DOUBTERS ANONYMOUS



AUTHENTIC CONVERSATIONS ABOUT REAL DOUBTS WE HAVE

Grace Fellowship

PRAYING FOR OTHERS

- **Pray silently for the prayer request printed in your worship guide.**
- **Our Interns**
- **Our small group led by Don & Cecilia Coontz**
- **Community Prayer Center**
- **Neighboring church service this morning at St. Faustina Catholic Church**
- **The Bug*is of Indonesia**
- **Conflicts in the Middle East and Eastern Europe**

We ask all this for the glory of Your name.

Need Prayer? Monthly prayer opportunities in the Prayer Center.

- **Prophetic Prayer** – 2nd Sundays 10:45AM-12:30PM.
- **Healing Prayer** – 4th Sundays 10:45AM-12:30PM.

Worship With the Word: Worship and Prayer through Scripture every Tuesday from 10-11AM.

Daily Prayer Meeting: Monday-Friday 11AM-NOON live and online at communityprayercenter.com. **We have special prayer for the Middle East every Thursday at this time.**

Scan the QR code for the full schedule of prayer opportunities.

Doubters Anonymous

"Doubting God Can Use Me" – Ephesians 2:8-10
May 11, 2025

Spring Sermon Series

DOUBTERS ANONYMOUS *Authentic Conversations About Real Doubts We Have*		
Date	**Message Title**	**Bible Text**
April 19/20	Doubting My Faith (Easter weekend)	John 20:1-31
April 27	Doubting God's Goodness	Psalm 73
May 4	Doubting Prayer (Graduating Senior Sunday)	Mark 9:14-29
May 11	Doubting God Can Use Me (Mother's Day)	Ephesians 2:8-10

Church Family Powwow

- *Live Generous* giving campaign – our annual pause to prayerfully estimate our giving for the upcoming fiscal year (Aug '25 thru July '26) so that we can set a responsible, faith-filled, good stewardship budget as a church family.
- My ask: Would every GF member and regular attender please turn in a *Live Generous* estimate of giving card this week, please.

Doubters Anonymous

- **Key premise of this sermon series:** Faith is not the absence of doubt, rather faith is believing in spite of your doubts.
- Philip Yancey: "Doubt always coexists with faith, for in the presence of certainty who would need faith at all?"
- ***Jude 1:22*** *– Have mercy on those who doubt.*

Four Keys to Help You Be Used by God (Ephesians 2:8-10)

1. Being used by God starts with getting _____ (vv.8-10)

- The Bible says that all of our so-called righteous acts done apart from Christ are actually "filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6).
- CT Studd: "Only one life, twill soon be past; only what is done for Christ will last."
- ***Hebrews 11:6*** *– Without faith it is impossible to please God.*
- In order to find and do the good works that God has planned for us to do, we must first be re-created (born a second time) in Christ (Ephesians 2:8-10).
- ***John 3:3*** *– Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God.*
- We are born again by placing our faith (trust) in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins, for the creating of a new life, and for receiving eternal life.

- ***John 1:12*** (NASB) – *But as many as received Jesus, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.*
- ***Romans 10:9*** – *If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*
- Application #1a – Receive Jesus into your life

> God, I confess that I have sinned against You, and I am sorry. I repent. Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross for all of my sins and rising from the dead! Jesus, I receive You into my life for the forgiveness of my sins and for the free gift of eternal life. Now, please make me into the person You want me to be and lead me into the good works that You have planned for me.

- Application #1b – The Bible says that the next step is to go public with your belief through public water baptism (Acts 2:38). Our next immersion baptism service is Sunday, May 18, at 12:45pm. Sign up and info here: **WhatIsGrace.org/Baptisms**
- Note: We are not saved BY good works but FOR good works.

2. Being used by God launches from seeing yourself as _____ (v.10)

- "workmanship" = *poema* = masterpiece; creation; work of art
- ***Ephesians 2:10*** (NLT) – *For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.*
- Melissa Disney: "In recognizing ourselves as God's masterpiece, we can live boldly and purposefully. We can use our gifts to serve and glorify Him. Step into the identity He has given you and walk in the good works He has prepared for you."
- Application #2 – With God's help, I choose to shut out the voices that tell me that God will never use me because I am an unworthy loser. No! God loves me so much that He sent His Son to die for me! In Christ, I am God's royal son/daughter (John 1:12). I am complete in Christ (Colossians 2:10). I am a saint (Ephesians 1:1). I am God's masterpiece whom He re-created in Christ Jesus for meaningful good works (Ephesians 2:10).

3. Being used by God involves finding your _____ _____ (v.10)

- *destiny* – noun – "what you were born for"
- Ephesians 2:10 says that God prepared good works for me to do before I was born!
- So, figure out what God's destiny assignments are for you and do them in the power of God's Spirit with full dependence on Him!
- As you seek to live out God's destiny assignments for you, it is helpful to know that there are different categories of assignments:

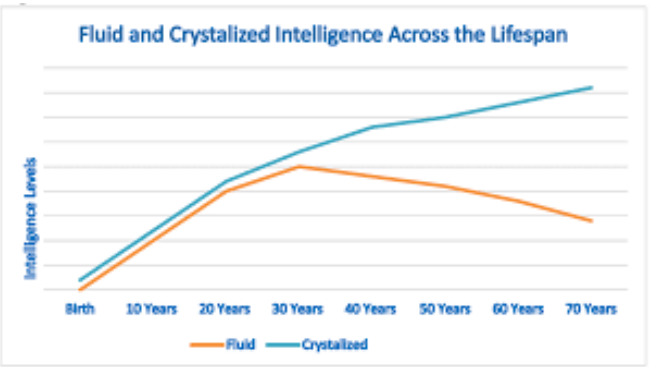
MAJOR LIFETIME ASSIGNMENTS	MEDIUM TERM ASSIGNMENTS	EVERYDAY ASSIGNMENTS
Fulfill your wedding vows to your spouse	Volunteer and serve in Kids Ministry for one year.	Take out the trash. Unload the dishwasher. Do your chores.
Love and train your children in the Lord	Complete a project at work. Coach your kid's baseball team this year.	Serve your spouse, children, friend, or neighbor today.
Love and be a good friend to others	Give faithfully back to God by tithing to your local church.	Pick up trash off the ground when no one is looking.
Make a significant contribution through your career	Save for and take your family on a meaningful vacation.	Take your spouse out on a date. Take your kid out on a date.
Make a significant contribution through volunteerism	Build a growing relationship with a coworker or neighbor.	Share your faith with a coworker or neighbor.

- To find out more about volunteering in Kids Ministry click this QR code or go here: **WhatIsGrace.org/kids-ministry-leaders**
- Application #3a – As you seek God in prayer, there are five aspects of your life to reflect on as you discern the S.H.A.P.E. God has given to you for major lifetime and for medium term assignments:
  S – Spiritual gifts – What spiritual gifts has God given to you?
  H – Heart – What are you passionate about?
  A – Abilities – What natural talents has God given to you?
  P – Personality – How is your personality wired?
  E – Experiences – What experiences have you had that could help others?
- Application #3b – Don't get so hyper-focused on lifetime destiny that you miss out on God's simple, out-of-the-spotlight, everyday assignments for you. Be faithful in the small things every day, and you will build a lifelong legacy through those everyday small things.
- ***Luke 16:10*** (NLT) – *If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones.*
- ***Luke 16:10*** (NIV) – *Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.*

4. God intends to use you until your _____ _____ (v.10)

- My good works are something that I WALK in. They are not just "one and done." They are a walk. They are not just assignments in your 30s & 40s. As long as you have breath, God has a purpose for you.
- ***Psalm 104:33*** (NLT) – *I will sing to the Lord as long as I live. I will praise my God to my last breath!*
- Paul Balius: "The way to know if God has a purpose for your life is if you're still breathing."

- Arthur Brooks (*From Strength to Strength*): "When you are young, you have raw smarts (fluid intelligence); when you are old, you have wisdom (crystallized intelligence). The fluid intelligence curve increases to one's thirties or so and then declines through the forties and fifties. Meanwhile, the crystallized intelligence curve increases through middle to late life. If your career relies solely on fluid intelligence, then you will peak and decline pretty early. But if your career requires crystallized intelligence – or if you can repurpose your professional life to rely more on crystallized intelligence – your peak will come later and your decline will happen much, much later, if ever. If you can hop onto the second curve, then you have cracked the code."



- Application #4 – Lord, help me serve and glorify You until my very last breath. What is the next thing (small or big) that You want to do through me today?
- Earl Palmer: "Nobody remembers the halftime score; where you stand at the end of the game is what really matters."
- Recommend: Bob Buford's "Halftime" and "Finishing Well"
- Application #5 – **My Difference Maker Declaration** [Gregg Matte]

> I was made for more than watching. I have a history-changing, difference-making, life-giving, Spirit-empowered legacy to leave. Jesus, I ask You to work deeply in me and clearly through me as I pray, give, and go in Your love. I am a difference maker! In Jesus' name. Amen.

Our Next Sermon Series

WHAT PROTESTANTS AND CATHOLICS CAN LEARN FROM EACH OTHER *Civil Conversations About Beliefs and Traditions*		
Date	**Message Title**	**Bible Text**
May 18	What Protestants Can Learn from Catholics	1 Thess 5:19-24
May 25	What Catholics Can Learn from Protestants	Mark 7:1-13
June 1	What About Mother Mary and the Saints?	Luke 1-2
June 8	What About Communion, Mass, and the Eucharist?	1 Corinthians 10-11
June 15	What About Purgatory, the Rosary, and Confession?	Hebrews 10:1-17
June 22	What About Celibacy and Sexual Abuse? [PG-13 sermon]	1 Corinthians 7



BAPTISM SUNDAY

MAY 18

Learn more and sign up at WhatisGrace.org/Baptism







Live Generous

GRACE FELLOWSHIP'S ANNUAL OPERATING GIVING CAMPAIGN

309
STUDENTS ATTENDED and trusted or renewed their relationship with Jesus

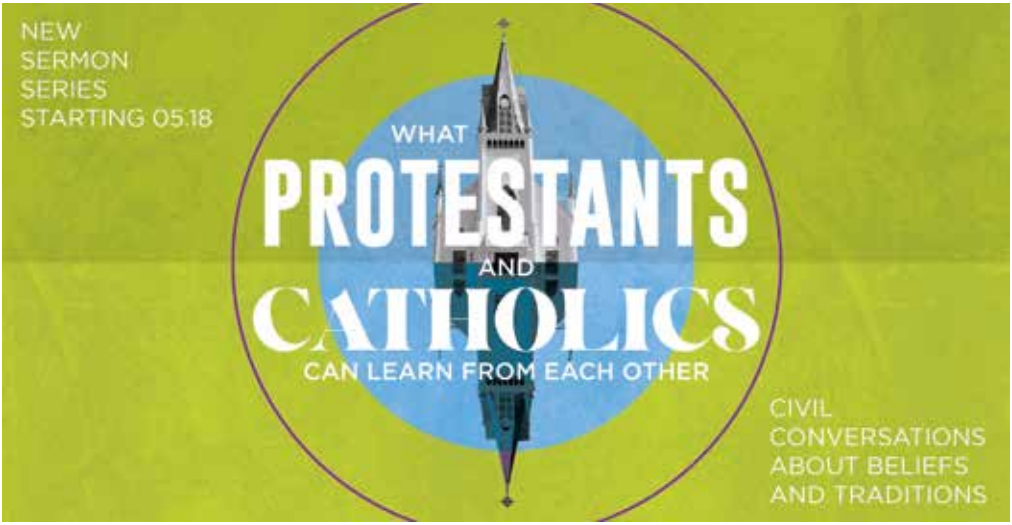
24
BABY DEDICATIONS celebrated

150
MEN'S RETREAT PARTICIPANTS who dedicated time for reflection & renewal

25K+
PRAYER REQUESTS lifted up, with **4,500 HOURS** of live prayer and worship meetings

343
BIBLES GIFTED to those who did not have one

Hey Members and Regular Attenders, prayerfully submit your estimated annual tithe commitment for fiscal year Aug '25 - Jul '26 here.





CARE MINISTRY CLASSES FALL 2025

Give yourself the gift of **encouragement & hope** this coming fall! Join **Marriage Matters** or **Parenting with Grace** and discover the areas where God is inviting you to walk with Him on your journey.

- Contact Lindsey Bender for **Marriage Matters** at LBender@WhatIsGrace.org
- Contact Michelle Sliva for **Parenting with Grace** at MSliva@WhatIsGrace.org

Need confidential care? Contact Barry Morton at BMorton@WhatIsGrace.org or call for more info 281-646-1903

Ways to **GIVE**

1. **ONLINE** – Visit WhatIsGrace.org/Giving.
2. **MOBILE –** Text **"Giving2Grace"** to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483).
3. **STOCKS OR OTHER ASSETS –** Please email us at Finance@WhatIsGrace.org regarding the transfer of stock or other assets, or to discuss including Grace Fellowship in your estate planning.