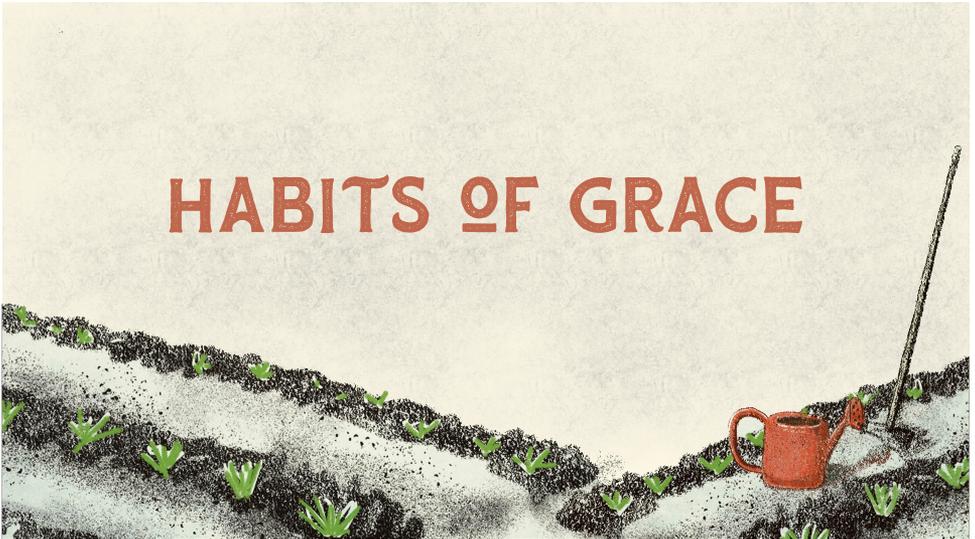




REDEEMER

CITY CHURCH

To all who are weary and desire rest, to all who mourn and long for comfort, to all who sin and need a Savior, Redeemer City Church opens wide its doors with a welcome from King Jesus the mighty Friend of sinners, the Ally of his enemies, the Defender of the indefensible.



HABITS OF GRACE

August 8, 2021 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Season of the Cross: Green for Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time is the long season that takes up three quarters of the church year. This portion of Ordinary Time runs between Pentecost and Advent. Ordinary Time has traditionally been devoted to seeking our Lord in the simple, ordinary day-in and day-out rhythms of life. It is a time in which we are all invited to order our lives around Christ's life and teaching.

Call to Worship: Psalm 18:1-3

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reminds us of who God is and what He expects from us.

ALL: I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

Song of Ascent

The first song we sing together guides us as we "go up" or approach the presence of God to worship Him. This song is meant to rouse us to worship and awaken our hearts.

Oh Lord My Rock and My Redeemer

Reading of the Law: Joel 2:12-13

While the law cannot justify us or make us righteous; it is a teacher given to lead us to Christ, the fulfiller of the law.

"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

We pray together, praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

Song of Repentance

In this song of repentance we acknowledge our sin and our need of a Savior.

Draw Me Close

Assurance of Pardon: Revelation 19:6-8

We read God's Word together and are reminded that grace and mercy are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"

Greeting

In Jesus, we have not only been reconciled to God, we have also been reconciled to one another. Therefore, we greet one another as brothers and sisters.

Song of Praise and Celebration

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done to save us

It Was Finished Upon That Cross
How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Sacrament of Baptism

The ritual of baptism is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the cleansing all people need before they are acceptable to God (sign), and it marks, tangibly to our senses, how real God's promise is for all who will trust in Him (seal).

Lucas Almir Martinez Coco

Worship Through Giving: Give Online at redeemerwh.org/give

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.

Announcements & Kids' Worship Dismissal

*Children **through fifth grade** are dismissed for kids' worship.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

We again express in prayer our gratitude to God for what he has done and ask him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and the world.

Proclamation of God's Word

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

Mark 2:18-20; Matthew 6:16-18 (see insert)

Song of Response & Sending

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

In the Secret/Where You Are

Benediction

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;
May the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
May the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,
Both now and forevermore. Amen.

Proclamation of God's Word

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. And people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" 19 And Jesus said to them, "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day.

Pg. 837 (Mark 2:18-20 ESV)

16 "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Pg. 811 (Matthew 6:16-18 ESV)

Resources

Mark Buchanan, *Your God is Too Safe*

Drew Dyck, *Your Future Self will Thank You*

Richard Foster, *Celebration of Discipline*

John Piper, *Hunger for God*

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the following quote from John Piper: "The greatest adversary of love for God is not his enemies but his gifts."
2. What gift of God in your life is the greatest threat to your love for God Himself?
3. Is your fasting and your feasting in proper balance in your life?
4. What would a weekly 24-hr fast (not just from food but from any of God's gifts) look like?

Sermon Series: Habits of Grace
Sermon Title: Hunger for God
Date: August 8, 2021

Introduction: "When you fast"

I. THE BRIDEGROOM HAS COME

"We were made to feast. Not in order to become full, but because we are full. Feasting to fill emptiness is not feasting. It is coping." – Justin Whitmel Earley

II. THE BRIDEGROOM HAS GONE

"Fasting is the hunger of homesickness from God." – John Piper

Announcements

Worship Ministry: Here at Redeemer, we're always looking to equip the saints to love and lead others in various ways inside and outside the church. If you're interested in serving on the worship team through singing, playing, or both, please email patrick@redeemerwinterhaven.org.

Splash Bash: Our Children's Ministry is happy to announce our annual Splash Bash at **Lake Eva Water Park in Haines City THIS Saturday, August 14, from 9:30-11:30am**. Come out and help us kick-off the school year. We will be reserving the entire park so please invite friends and neighbors to this event.

Vision Dinner: Our next Vision Dinner will be **Wednesday, August 18 from 5:30-7:15pm**. We'll begin with dinner in Covenant Hall and then relocate to the sanctuary around 6:30pm. Childcare and dinner will be provided. Please help us prepare by taking a moment to RSVP: redeemerwh.org/rsvp.

A Praying Life Seminar: We're hosting A Praying Life Seminar on **Saturday Aug 28 (9-11:30am) & Sunday, Aug 29 (12-2pm)**. Childcare will be available for both sessions and lunch will be provided on Sunday. **The deadline to register is August 22.**

The Seminar explores Jesus' simple yet powerful teachings on prayer to help badly praying Christians—that's 99% of us—discover the joy of prayer. We practice becoming child-like, patterning our prayers after Jesus' own teaching and prayers, using practical prayer tools. If you've ever struggled with or felt defeated during prayer, this seminar is for you!

Register: redeemerwh.org/rsvp.

Women's Retreat: Ladies, registration is now open our upcoming Women's Retreat on **October 1-3, 2021**. Please visit: redeemerwh.org/retreat to register. **The deadline to register is September 1**. Our speaker will be Abby Hutto, author of *God for Us*.

Get Connected: The best way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Redeemer is through our online newsletter (redeemerwh.org/newsletter) and our mobile app (redeemerwh.org/app).

Worship Playlists: Follow our weekly set list on **Spotify** and **Apple Music** so that you can become familiar with the songs that we'll be singing on Sundays. You can find the playlist on the "RedeemerWH" app (above) or at: redeemerwh.org/RCCmusic.



GOAL: \$50,000
RECEIVED: \$16,108



PLEDGED: \$751,789
RECEIVED: \$728,417

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