WILL IN 2026?

ROMANS 12:1-2, 1 TIM 4:7-10 2 COR. 3:12-18



PRAYING FOR OTHERS

- Pray silently for the prayer request printed in your worship guide.
- Our Second Grade students
- · Our small group led by Russ and Michelle Reekwald
- Our North Katy Campus
- Neighboring church service this morning at Church of the Holy Apostles
- The Ban*jar of Indonesia
- Conflicts in the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe

We ask all this for the glory of Your name.

Need Prayer? Prayer opportunities in the Community Prayer Center:

- Prophetic Prayer 2nd Sundays, 10:30AM
- Healing Prayer 4th Sundays, 10:30AM
- Submit a Prayer Request WhatIsGrace.org/prayer-wall

Crossover Service: Join us for an evening to praise our God into the new year as a house of prayer for all nations in the Community Prayer Center! December 31 from 11PM-12:05AM.

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



Who Will You Be In 2026?

Nathanael Whisman – Romans 12:1-2, 1 Tim 4:7-10, 2 Cor. 3:12-18 12/28/2025

*There will be a kids' moment near the end of the message. It would be awesome if you could join your kids for this special moment, just for them, in the message! *

What are your New Year's resolutions?

- Keto // Paleo // Carnivore?
- Eat more sweets?
- Run a marathon?
- Go to the gym every week?
- Build your savings account?
- Pay off debt?
- Hit vour first home run?!?!?
 - psssst I hope you do!
- Read 20 books?
- Read the Bible in a year?¹



Read

What if your only goal was _____?

1. Make 2026 a year where God becomes_____ and you become

- "He must increase, but I must decrease."2
- "Aslan, Aslan. Dear Aslan," sobbed Lucy. "At Last..." "Welcome, child," he said." "Aslan," said Lucy, "you're bigger." "That is because you are older, little one," answered he. "Not because you are?" "I am not. But every year you grow, you will find me bigger.""3

What if 2026 was not so much about what we will be _____, but who we are _____?"

• "7 Have nothing to do with silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; 8 for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. 9 The saying is trustworthy and deserving full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe."

¹ Obviously, this does not apply to Grace Fellowship, we love Leviticus.

² Jn. 3:30, ESV

³ C.S. Lewis, The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (New York, NY: HarperCollins Children's Book, 2005), 148.

⁴ 1 Tim. 4:7-10, ESV

	•	What would it loo			er to have the #1	
	•	goal of Nathanael's #1 g	in 20: goal for 2026:		e Jesus.	
2. V	Vhat	is Sanctification?				
•	"ἀγιασμός" (hagiasmos) – Sanctification, Holiness, Consecration "If atonement ⁵ is the basis of the Christian life, ἀγιασμός (sanctification) is the moral form which develops out of it and without which there can be no vision of Christ." ⁶ Sanctification begins with					
•	you you trai disa	appeal to you there our bodies as a living our spiritual worship. Insformed by the re ocern what is the wi offect. 7"	g sacrifice, holy a Do not be confo enewal of your m	nd acceptable to this work ind, that by testing the te	to God, which is ld, but be ng you may	
•	be [.] like	od became man t tter man of the old teaching a horse o a winged creatu	l kind but to prod to jump better a	uce a new kind	of man. It's not	
•	sav	nctification is the p red by God's grac rou by His Spirit to r y.	e (Jesus), through	n faith (our respo	nse), God works	
•	the	are free from the presence of sin. S Guys Video ⁹ - 05:0	o, what's next?	penalty of sin, ye	et we still live in	
	•	cation is becoming "as he who called for I am holy." ¹⁰ Holy = "set apart"	d you is holy, you	also be holy"		
Bei	ng s	anctified is the inside you,	of God to that we would be that we would be the total and the tota			
(Gr	and	⁶ Gerhard Kittel, <i>T</i> Rapids, MI: Eerdm ⁷ Rom. 12:1-2, ESV	ans Publishing Co			
		⁸ C.S. Lewis, The C nity (New York, NY ⁹ Skit Guys, God's skitguys.com/vide ¹⁰ 1 Pt. 1:15-16, Le	: HarperCollins Pu :-Chisel-Abridgec os/gods-chisel-al	ublisher, 2007), 17 . View video:		

5. Why is Sanctification important?
Sanctification is important because God wants you to! "And I am sure of this, he who began a good work in you will bring to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."
 C.S. Lewis continues his analogy from earlier, "But there may be a period, while the wings are just beginning to grow, when it cannot do so: at that stage the lumps on the shoulders—no one could tell by looking at them that they are going to be wings—may even give it an awkward appearanceI used this extreme example in order to emphasize the point that it is not mere improvement but Transformation."
 Sanctification is part of your! "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, ar being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory t another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."¹³ "Yes, says Paul: we gaze at the glory of the Lord as in a mirror; but, instead of being dazzled and needing to use a veil, we find ourselves, each one of us, being changed like Moses from one degree of glory to another, because of the Lord, the Spirit, at work within us."¹⁴
"I think His plan all along has been for us to meet the people He made and feel like we just met Him." 3. Sanctification is learning to like Jesus • "Knowing and doing are two different things." 16
4.) How does Sanctification work?
God, " do you want me to <u>?"</u> God's imparted holiness is given to you by the indwelling Holy Spirit. • Sanctification is every day saving "Your Kingdom come, your will be

- done."17 There is a reason Jesus taught us to pray this way. We can never earn any aspect of our salvation. Sanctification is the process of becoming like Jesus day after day after day.
- "You Are Special" By Max Lucado (Kids moment, kids can head to the front of the stage with their parents.)
- "The maker spoke softly. "Because she has decided that what I think is more important than what they think. The stickers only stick if you let them." "What?" "The stickers only stick if they matter to you. The more you trust my love, the less you care about their stickers." "I'm not sure Lunderstand."18

¹¹ Phil. 1:6

¹² C.S. Lewis, The Complete C.S. Lewis Signature Classics: Mere Christianity (New York, NY: HarperCollins Publisher, 2007), 170-171. 13 2 Cor. 3:18, ESV

¹⁴ N. T. Wright, Paul For Everyone: 2 Corinthians (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2004), 38.

¹⁵Bob Goff, Everybody Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People (Colorado Springs, CO: Nelson Books, 2018), 5.

Application

1. _____in the Gospel of Jesus, The Christ.

- a. "The Gospel is summarized many ways throughout the New Testament, but can be expressed with the simple phrase, "Christ has Died; Christ has Risen! ... Jesus is God's way of redeeming and restoring everything that was lost to sin and death... This is the full gospel which can be summed up in one Word: Jesus!" 19
- b. Find a member on the prayer team, a pastor, parents, a friend, or a random person next to you. Anyone! Here is an example from my testimony:
 - i. Jesus, I confess my sin and separation from you.
 - ii. Jesus, I believe in your birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and promised return.
 - Jesus, I believe that through you, and only you, I can receive eternal life.
 - iv. Jesus, would you be the Savior and Lord of my life?
 - v. Jesus, I believe the Holy Spirit will work within me to make me more like you every day as I give my life to the proclamation of the Kingdom of Heaven.

____. I fully

2.	Ask, "God, what are you revealing in me through				
	a.				
3.	What _	have become idols?			
	a.	What in your life needs to be cut out, so that you are			
		becoming more like Jesus?			
	b.	"Wow, he can handle a lot."			
•	Write down one thing you want to turn from, so that you can take				
	one ste	ep in caring more about what God thinks than what others			
	think				

God, I repent of _____surrender that to you, make me more like your Son.

4. Commitment to S.O.A.P. Journaling with someone.

a. Ps. 19:7-14: 2 Tm. 3:16: Heb. 4:12

I propose an amendment to the title of the sermon. The question for 2026 is not who I will be. We are all actively being molded and shaped. The correct question, for every day, until Christ Calls or comes, is, "Who am I becoming?"

The prayer altar is open.

¹⁶ Daron Whisman, Dad, Father, Pops, Old Man, etc...

¹⁷ Mt. 6:10, ESV

¹⁸ Max Lucado, You Are Special (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1997), 29.

¹⁹ Israel Steinmetz, Living Into The Bible's Grand Story: A Weekly Devotional (Katy, TX: Nehemiah Press, 2025), 109-111.

RECOVERY WITH GRACE for MEN

Are you struggling with addictions or bad habits?

Are you struggling with addictions or bad habits? Through sharing with others and biblical teaching, discover hope, find freedom, and experience victory in your circumstances. Recovery with Grace offers a biblical-based small group for men who are recovering from destructive habits or co-dependency. This group includes the support of others to maintain a life free of addictive behavior.

For location & details, contact Chris Pickering: 281.646.1903 or CPickering@WhatlsGrace.org.

If you are a woman struggling with addictions, please contact the Care Ministry, Care@WhatIsGrace.org.

Every Wednesday 7–9PM



NEW YEAR'S SERIES
STARTING JANUARY 4

READY













READY FOR ANYTHING WITH THE ARMOR OF GOD

LET'S FACE IT

LIFE IS REALLY DIFFICULT SOMETIMES! LIFE IS A BATTLE! God never intended for us to face life's battles alone or unarmed. His Word gives us everything we need, even dedicating a full chapter to teaching us how to stand firm. As we begin a new year, we want to learn together what it looks like to fight the battles of life God's way.



Your generosity has made a meaningful impact at Grace Fellowship this year. As we **Live Generous**, lives are being shaped, families are being supported, and the hope of Jesus is being shared in our church and beyond. As we look ahead to all God is doing and preparing to do, we invite you to partner with us through a special year-end gift. Your giving helps fuel ministry, strengthen our church, and create space for others to encounter grace. **Make a Difference:** You can give multiple ways:

- Online: Visit WhatisGrace.org/Giving or use the Church Center App.
- In Person: Give today with your offering or you can also drop off your gift in the secure dropbox by the Ministry Center front doors by 11:59 PM on December 31st.
- Other Ways to Give: For mail, bill pay, or stock donations, please ensure your gift is initiated by December 31st for it to be tax-deductible in 2025.

Questions? Contact DJ Farr, Finance Director, at 281.646.1903 or Finance@WhatIsGrace.org. DJ will be available in the church offices today from 9AM to 12PM.



Ways to **GIVE**

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

