



***Believe it  
or Not***

John 7-12

# Today's Worship Service

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## PRAISE

*Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. (Psalm 29:2)*

Welcome & Announcements

Call To Worship

[“Center My Life”](#)

[“God is For Us”](#)

Pastor Ryan Boyer

[Psalm 119:37-40](#)

Land, Ivey

Ferguson, Tealy, Robinsin, Thompson,  
Kelyn, Farren, Reeves

## RENEWAL

*As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12)*

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Grace

[“This I Believe”](#)

[“There is a Fountain”](#)

Pastor Ryan Boyer

[Romans 6:17-18](#)

Fielding, Crocker

Cowper, Mason

## PROCLAMATION

*Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. (Psalm 25:4)*

Reading of the Word

[John 8:31-59](#)

Kari DeBerg

*Reader: This is God's Word for us today.*

*All: Thanks be to God.*

Preaching of the Word

Pastor Mike Matheson

## RESPONSE

*Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. (Psalm 63:3)*

Communion

[“Who You Say I Am”](#)

Benediction

Pastor Cole Griffin

Fielding, Morgan

Pastor Mike Matheson

## John 8:31-59

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*The Truth Will Set You Free*

[31] So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, [32] and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” [33] They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free?’”

[34] Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. [35] The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. [36] So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. [37] I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. [38] I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.”

*You Are of Your Father the Devil*

[39] They answered him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, [40] but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did.” [41] You are doing the works your father did.” They said to him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God.” [42] Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. [43] Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. [44] You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies,

he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. [45] But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. [46] Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? [47] Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

*Before Abraham Was, I Am*

[48] The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” [49] Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. [50] Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. [51] Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” [52] The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ [53] Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” [54] Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ [55] But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. [56] Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” [57] So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” [58] Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” [59] So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple. (ESV)

# Sermon Notes

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**Preacher:** Pastor Mike Matheson

**Sermon:** Does Anyone Really Need Jesus?

**Scripture:** [John 8:31-59](#)

**Date:** October 4, 2020

## ***For more information on this topic look into:***

***John: A 12-Week Study.*** (Knowing the Bible series) by Justin Buzzard

***John 1-12 For You*** (God's Word for You) by Josh Moody

***ESV Scripture Journal***

*October 4 - 10 Memory Verse*

*So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

[John 8:32-32](#)

# Sermon Review Discussion Questions

These questions are for *after* the sermon and can be used for Life Group discussion, one-to-one discipleship, or personal reflection and application.

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For some—if not many—the thought of asking for help seems like a declaration of defeat. Further, there is a sense in which we now feel indebted to the one who gave us help. We would much rather be self-reliant and independent rather than beholden to another. Yet, when confronted with the truth—namely the truth of Jesus' word—we are confronted with our genuine need for him. Though we think we are most free when dependent on nobody, Christ confronts us with the reality that the only true way to experience freedom is in him.

## Discussion Questions

1. How well do you ask for help when you need it? What do you think keeps you (or people) from asking for help? To what extent do you think the idea of needing a "savior" closes people off from hearing the gospel? Why is this such a hard reality to accept?
2. What is the truth that Jesus declares regarding our relationship to sin (8:33-38)? Why was this such a difficult truth to accept? How important is it for us to embrace this truth in order to come to Christ? What is it about Jesus that makes him able to set us free?
3. Those engaging Jesus claimed Abraham as their father. On what grounds does Jesus challenge their allegiance (8:39-47)? Where would someone watching you say your allegiance rests? How do our actions and response to God's word display our allegiance?
4. How does Jesus offer to set free people from death (8:48-59)? Why does Jesus' claim to precede Abraham seem so audacious? How does this further support his claims to have come from above? Why is Jesus' eternity so important for us to receive eternal life?
5. Why must anyone coming to Christ be confronted with the truth of their enslavement to sin, Satan, and death? How does the truth of who Jesus is uniquely provide true freedom for those wanting it? What are ways we can tangibly grow into the freedom he's given us?

# Announcements

## Men's Gathering

October 10, 8-9:30am

Topic: Testing Your Faith

Men's Gatherings are a time for men to connect, be taught from God's word and spur one another in our faith. All men are welcome!



## Child Dedication

October 25, during service

Required class:

October 11, 11:15 am

Child dedication ceremony is not only an opportunity to celebrate as a church, but is also a time for parents to publicly commit to God's plan. Learn more at [graceinracine.com](http://graceinracine.com).



## Senior Adults Bible Study

**October 8th, 12:30pm - 2pm**

Seniors Adults Bible Study is a great opportunity to experience fellowship, study the Bible, and connect with other seniors.



## Sunday Morning Childcare

Childcare is available for children 12-48 months of age. You must RSVP each week online as there is limited space in the classrooms.



## Help Teen Parents

Parent Life Group, a Grace Local Partnership, is an outreach to teen parents that provides gospel-centered loving support, life-skill training, items for their babies, and meals during group.



Immediate needs:

- Weekly group meals - sign up using QR code
- Diapers sizes: newborn, 1, 2, 4, 5
- Boy/girl clothes sizes: 12-18 month

Contact Dawn Wade for more info:  
[dawn.e0707@yahoo.com](mailto:dawn.e0707@yahoo.com)

Drop items off at designated table at Grace on: October 4 & 11.

## This Week at Grace

### **Tues, Oct. 6**

6:15pm: MOPs, B60

6:30pm: Celebrate Recovery, The Loft

5:00pm: Parent Life Group, Commons

### **Wed, Oct. 7**

6:45pm: Awana

6:30pm: Blaze

### **Thurs, Oct. 8**

12:30pm: Senior Adult Bible Study

### **Sat, Oct. 10**

8:00am: Men's Gathering

# Welcome to Grace Church!

It's great to have you here today and we'd love to connect with you! Visit [graceinracine.com/connectcard](http://graceinracine.com/connectcard) or scan this QR code to let us know you visited, ask questions, submit prayer requests, or indicate an area of Grace Church that is of interest to you.



## Friendly Reminders:

- Those 5 years of age and up must wear a face-covering when attending Sunday worship services.
- Please maintain social distancing.
- After service, please exit the building and use outside spaces to visit while still maintaining distancing.
- If sharing a pew with another family please ensure 6 ft between your two families.
- Offering boxes are located outside the main sanctuary doors and in the balcony.
- The seating outside the sanctuary window is reserved for parents with infants and young children.
- The church staff is available by appointment, phone, and video conferencing during the week.
- Thanks for your understanding and patience!

*Please pray for healing and recovery for those hospitalized or recently discharged: Karen Wilkinson, Gayle Manske, Karen Shorey, Gina Boyer*

*On the passing of Richard Binder, we extend our sympathies to his wife, Beverly Binder.*

*On the passing of Nick Allen, we extend our sympathies to his sister, Elizabeth (Russ) Jenks.*

*On the passing of Francisco (Pancho) Reyes, we extend our sympathies to his brother, Jose (Jan) Reyes.*

*On the passing of Betty Hilker, we extend our sympathies to her son, Jon (Deb) Hilker and daughter, Julia (Kyle) Scantling.*

**Last Week:** Sanctuary Attendance: 350 // Livestream Attendance: 141 households

**Giving:** Last Week: \$55,820 YTD: \$1,176,827 +/- Budget: \$18,544

Here are some key words to listen for in the sermon. Make a mark every time you hear these words:

ABIDE

TRUTH

FREE

FATHER

BELIEVE



# Does Anyone Really Need Jesus?

**FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW AND THINK ABOUT HOW EACH TIES IN WITH TODAY'S BIBLE PASSAGE:**

**ABIDE  
ABRAHAM  
BELIEVED**

**FATHER  
FOREVER  
FREE**

**GLORIFY  
KILL  
LIAR**

**SLAVERY  
SONS  
STONES**

**TRUTH  
UNDERSTAND  
WORD**

U C K D V F Q K G E G T V Z L R W J V X Z S W B P D Y M M I  
 F E R T A Z D B I A B O G A S U J O C W J L Y R Z T V A G X  
 I O K T R M N K I R M Z I Q X B N D Q U A A A X G Y H L O T  
 W G H R U R B R R J B T P R F G H B S Y Q V V F I A I R E D  
 A E K S L R B L R B Y S Z S M E A V P F Q E W D R F T U M Y  
 R C T A K Y L O U R I Y E H U F S P B U Y R P B L U T R U I  
 R T J M V S N I B F L D T E Q Y F K J U B Y A A L H L I G T  
 N T G C U Q B U A Q O M O M G P J O Q V Q Z Y N X L C V H V  
 M D A U G A C S M R B R G Q S G C A Z L S A T B F P G I S O  
 A F R A W G E Z U C S G E N R E P T J X B K O K T H K S O S  
 U S K Z S A Q E R P P I N V N P O N S Y Y J J L C A H B I I  
 Q R A Z U H E V R M D L F Y E Y W W K H O U X K T W X T X I  
 F B L H R V X V E L S C D H K R Q X G V Q F O I X H V H B V  
 G A D K N R G D K D U Q U F T C S W P F P V E I Y V J O D Z  
 U W R H O V K F G G I P P S E N O T S O F N U M H W Z K G E  
 F Z C N L X B N G P S B K I L L D B Q T S A Z H Q B A B B U  
 R P Y N A H Z L L O U O A Y T T E N G L O R I F Y D R A W N  
 E A F Y N K B Q N X Z D B X P E W A A S P O N A K E V Q A I  
 E N M W Y P V S M L H J B J V F Q S X T O X H B P V O H Q U  
 M Y K J N Y J V H M T D I W G S N O O C S U Y D K E V W F O  
 K G B H Q S O P S U U P R G J H T S H Y O R H W K I U Y F X  
 E O I X N S K J G J H G V Z K E W Z L G C B E A M L Y G V D  
 W W S K Q Z L L E T D L C N S H F S R Z P G C D W E Q C X S  
 L B L D I Y D J H C U O D R P U Y Y X U N C D D N B K R U G  
 C R Z N C V K S T J M G A E G R U W G I Z H P D O U X U K I  
 X W F A V K W J U Y Y X T R O Z X F X H C P G D D V V V B J  
 O Q V W Z D K Z R F Y Z T N G M Z W H J X X G O D X F W Z L  
 T I U S A C Q T T H L L H H X X I C A F R H W Q Y G E L N R  
 Q E E L J B N T S S I D C Z D R U E C J H H F Y W V Y Y L J  
 R A V V Q G C G X E L M W N X O P V U W W O B Y E E Y J Z Z

**THIS WEEK'S  
MEMORY VERSE IS  
JOHN 8:31-32!**

“So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, ‘If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”  
 John 8:31-32

**Work on committing this verse to memory and thinking about it this week.**

***What does it mean to abide in God's Word?***

***How does the truth set us free?***

***Why do you think Jesus said this specifically to those who had believed in Him and not to everyone?***



**REVIEW TODAY'S MESSAGE BY DISCUSSING THESE QUESTIONS AS A FAMILY:**

1. Read John 8:31-59 together as a family. Retell the events of this passage in your own words. Where is this taking place? What is Jesus saying about Himself? How are people responding to what Jesus is saying?
2. Have you ever thought of yourself as a slave to sin? How does that word picture make you think about sin in your life and why you sin? What does Jesus say will free us from slavery to sin?
3. Read Romans 4:1-8, in what ways are we to follow Abraham? How was Abraham saved? How are we saved? How did the people Jesus was talking to in today's passage think that they were saved?
4. What is Jesus referring to when he says in verse 58, "Before Abraham was, I am"? Where are some other places in the Bible where you have seen God or Jesus specifically address themselves as I AM or with an "I am..." statement?  
 Make a list.
5. What does it mean to truly know God? What does Jesus say in this passage is true of those who truly know God? Do you know God? Explain your answer.