

GRACE

BIBLE CHURCH

GAINESVILLE



Winter Retreat

January 8th, 2021 to January 10th, 2021

Lake Swan Camp
647 SR 26, Melrose,
Florida 32666

[GRACEBIBLECHURCHGAINESVILLE.ORG]

WELCOME LETTER

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Pastor Brandon Phillips

As you may know, this event coincides with our fourth anniversary as a church. We are in awe as we look back at the first four years at GBC. We can clearly see the Lord's hand on His church as He has shaped and fashioned us for His glory. We have seen many changes in the church – but one truth never changes – our commitment to serving Christ in all we do – this retreat is no exception. I want to personally thank everyone who made this possible and I want to thank you for attending. I pray that our time together will be cherished by each individual and by our church in the years to come.

This past year has been a challenge for all our families in many ways. 2020 has brought many trials upon us. Yet, we know that the Lord Jesus uses our suffering to build endurance in us and to make us more like Himself. I am sure you are aware that even this event has been impacted because of sickness. We are missing a few dear folks who would love to join us if they were able. We should pray for those unable to attend and should also pray for this retreat's impact on our church and our community for today and far into the future.

The retreat schedule has been fashioned to be an encouragement to you as we continue to face our difficult circumstances. A few weeks ago, I preached from James 4:4-6 where I challenged you to consider how your trials reveal your true relationship with Christ. Our speaker, Ray, will build upon this foundation by challenging us to consider how adversity exposes your commitment to unity within the church. Put simply, as we face suffering, we prove our devotion to our Lord Jesus by a continued commitment to His people – the body of Christ.

I know that you will be blessed by Ray and Missy – they have been a true blessing to many including my family. Please take the opportunity to visit and get to know them. In closing, I hope you have a wonderful and relaxing time here at the retreat. May the Lord be glorified by our time this weekend!

Pastor B

NOW to Him who is able to protect you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory, blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority before all time and now and forever. Amen. (Jude 1:24-25)

RETREAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

JANUARY 8TH

3:00pm to 5:00pm: Arrival & Free Time

5:30pm to 6:00pm: Dinner

7:00pm to 9:00pm: Session One - Ray Mehringer

"Unity in the Church - Disciples of Christ Sincere in Their Faith"

James 4:7-10

SATURDAY

JANUARY 9TH

7:30am to 8:00am: Breakfast

9:00am to 10:30am: Session Two - Ray Mehringer

"Unity in the Church - How to Get Along in God's Family"

1 Thessalonians 5:14-18

11:00am to 12:30pm: Men's and Women's Breakout Groups

Ray Mehringer

"The Art of Christian Relation Building as Seen Through the One Another's"

Missy Mehringer

"Learning to Wait on God"

12:30pm to 1:00pm: Lunch

1:30pm to 6:30pm: Free Time

1:30pm to 2:30pm: Swimming and Canoeing

2:30pm to 3:30pm: Game Room

3:00pm to 3:30pm: Snack Shack

3:30pm to 4:30pm: Archery

4:30pm to 6:00pm: Teambuilding

6:00pm to 6:30pm: Dinner

6:30pm to 8:00: Human Foosball

8:00pm to 10:00pm: Singing, prayer, & fellowship around campfire

SUNDAY

JANUARY 10TH

7:30am to 8:00am: Breakfast

9:00am to 10:00am: Pack up

10:15am to 12:00pm: Worship Service - Ray Mehringer

"Unity in the Church: Developing an Inherent Mindset During Adversity"

James 1:1-4

12:30pm: Lunch & Departure

SESSION ONE

Unity in the Church - Disciples of Christ Sincere in Their Faith

James 4:7-10

Unity in the church depends on these three growth areas:

1. Living by Faith
2. Growing in Grace
3. Walking in Love

I. They Submit to God. (James 4:7)

- A. Through _____ allegiance. (John 14:15; Luke 6:46)
- B. By _____ discipline. (Acts 17:11; John 18:37)

II. They Resist the Devil. (James 4:7)

- A. By _____ friendship with the world. (1 John 2:15,16; Proverbs 23:17)
- B. By taking _____ captive. (2 Corinthians 10:5; Romans 12:2)

III. They Draw Near to God. (James 4:8)

- A. Pursue your _____ in love. (Luke 4:8; Mark 12:30)
- B. Know your God by His _____ and through His Son. (John 17:3; II Timothy 3:14-16)

IV. They Recognize and Confess Sin. (James 4:8)

- A. Be _____ to examine yourself. (I Corinthians 11:27-29; II Corinthians 13:5)
- B. Recognize and _____ in God's Word. (Psalm 37:4; Joshua 1:8)

V. They Purify their Heart. (James 4:8)

- A. Examine your inner _____, _____, and _____.
(Matthew 5:8; Psalm 51:10)
- B. Strive to move from _____ to _____.
(Psalm 10:4; Matthew 5:3)



VI. They are Broken over their Sin. (James 4:9)

- A. Seek to _____ godly sorrow. (2 Corinthians 10:7-11; Matthew 26:74,75)
- B. Develop a battle _____ and _____. (Luke 14:28; Proverbs 16:9)

VII. They Understand Worldly Response leads to Regretful Feelings (James 4:9)

- A. A _____ conscience leads to sinful behavior. (1 Corinthians 8:7-13; Hebrews 12:1,2)
- B. Be reminded that _____ brings reward. (1 Timothy 4:6-10; Proverbs 3:11,12)

VIII. They are Always Conscious of the Presence of a Majestic, Holy God. (James 4:10)

- A. Our ways are _____. (1 Peter 1:15,16; Psalm 26:2)
- B. We can be _____ in the Lord. (Ephesians 6:10; John 15:4,5)

FAITH is “being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” (Hebrews 11:1). Perhaps no other component of the Christian life is more important than faith. We cannot purchase it, sell it or give it to our friends. So, what is faith and what role does faith play in the Christian life? The dictionary defines faith as “belief in, devotion to, or trust in somebody or something, especially without logical proof.” The Bible has much more to say about faith and how important it is. In fact, it is so important that, without faith, we have no place with God, and it is impossible to please Him. (Hebrews 11:6).

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SESSION TWO

Unity in the Church: How to Get Along in God's Family

1 Thessalonians 5:14-18

I. Be a Good Disciplinarian (1 Thessalonians 5:14)

- A. _____ of the Unruly. (Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Timothy 3:15)
- B. _____ their Behavior. (1 Corinthians 5:6,7; Galatians 6:1)

II. Encourage the Fainthearted (1 Thessalonians 5:14)

- A. _____ one another's burdens. (Galatians 6:2; Philippians 2:3,4)
- B. _____ all to cast their worries & problems. (Psalm 55:22; John 16:33)

III. Help the Weak (1 Thessalonians 5:14)

- A. Welcome the weak _____. (Romans 14:1,2; 1 Corinthians 8:6,7)
- B. Assist the weak _____. (James 5:14,15; Matthew 25:34-40)

IV. Be Patient with All Men (1 Thessalonians 5:14-18)

- A. Not seek _____. (Romans 12:19; Luke 6:27-28)
- B. Always do _____. (Luke 18:19; Psalm 14:2,3)
- C. _____ always. (1 Peter 1:6-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:6)
- D. _____ without ceasing. (Philippians 4:6; Colossians 4:2)
- E. Give _____ in every circumstance (Psalm 136:3; Romans 12:1,2)



WE are expected to “grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18). To grow in grace is to mature as a Christian. We are saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8,9) and we mature and are sanctified by grace alone. We know that grace is a blessing that we don't deserve. It is God's grace that justifies us, sanctifies us, and eventually glorifies us in heaven. The sanctification process, becoming more like Christ, is synonymous with growing in grace.

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MEN'S BREAKOUT GROUP

Living by Faith and Growing in Grace: The Art of Christian Relation Building as Seen Through the One Another's

Togetherness can be defined as a feeling of satisfaction in being united with other people for a specific purpose. Simply being in close physical proximity with a crowd of people does not create that feeling of togetherness. A spirit of unity that results when minds are in agreement creates togetherness.

Togetherness has some practical benefits over being alone, and this is true in many situations: "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-13).

The question then arises how do we create, develop, and sustain this togetherness in our marriage, home, and church? People, created in the image of God, are made for relationships. While the word "relationship" does not appear as a word in the translations of the Bible, the concept of "one another" is repeated numerous times throughout the New Testament. Since sin entered the world, the way people relate to each other is often corrupted. Thankfully the Bible has a lot to say about how to build God-honoring relationships with one another.

I. Being devoted to One Another in Brotherly Love (Matthew 22:36-40)

- A. Defining this love. (1 Corinthians 13:3-8; 1 John 4:7,8)
- B. Showing honor. (Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 2:17)
- C. Living in harmony. (Romans 12:16; 1 Corinthians 1:10)
- D. Do not provoke or envy. (Galatians 5:25,26; Proverbs 14:30)

II. Strive to be Kind to One Another (Ephesians 4:32)

- A. Bear one another's burden. (Galatians 6:2; Acts 11:27-30)
- B. Speak truthfully to one another. (Ephesians 4:14,15; Ephesians 4:25)



- C. Determine to forgive one another. (Colossians 3:13; Luke 17:3,4)
- D. Seek to comfort one another. (2 Corinthians 1:5; Matthew 25:36-40)

III. Learn to Serve One Another (1 Peter 4:10)

- A. Make it a point to pray for one another. (1 Timothy 2:1; James 5:16)
- B. Desire fellowship with one another. (1 John 1:7; Acts 2:42)
- C. Learn to make mutual exhortation a goal. (Hebrews 10:24; 1 Corinthians 9:25)
- D. Instruct one another. (Romans 15:14; Proverbs 4:4)

TREATING *others as we would be treated means we must be willing to set aside our own preferences, rights, and desires in order to serve those in our lives. When our focus is on treating others as Jesus would, we don't need a hundred specific laws telling us not to murder, steal, abuse, or lie. A heart filled with the love of God would never treat others that way. When the heart is right, right actions will follow (Matthew 15:19; 1 Peter 1:22).*

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WOMEN'S BREAKOUT GROUP

Learning to Wait on God

Examples from Scripture:

I. We wait on God for:

C. His _____

Psalm 62:1; Genesis 49:18; Psalm 119:166; Isaiah 25:9

D. His _____

Psalm 104: 27,28

E. Answered _____

Psalm 5:3; Psalm 38:15; Psalm 40:1; Micah 7:7; I Thess 5:17

F. His _____

Psalm 25:4,5; Psalm 106:13

G. We wait to learn _____

Psalm 37:7-9

H. We wait for _____

Isaiah 30:18; Ecclesiastes 3:11; Hebrews 10: 12,13; Isaiah 26:8,9; Psalm 25:21

I. We wait on _____ Himself

Isaiah 8:17; Hebrews 9:28 | Thess 1:10



Psalm 150 (Praise The Lord)

CCLI # 7161130

You made the starry hosts, You traced the mountain peaks
You paint the evening sky with wonders
The earth, it is Your throne, from desert to the sea
All nature testifies Your splendor

Chorus:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Sing His greatness all creation
Praise the Lord! Raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

You reached into the dust, in love, Your Spirit breathed
You formed us in Your very likeness
To know Your wondrous works, to tell Your mighty deeds
To join the everlasting chorus
(Chorus)

Let symphonies resound, let drums and choirs ring out
All heaven hear the sound of worship
Let every nation bring its honors to the King
A roar of harmonies eternal

Final Chorus:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Sing His greatness all creation
Praise the Lord! Raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
You distant burning stars, all creatures near and far
From sky to sea to shore, sing out forevermore
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!



There Is A Hope

Sing the Wonders # 203, CCLI # 5109647

There is a hope that burns within my heart
That gives me strength for every passing day
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meager part
That drives all doubt away
I stand in Christ with sins forgiv'n
And Christ in me, the hope of heav'n
My highest calling and my deepest joy
To make His will my home

There is a hope that lifts my weary head
A consolation strong against despair
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit
I find the Savior there
Thru present sufferings, future's fear
He whispers "Courage!" in my ear
For I am safe in everlasting arms
And they will lead me home

There is a hope that stands the test of time
That lifts my eyes beyond the beck'ning grave
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine
When I behold His face
When sufferings cease and sorrows die
And every longing satisfied
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul
For I am truly home



A series of 24 horizontal lines for writing.



WORSHIP SERVICE

Order of Worship

Sunday, January 10th, 2021

Announcements & Call To Worship

Come Christians Join To Sing (1)

Psalm 150 (Praise The Lord)

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 1

Prayer of Response

Worship

In Christ Alone (138)

There Is A Hope (203)

Sermon

Ray Mehringer preaching "***Unity in the Church: Developing an Inherent Mindset During Adversity***" on James 1:1-4

Worship

Let The Nations Be Glad

Benediction



WORSHIP SERVICE

Unity in the Church

Developing an Inherent Mindset During Adversity

James 1:1-4

Propositional statement: We must develop an inherent quality of our mind and character so that during adversity our joy will be complete.

I. Learn to develop the disposition of a servant. (James 1:1)

- A. A servant is exclusively owned. (1 Corinthians 3:23)
- B. A servant must be useful to their master. (Job 1:21)

II. We must have the deliberation of a theologian. (James 1:2)

- A. We know and must remember that God will equip us. (Hebrews 13:31)
- B. Knowledge of what adversity will bring must be based on the Word of God. (James 1:17)

III. Train to have the determination of an athlete. (James 1:3,4)

- A. We must strive, strain, and press to advance. (Philippians 3:12)
- B. We must not leave anything behind. (Romans 6:12)

WE need to understand that God's joy cannot be taken away. You might think that it's gone—that trials, tribulations and hardships have snatched it from you—but it's not. As believers, we are promised the constant presence of the Holy Spirit. We are promised His joy. Just as our salvation is assured through Jesus' one-time sacrifice for all. Jesus' words in John 15:11, "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." Other examples, Acts 13:52 "And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit;" and again in Acts 16:34 "The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family."



CAMPUS MAP



DIGITAL DOWNLOAD

Download a copy of Lake Swan's Campus Map on your mobile device by scanning this QR code.



LAKE SWAN

Camp Rules & Biblical Guidelines

Grace Bible Church Gainesville has agreed to observe the following rules set forth by Lake Swan Camp (LSC).

1. Use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
2. Use of tobacco, in any form, is prohibited.
3. Weapons, including firearms and fireworks, are prohibited.
4. Open flames are prohibited outside of LSC's fire ring and fire-place.
5. All music must be family/child appropriate, i.e., no profanity or provocative lyrics. LSC reserves the right to approve/disapprove of any music played while on site.
6. Waterfront:
 - Modest bathing suits are required.
 - May only be used when a **Certified Lifeguard** is on duty.
 - Canoes may only be used under direct supervision of an adult.
 - Boaters and those using canoes must always wear a properly secured life jacket.
7. Quiet times are from 11:00pm to 7:00am.
8. Silly String is prohibited.
9. Buildings and grounds are to be kept litter free and clean of debris and personal items.
10. Co-ed rooms are not permitted, except for married couples.
11. Damages caused will be the responsibility of the group. Please inform GBC Leadership if something breaks.