

THE POINT

DECEMBER 2018



THE PASTOR'S CORNER

BALANCE

Recently I have found myself feeling like a trapeze artist 100 feet in the air, trying not to look down as I walk across this tight rope called "life". Have you ever felt this way? As we travel through this Holiday Season, I believe it is important to remember to maintain balance in our lives. Marriage, kids, work, holidays, and in-laws are hard enough to balance without throwing in a relationship with God, not to mention finding time to serve the church.

Maybe we feel this way because we have our lives out of balance and we need to reorient ourselves. I mean, we cannot expect to keep balance on the tight rope when there is so much going on around us, right? What if I told you there is a way to keep your balance and have no fear of falling off? God has given us simple ways to keep our lives balanced, all it takes is intentionality.

Galatians 5:25 says, "If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit." You see, when you are trying to walk on a tight rope you need a counter weight, something that can correct you when your body shifts in the wrong direction. On a tight rope, you use a long pole to help correct your body, whereas in life, we use the Holy Spirit. If you want to maintain balance in your life, you must stay in communion with the Holy Spirit. At the end of Ephesians 6, Paul tells us to pray in the Spirit in all things. The Holy Spirit is a gift from God that we should not take for granted.

Hebrews 12:2 says, "Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished the race we are in." Study how He did it. Because He never lost sight of where He was headed – that exhilarating finish in and with God – He could put up with anything along the way: cross, shame, whatever. And now He's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. We also need a focal point when walking across a tight rope. If we get distracted, we may fall before reaching the other side. Our focal point in life, given to us by the Father, is Jesus. If we keep our eyes upon Him, it is a lot easier to keep our balance in this life.

Finally, we need a safety net, just in case we do fall. Proverbs 27:17 says, "As Iron sharpens iron, so does one man sharpen another." As Christians, our safety net is other believers. We may be able to make it across the tight rope by ourselves, but it is comforting to know we have people who will catch us if we fall.

Three things you need keep balance during this season is, first, commune with the Holy Spirit in prayer and in reading the Word of God. Second, seek Jesus as your life's focal point. Finally, get plugged into a small group. Let other believers encourage you and pick you up along the way. God wants you to live life on Earth abundantly with and through Him. Do not take for granted this beautiful relationship our Heavenly Father longs to have with you.

Peace and Blessing, Phillip McGuire

Weekly Worship Services

Sunday

Sunday Small Groups

9:00 AM | Various

Worship Service

10:00 AM | Sanctuary

Tuesday

Celebrate Recovery

6:00 PM | Various

Wednesday

Children's Ministry

6:15 PM | Fellowship Hall

Student Ministry

6:15 PM | Fellowship Hall

Adult Bible Study

6:30 PM | Sanctuary

GRACEPOINT'S NEWEST MEMBERS

Hannah Pierce

Marge Shultz

Hulon Rylant



YOUTH EVENTS

Youth (and youth parents) please mark your calendars. We will not have Motion this month. On Wednesday, December 12th, we will welcome guest speaker Travis Prentice.

Also, our Christmas party will be at 6:00 p.m. on December 19th.

Invite a friend to both of these events!

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Join us Christmas Day as we will have a time of family fellowship beginning at 6:00 p.m. Bring any left leftover desserts from your Christmas lunch. We will play games & fellowship. No large or small groups that night.

On New Year's Day we will have a New Year fellowship as well to celebrate a new beginning in 2019.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Community Service—Our men will be serving at the Wetumpka Food Pantry the **first Saturday** of each month from 9:15 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

GPCC KID'S CHURCH – NEW 7 WEEK November/December Series, "Star Voyager"



On this voyage through outer space, we'll learn our true identities as we discover exactly who God says we are.

Memory Verse: "We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do." Ephesians 2:10 (NirV)}

SERIES OUTLINE:

Week	Need to Know	Bible Lesson	Scripture
1	I Am Made By God	Creation & David's Psalm	<i>Genesis 1 & Psalm 139</i>
2	I Am Accepted	Zacchaeus	<i>Luke 19:1-20 & Romans 15:7</i>
3	I Am Forgiven	The Prodigal Son	<i>Luke 15:11-32 & Col. 1:13-14</i>
4	I Am Changed	The Woman at the Well	<i>John 4</i>
5	I Am Victorious	Daniel	<i>Daniel 6</i>
6	I Am Made for a Purpose	Jeremiah	<i>Jeremiah 29</i>
7	I Am Loved By God	Jesus Is Born	<i>Luke 2 & 1 John 4</i>



Our Baby Shower is Sunday, December 16 at 1:30 p.m. If you selected a onesie, please have your wrapped gift/gifts, with the

Onesie attached, back to the church by Sunday, December 9th. If you would like to help with the Baby Shower, please see Ashley Williams or Paige Butler.

The Princess Day date has been set—January 6th. Please keep your eyes open on how you can help pamper / serve our moms.

Are you looking for a place to serve? Join the “Provision Plate Meal Ministry” at GPCC. We are looking for volunteers that are willing to share



God’s love through the provision of meals to our church family during their times of need, such as, following surgery, loss of loved ones, childbirth/adoption, etc. If you would like to serve on

this team or have a current need for meals please contact Crystal Rucker at 334-657-8157 or email gpcemeals@gmail.com.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Women In God’s Service (WINGS) will be meeting in the home of Kristina Garr on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 9:30 am. We will begin our study in the book of 1 Peter.

It will be a great time of fellowship, while studying God’s Word! For more information, please contact Kristina Garr at 970-589-3594.

MINISTRY CONTACT INFORMATION

Senior Pastor:

Ernie Willis: pastor@gracepoint.info
205-370-0032

Worship Pastor:

Mike Ray: mike@gracepoint.info

Children’s Pastor:

Jason LaVigne: jason@gracepoint.info

Youth Pastor:

Phillip McGuire: phillip@gracepoint.info

Celebrate Recovery Pastor:

Gwin Greathouse: cr@gracepoint.info
334-398-3113

Leadership Team:

Don Galbreath, Chair: dgalbreath@gracepoint.info

SUNDAY MORNING SMALL GROUPS

Maranatha—Hud and Jennifer Abrams

The Vine—Paul and Brenda Thornton

Cornerstone—Byron and Pam Beasley

Young Marrieds—Greg and Joy Willis

Real—Matty and Kristina Garr

Youth—Phillip McGuire

HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

Do you have ministry information to share? Here is how to get it done! Send all promo information to:

announcements@gracepoint.info This will allow your information to be included in both the Worship Guide and our monthly newsletter.

Any information you want publicized via our social media platforms (FaceBook, Instagram, Twitter) please send the info and a graphic (if you have one) for the event to info@gracepoint.info or pastor@gracepoint.info

GRACE POINT STUDENTS

Keep up-to-date on the numerous Youth Events on via our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/JessesTree/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHURCH-WIDE

December 1 –Eclectic Christmas

EMBRACE GRACE MINISTRY

December 16–Baby Shower

January 6–Princess Day for the Blooms

MEN'S MINISTRY

December 1 –Wetumpka Food Pantry

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

December 1 –Ornament Swap

YOUTH MINISTRY

December 12–Guest Speaker

December 19–Christmas Party

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

December 25–Fellowship: Dessert/Games