

THE CENTER OF OUR LIVES



CHILDLIKE, NOT CHILDISH



THE ANXIOUS MIND &
THE GOD WHO CARES



PERSEVERANCE



IT MATTERS

PRAYING

FOR

OTHERS

- Pray silently for the prayer request printed in your worship guide.
- Our Preschool
- Our small group led by Joann Hopkins
- For the Community Prayer Center
- For the launch of our North Katy Campus' new location
- Our mission teams serving in Mexico and Columbia
- The Af*ar of Ethiopia
- Conflicts in the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe

We ask all this for the glory of Your name.

Need Prayer? You're invited to experience God's presence through a variety of prayer gatherings hosted in the Prayer Center:

- **Prophetic Prayer** – No prophetic prayer in July.
- **Healing Prayer** – 4th Sundays, 10:45AM-12:30PM.

FOTA (Fire on the Altar) - 12Hr Burn: The Community Prayer Center is hosting a community wide 12 hour of non-stop worship and prayer starting at 8AM on Saturday, August 2! More info at CommunityPrayerCenter.com

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



It Matters: Perseverance

Nathanael Whisman – Mark 12:30

07/27/2025

Mark 12:28-30: “²⁸ And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?” ²⁹ Jesus answered, “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ And you shall **love the Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and **with all your strength.**’

What comes to mind when you hear the word **strength**?

The theme of strength is _____

- “My own plans are made. While I can, I sail east in the Dawn Treader. When she fails me, I paddle east in my coracle when she sinks as I swim east with my four paws. And when I can swim no longer if I’ve not reached Aslans’ country or shot over the edge of the world into some vast cataract, I shall sync with my nose to the sunrise”¹

Application #1

- Where do I lose sight of Christ?

Practice Praying Scripture:

- Pray Philippians 3:13-14

1. Point One: Strength through _____

- “Strength” - ἰσχὺς (*ischus*)² = Capacity of one’s being, or the fullness of strength.
- Reading from the LXX (Septuagint), which is the Greek translation of the Old Testament.³
- δύναιμι (*dynamis*) = power, strength⁴
- ἄλλῃ (*me.od*) = very, exceedingly⁵

¹ C.S. Lewis, *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (New York, NY: Harper Collins, 1952/1994), 231.

²Barbra Aland, Kurt Aland, Johannes Karavidopoulos, Carlo M. Martini, and Bruce M. Metzger, editors, *The Greek New Testament, A Readers Edition* (Stuttgart, Germany: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2014), 137.

³M. Eugene Boring, *The New Testament Library: Mark* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2006), 344.

⁴ Boring, *The New Testament Library: Mark*, 344.

⁵<https://www.stepbible.org/?q=version=ESV&reference=Deut.6&option=s=NHVUG>

⁶ Timothy Mackie, (The Bible Project), *What It Means to Love God With “All Your Strength”*, Published, March 17, 2016. Video, 2:29-

- “loving God with your “me’od” means devoting every possibility opportunity in capacity that you have to honor God and loving your neighbor as yourself. It’s the widest and most expensive word in the Shema.”⁶
- “If my heart were more content in you, O Lord, I would be less inclined to rage at others. Let my gauge be the Not in my gut, the poverty of my own understanding of the grace that I have received from a God who, loving me, chose rather to receive wounds and to give them. Take for me, myself, righteousness, and my ego-driven demands for respect. Overthrow the tyranny of my anger, O Lord, and in its place, establish a better vision of your throne, your kingdom, and your peace. Amen.”⁷

Application #2

- God, I yield _____ to you.

Practice Praying Scripture:

- Pray Matthew 6:9-10 or John 15:5

2. Point Two: Strength through _____

- Jude 3: “beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the Saints.”
- Contending = “Effort expended in a noble cause”⁸
- “The word translated “contend,” when verbalized, sounds like our word agonizing. It possesses the idea of athletes who, in an effort to win, find themselves intensely struggling, competing, even fighting with all their might.”⁹
- “Sin opposes every act of holiness and every degree of growth.”¹⁰
- As God calls you to contend for the faith, he promises to keep you. He is the supplier of all strength.

Application #3

- Is there anywhere I need to contend for faith?

2:40. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9aaVy1AmFX4&list=PLOpVVheCA-kbvqQNAZ8OUIcXUJC_6n3U4&index=6

⁷ Douglas Mckelvey, *Every Moment Holy: Volume 1* (Nashville, TN: Rabbit Room Press 2017), 254.

⁸ David R. Helm, *1-2 Peter and Jude: Sharing Christ’s Sufferings* (Wheaton: IL, Charles Simeon Trust, 2008), 295.

⁹ David R. Helm, *1-2 Peter and Jude: Sharing Christ’s Sufferings*, 295.

¹⁰ John Owen, *Mortification of Sin In Believers: In Modern English* (Modern puritans), 13.

Practice Praying Scripture:

- Pray Jude 1-4 or 24-25

Point 3: Strength through _____

- John 16:33: "I have said these things to you, that in me, you may have peace. In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."
- Romans 5:3-5: "³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us"
- "The wave of temptation may even wash you higher up upon the Rock of ages, so that you cling to it with a firmer grip than you have ever done before, and so again where sin abounds, grace will much more abound."¹¹
- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10: "⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."
- Horatio Spafford – It Is Well
"When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll—
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to know
It is well, it is well with my soul."

Application #4

- God, I trust you in/through _____.

Practice Praying Scripture:

- Pray 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

_____ is our chief example.

- "While each of these terms expresses a distinctive aspect of human being, the threefold expression is not a dividing up or parceling out of the human self; it means "with all that you are." As God is one, so, too, is authentic love of God."¹²

¹¹ Charles Spurgeon, "Sin and Grace," (1874).

¹² Boring, 344.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

NORTH KATY CAMPUS
NEW LOCATION

Open House

Sunday, August 10
starting at 5:00PM

25133 Lakecrest Manor Drive
Katy, TX 77493



Grand Opening Services
on Sunday, August 17



12HRS NON-STOP PRAYER & WORSHIP

Saturday, August 2
8AM-8PM in the
Community Prayer Center

GRIEFSHARE



If you have experienced the loss of a spouse, child or loved one and desire to have others walk alongside you through your grief to healing and hope, GriefShare provides support and encouragement!

Beginning Wednesday, August 27 from 6:30PM - 8:00PM

For more information about [GriefShare](#) or if you need assistance from the Care Ministry, please contact Lisa Rodriguez at 281.646.0863 or LRodriguez@WhatIsGrace.org.



Looking for community and spiritual growth? Find both in a **Small Group** at Grace Fellowship!

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FAITHFUL FATHERING



Join us for a **FREE** lunch and learn about this new group. All are welcome!

Scan the code to register.



INFORMATION LUNCH

AUGUST 10 | 12:45-2:15PM IN THE VISTA | CHILDCARE AVAILABLE

Ways to **GIVE**

1. **WEBSITE** – Visit WhatIsGrace.org/Giving.
2. **OUR NEW APP** – In the Church Center App, login with your phone number, and click "Give". It's super easy. Choose ACH to avoid fees.
3. **STOCKS OR OTHER ASSETS** – Please email us at Finance@WhatIsGrace.org or stock transfers, non-cash donations, or estate planning.

