

The Church Plant #2 News

We're so new we don't even have a name!

Vol. I, No. 1

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Praying that God would build His church

Two Sundays ago in the worship services, Church Plant Pastor Jim Martin shared about the progress of the first GFUMC-sponsored church plant (The River UMC [www.theriverumc.com]), but The River is not the only church that Grace Fellowship is launching.



There are many questions that still surround Church Plant #2. Other than a 2009 launch date and Nolan Donald serving as the pastor, the rest of the details are still unclear. From more minor details like a name for the church to more crucial decisions like deciding in which community the church will start, foundational work is just beginning on these decisions.

Thankfully, the most important decision has already been made for Church Plant #2. The leadership of Grace Fellowship and plant pastor Nolan Donald have already decided that they want Church Plant #2 to be a

church that God builds. Scripture makes it clear that the real job of Church builder belongs to God. For us to attempt to launch a church without God as the clear leader would be very foolish!

To that end, the first thing that Church Plant #2

needs is people with a passion to pray. Church Plant #2 is going to be a church that seeks God's face and that desires to see God "make His name holy" in the world. As we seek Him and offer the plans and future of the church to Him, we are trusting that God will lead the efforts to launch and build a church for the glory of His name.

If you have a heart for prayer and are interested in praying for Church Plant #2 between now and the end of the year, see the section at the bottom of this page for how you can join us in praying that God would build His church!

Sign me up; I'm praying for Church Plant #2!

Fill out **both sides** of this section, fold on the dotted line, lick the dotted line, tear it off, and either drop in the offering plate or return to Nolan Donald.*

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

* Licking optional. :-)

PRAY IT AND LIVE IT: A NEW LOOK AT THE LORD'S PRAYER (LUKE 11:1-4)

Part I: "Father, make your name holy." (Luke 11:2a)

The Lord's Prayer is far more than a stuffy prayer to be recited during sleepy worship services and funerals. Within the original biblical text of The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4 and Matthew 6:9-13), Jesus does some of his most powerful and pointed teaching. The teaching is not solely on how to pray (although he offers a great model). Much of what Jesus puts into that model prayer are foundation pieces for who he is, for what his mission on earth is, and for who he is calling all of his disciples to be.

As we look more deeply at The Lord's Prayer, we find it to be a guidepost for our faith. By praying and living the four major pieces of the prayer, we can more deeply understand who Jesus is and what it means for him to be the Lord of our lives. Will you evaluate your life through the lens of The Lord's Prayer and seek not only to pray it but to live it, too?

As you seek to live out the first part of The Lord's Prayer ("Father, make your name holy."), remember that as one who seeks to follow Jesus, how you live determines how God's name is known. Praying and living out the first part of The Lord's Prayer is all about celebrating who God is and uniting with God's purposes and desires for the world.

Does the way you act in relationships make God's name more holy? How about how you use the money and possessions that God has entrusted to you? How have you sought to serve the marginalized of the community for the sake of making God's name holy?

As you pray that the Father's name would be made more holy, pray that for specific people. Pray that the Father's name would be made holy in their lives. Pray that Grace Fellowship and the two church plants would all seek to make God's name holy. Personally, pray that as a follower of Jesus you would strive to make his name holy in every aspect of your life.

Join us in worship December 2 for Part II of our look at The Lord's Prayer!

Check next to the way(s) you will help pray for Church Plant #2...

Fill out **both sides** of this section, fold on the dotted line, lick the dotted line, tear it off, and either drop in the offering plate or return to Nolan Donald.*

- Sign me up for your monthly prayer newsletters. I will commit to pray for Church Plant #2 daily between now and December 31, 2007.
- I'd be interested in meeting once a month (between now and December 2007) with a group of people to pray for Church Plant #2.

* Licking optional. :-)