, train alongside other Texans, and be ready to respond when disaster strikes.

Upcoming Trips:

February 7- 15, 2026

May 9 - 17, 2026

July 11 - 19, 2026

October 10 - 18, 2026

Spots are limited. Please note that these trips are physically strenuous.

If you're ready for a spiritually rewarding trip, we invite you to join the team. The total cost of the trip is \$4,100.

Together, we can deliver help, hope and healing in Christ's name.

Gary Finley
Israel Coordinator
Texans on Mission

Ask Susen who to contact for more information.

Our Shield and Reward

Genesis 15:1, Psalm 84:11, Ephesians 6:16

When Fear Creeps In

- Abraham's deepest fear was that he would remain childless.
- Our greatest fears often come after battle, not during it.
- Answered prayers and success lead to responsibilities we question, because both reveal our deep need for someone beyond ourselves.
- God does not wait for us to overcome our fears alone.

I Am Your Shield

- God does not offer Abraham a better military strategy or stronger armor, He offers Himself.
- God does not promise help from a distance.
- God, as our shield, protects us from more than external enemies; He shields us from internal

attacks that often do more damage.

- Faith is entrusting ourselves to God as our shield.
- Knowing that God is our shield does not automatically protect us, we must actively trust Him.

I Am Your Great Reward

- God does not say, "I will give you a great reward," He says, "I AM your great reward."
- God Himself is our inheritance, our prize, our ultimate satisfaction.
- We live in a world constantly telling us what we need in order to be happy.
- God knows that what we need, what our souls long for, is not something from Him but Him.

Redefining Success

- Success is not getting all our prayers answered as we hope but discovering that the One we are praying to is the answer we did not know we needed.



- God wanted Abraham to understand that even the promised son was not the ultimate prize, but God Himself was.
- Jesus is our reward, because in Him we have every spiritual blessing.

Is God Enough

- The question confronting us today is the same one that confronted Abraham 4,000 years ago: Is God enough?
- Is God still your most significant reward, or have the blessings become your god?
- When we hold God as our greatest reward, we hold everything else with open hands.
- Our shield and reward is not something that can be taken away; He is someone who promises never to leave us or forsake us.

Conclusion

- God's word to us today is the same as to Abraham: "Do not be afraid. I am your shield, your great reward."
- Take God at His word, trust Him as your shield

and receive Him as your reward.

- The God who met Abraham in his midnight fears meets us in ours today.
- Is God enough for you? The answer to that question changes everything.



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 Carmon from her fall & hip surgery; for Alice to continue healing; for health issues for Bill and for his concern for Alice; healing for Tonya from upcoming surgery; Laura Thompson's vision loss; healing for Victor from cancer and for Liz's many issues; continued healing for Tony; Mark H. from cancer; for Amy to have a good reconstruction surgery and easy recovery; healing for Tonya from neurological issues and loss of mobility;



Frank's hip and back to heal; for Cliff Denney's health 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 and 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 a spirit of love and peace in Cora's family; for an unspoken request for Becky; for Jesse H. as

he finds himself, his peace and forgiveness; praises and prayers for Paige, Jacob and Stetson; for an unspoken need for Nick; for an unspoken prayer for Donna; for an unspoken need for Tiffanny; for an unspoken need for Richard; for Jim and his need; for family challenges for Daisy; for needs of the Polk/Flores family and their needs for God's guidance; 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 Ryan and his 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 who came to our VBS; and for teachers and staff who are leading them this year.

†Pray for our church—for our pastors and their families; for REVIVAL among our members; and for a miracle involving the demolition of the south building.

†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 mis-

sionaries; for Texans on Mission and Samaritan's Purse and their work; for first responders and those who have suffered loss from various disasters; for thousands who have lost homes; for the 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; for our government officials to pass wise laws.

†Pray for 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 minister to Afghan refugees; for a peace agreement in Israel; 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.



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.