

Worship

January 29, 2012

"The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results". (Albert Einstein)

24 And Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his household, who had charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh, 3 that I may make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell, 4 but will go to my country and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac." 5 The servant said to him, "Perhaps the woman may not be willing to follow me to this land. Must I then take your son back to the land from which you came?" 6 Abraham said to him, "See to it that you do not take my son back there. 7 The Lord, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my kindred, and who spoke to me and swore to me, 'To your offspring I will give this land,' he will send his angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. (Gen 24.2-7)

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

3 So he told them this parable: 4 "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' 7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. (Luke 15.1-7)

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

Declaring What We Believe: Confession of Faith

Welcoming Each Other (Kids may go to Sunday School)

Giving Back to God: Offering

Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you." (Gen 28.16-22)

(Gifts to Grace Hill support the life and work of our church community. Our budget also reflects for twenty percent of gifts to go to works of local and global mission.)

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading Jonah 3.1-5

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." 3 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. 4 Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" 5 And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives: Sermon

Insanity?

1. Why God Says to Go.
2. What is Going?
3. How We Go.



Grace Hill Church

To live out a hopeful, credible, Biblical picture of God's grace and truth in Jesus Christ
and to grow together in maturity and mission.

Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Reading

Father, forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (Matthew 6.12,13)

Father, we struggle to understand the tenacity of your relational pursuit of us, but we have an even harder time receiving and responding to your pursuit of us to "Arise and Go." We need your help. Confirm your existing call to us. Give us eyes to see the form and texture of the Gospel in it. Give us faith to go to our Nineveh when you call. Equip us. Help us to grow together in maturity and mission.

Private Reflection

The Grace and Forgiveness of Christ

We find many reasons to turn away from our Ninevehs, but Jesus arose and went to His with joy. (Heb 12.2) Where we struggle and flee, doubt and resist, he was faithful. We are prideful; he humbled himself becoming obedient (Phil 2.8). We worry about consequences; he despised the shame (Heb 12.2). But in his going to the cross he has healed us from our fleeing--not only flee from him relationally but missionally. In Christ we find forgiveness and also the relational resources to respond to His call to know and serve Him in His world.

Remembering Jesus with Bread and Cup: Lord's Supper

Jesus called those who find their life in His death and resurrection to receive the bread and cup as a tangible sign to remember and be strengthened by His Gospel. It is a spiritual meal for all who believe in Him. While Jesus spent time with everyone, he also shared the bread and cup only with those who followed him. Children who have not yet become *communing members* should not take the bread and cup but talk with our pastor or an elder about their personal faith.

On the first and third Sundays of the month, we come forward as families, groups and individuals to receive the bread and cup and for a prayer of blessing. The second, fourth and fifth Sundays, we remain seated, with time to personally remember Jesus' death and resurrection for us with the bread and cup. Whether you take the elements or not, we encourage you to either come forward for prayer or use the time for personal reflection about your relationship with Jesus.

**Juice is in the outer ring; wine is in inner rings.*

Taking hold of the Good Word: Benediction ("the good word")

"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word." 2 Thess. 2:16, 17

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Bread and Cup

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reason for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of your identity. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am more wicked and sinful than I ever dared allow, but through you I am more loved and accepted that I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, to give me complete forgiveness and rightness with God. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, in joy I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Grace Hill Financial Information:

- Ave. Monthly expenses (approx.): \$14,000
- Ave. Monthly 2011 giving: \$11,621
- Starting January 2012, monthly external giving will be: \$1,667
- Projected monthly shortfall starting Jan 2012 based on 2011 giving: \$721

Grace Hill Upcoming Events and Opportunities:

- Congregational Meeting 2/8/12 at 6:30pm. (You will make it home for the UNC/Duke game!)
- Men's Wednesday 6:30 am prayer and study at Grace Hill.
- Men's RTP Lunch study at Rudino's RTP
- Women's Thursday am Bible Study, see Margaret Barr.
- Women's Tuesday night study at GH at 7:00 pm.



**Grace
Hill
Church**

Grace Hill is a church that seeks to live by and testify to the grace and truth of Jesus Christ (see John 1.14-18). We are affiliated with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, a denomination with a rich history of Christ's grace and truth. Our pastor is Ross Durham; he can be reached by email at ross@gracehillchurch.net or by cell phone at 919.593.2169.

Our Worship Director is Michael Musser and our Children's Ministry Co-Directors are Robyn Musser and Kaylyn Fernandez.

Address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Ste. 500, Hillsborough, NC 27278 **Phone:** 919.617.1792

Web: www.gracehillchurch.net **Facebook Group:** Grace Hill Church News **Twitter:** Gracehillchurch