

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

October 7, 2018

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Psalm 19:1-6

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Why Did God Create Man Knowing He'd Sin?*
(Revelation 4:11)

Blest Be the Tie

Announcements:

This Sunday we continue our series on frequently asked questions, to help Pastor Kurth prepare for a second book on this subject. Please be praying about these messages.

Next Sunday we will consider the question of why God allows pain and suffering in the world and in His children.

Midweek Bible Study: Wednesday night at 7 with Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger, but postponed for this week.

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

Psalm 122:1 *What To Do If You Don't Have a Grace Church*

Most Christians are glad when it is time to go to God's house (Ps.122:1; I Tim.3:15). When they get saved, they look for a church that preaches the gospel. But when they learn the grace message, they look for a church that rightly divides the word (II Tim.2:15), and they are scarce.

When there's one an hour away, grace believers gladly drive that far. Two hours or more away and they maybe go once a month. Further than that, they can't just stay home, for Paul assumed that even the carnal Corinthians would go to church (I Cor.11:18). So what's a stranded grace believer to do?

Well the *first* stranded grace believer started preaching the gospel after getting saved (Acts 9:20-29). You should too! Begin with your friends and loved ones. If you are too shy to speak to people, begin handing out tracts. Clerks in the checkout line are a good place to start, for they're taught to politely receive them. Leave tracts with generous tips when dining out. Leave some by the front door to give to delivery people. Leave them on doors. Get a booth at the local flea market and give them out with dispensational literature.

Once you get people saved or interested in the grace message, invite them to your home for a Bible study. If you're not qualified to teach, play a message online and discuss it. Many churches grow out of home Bible studies. Even if yours never outgrows your house, God considers it a church (Rom.16:5; I Cor.16:19; Col.4:15; Phile.1:2).

If you've done all you can do and can't get a church started, you can relocate to where there *is* a grace church. People move because they fall in love, for a better job, for all kinds of reasons. Why not move for the best reason—to live near a solid grace church.

If you can't relocate, find a church that is at least trying to teach the Bible. Very few of the books I own were written by grace pastors, but I've learned from all of them that I've read. Well, if books written by non-grace pastors are valuable, messages preached by non-grace pastors can be too.

Pastor Wilson Watkins was the pastor of a solid Bible-teaching Baptist church. This led him to receive the grace message more readily when he heard it. Grace believers can capitalize on such churches.

A friend of mine has lived in many areas where there was no grace church. He finds the best church he can find, and starts attending. He is up front with the pastor about what he believes, and offers to teach. Pastors are often so hard up for men who want to teach that they often let him teach. He has shared the grace message with many over the years this way because he presents it graciously.

Some grace believers say they couldn't sit under the ministry of a non-grace pastor, and their conviction can be respected. But they must either start a church or relocate, for going to church is Pauline and important. The fellowship you can get through social media and emails just isn't the same.

Paul corresponded with the saints. He wrote them letters, like Philemon, and they wrote him (ICor.7:1). But he had "no rest" when he was deprived of Titus' fellowship (IICor.2:12,13). That's a description of hell (Rev.14:11)! You too should feel that a lack of personal fellowship is hell on earth, because that's Paul's point in saying this.

The context of his statement in II Corinthians 2:12,13 is about the fornicator in I Corinthians 5:1. Paul told them to put him out of the assembly (5:2,13). They did, but when he repented, they wouldn't let him back in! So Paul told them they needed to let him back in (IICor.2:6,7), for a lack of fellowship would cause him to be "swallowed up with overmuch sorrow." When Paul then says "furthermore" and explains that *he* was swallowed up with "no rest, he was making the point that if even the great apostle himself needed fellowship, *so do we*.

How harshly did it affect Paul? He didn't enter an open door of fellowship to preach Christ (IICor.2:12,13). The beatings, stonings, etc. didn't stop him (IICor.11:23-33), but a simple lack of fellowship stopped him *dead in his tracks*. Think maybe you need fellowship in the flesh too?

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

October 7, 2018

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

Myrtle Harrison

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger

Faith Bible Church

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