

THE POINT

JULY 2019



THE PASTOR'S CORNER

There is an interesting question that is posed in Matthew 18:1- “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”.

To understand the full weight of the question, it’s important to see the greater context. In Matthew 17, Jesus is transfigured. Peter, James and John are present. There is no indication that any of the other disciples were there. Although it’s not mentioned, I would like to think that somewhere between chapter 17 & 18, there was a “behind the scene” discussion with the disciples as to *who really is the greatest*. Peter, James, and John must have been beaming with awe and pride that they were present at such a remarkable event.

Did their experience cause jealousy with the other disciples? Perhaps there was a hint of resentment. We don’t know. But we do know the question. It was a question saturated in selfishness. It was an inquiry that smacked of people attempting to posture themselves for recognition.

However, the answer to their question may have come as a surprise. Rather than the answer focusing on power, prestige, or prominence, Jesus said that anyone who desired greatness must become like a child.

A child personifies dependency and trust. Everything a child needs has to be provided for them. Being a child requires a great sense of humility; needing others to do what you can’t.

These words of Jesus remain true today. Greatness is not achieved by getting to the top. It’s not achieved at the expense of anyone else. It’s not achieved by pushing our selfish agendas. Greatness begins when I submit my entire life to God’s control and live a daily, surrendered life to Him. By nature, we crave NOT to submit. Yet, for those who are willing, “He gives us more grace. God opposes the proud but give grace to the humble” (James 4:6).

Our humility reflects Christ’s work in us. The more we press into Jesus, the more we desire to position ourselves as humble people. We will put others before ourselves. We will give preference to others. We will consider the needs of others before we consider our own needs. Christ’s agenda becomes our agenda.

Be humble. Walk with God. Enjoy Greatness.

Pastor Ernie

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

CELEBRATE RECOVERY NEEDS HELP

We need volunteers! Please let us know if you are available to serve in the CR Nursery and/or provide meals. If we could get enough volunteers, you would only need to serve about every 6 weeks.

Please contact Gwin Greathouse at

cr@gracepoint.info or 334-398-3113

VISION & DIRECTION: OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO MAKE DISCIPLES. WE WILL DO THIS BY ANSWERING, "WHAT IS MY NEXT STEP?"

THESE STEPS ARE:

KNOW GOD, CONNECT IN A GROUP, FIND PURPOSE, MAKE AN IMPACT!



SUMMER SMALL GROUPS

The details for the summer semester small groups are as follows:

The Vine (Paul Thornton 334-717-1018): Mostly comprised of middle and senior age people, this group focuses on improving our spiritual walk and using Scriptures to guide our conversations. This group meets Sundays at 9am in room #7 on the main hallway.

Andy Griffith Bible Study (Ernie Willis 205-370-0032): This is a mixture of young, middle aged, older people, both single and married, the Mayberry Bible Study series uses episodes of The Andy Griffith show as modern parables on the teaching of Jesus. Meets in room #8 on the main hallway at 9am on Sundays.

Maranatha (Hud Abrams 334-462-2691): Comprised of younger and middle-aged couples, this group is currently studying the book of Romans by reading verse by verse and having discussions. This group meets on Sundays at 9am in room #6 on the main hallway.

Finding I AM (Paige Butler 334-707-1359): Women's group meeting on Sundays at 9am. Studying Lysa Terkeurst's "Finding I AM", exploring the seven I AM statements of Jesus found in the Gospel of John. (Meets in the room across from the copier. I cant remember the room number.)

Jammin' for Jesus (Michele Willis 205-296-1029 and David Williams 334-202-2245): Mixed group meeting weekly in Emerald Mountain for a time of worship and prayer.

Anxious for nothing (Mary McLean 334-324-2922): Women's' group meeting on Thursday mornings at 10 am near Tallassee on Weldon Rd beginning July 11th. In Anxious for Nothing, Max Lucado leads readers to reflect on the promises of **Philippians 4:4-8**. This passage from Paul's epistle contains an antidote to anxiety that will help you develop a mindset of resilience. Rediscover the power of prayer and take control of your thoughts.

Father Like Son (David Williams 334-202-2245 Cody and Devon Williams): Father/son group meeting on Saturday mornings at different locations throughout Elmore and Montgomery counties. Spend intentional time doing things guys love. Outings and events with a devotional at each meeting.

Slaying the Giants in Your Life (Jim Ray 256-749-0069): Mixed group meeting on Sundays at 4pm in Emerald Mountain. David Jeremiah's book with help you fight fear, destroy discouragement, win against worry, and disarm your doubts.

MISSION TRIP

On **Sunday July 7** we will have a commissioning time for our Matamoros Y LaQuipilla Mexico mission team - **Ernie, Michele, Carson and Jackson Willis; Ashley, Cody and Devin Williams; Michelle Swaney; Leah Dodge; Hannah Hendry; Candice Jackson; Stephanie and Larry Weatherly; Quintin and Amelia Easterling; Dekkar Wagnon and Brooke Ison**. **July 12-18** we will be partnering with Christo Camino Iglesia and One Mission Ministries in the serving in following ways: Orphanage and Children's ministries, VBS clubs, street evangelism, medical clinics, food and shoe distributions. Please raise our team up in prayer as we prepare our hearts to serve as the hands and feet of Christ.

VISION & DIRECTION: OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO MAKE DISCIPLES.

WE WILL DO THIS BY ANSWERING, "WHAT IS MY NEXT STEP?"

THESE STEPS ARE:

KNOW GOD, CONNECT IN A GROUP, FIND PURPOSE, MAKE AN IMPACT!



It's time to Suit Up with all of God's armor, so that we will have the power to stand against the enemy's lies and tricks. In Large Group, we'll join a superhero named The Clock and her best friend, Sid, on a Summer vacation to Epic World where they will learn how to use God's armor to defeat the evil villain, Acro Phobia. In small group, we'll have fun as we learn how to use this armor in our everyday lives.

Memory Verse: "Put on all of God's armor. Then you can remain strong against the devil's evil plans." Ephesians 6:11

Wk	Need to Know	Bible Lesson	Scripture
1	Suit Up with God's Armor	David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17
2	Suit Up with the Belt of Truth	The Fall	Genesis 3
3	Suit Up with the Armor of Godliness	Gideon	Judges 6:1-32
4	Suit Up with the Good News Boots	The Great Commission	Matthew 18:16-20
5	Suit Up with the Shield of Faith	Exploring Canaan	Numbers 13-14
6	Suit Up with the Helmet of Salvation	Jesus Heals an Official's Son	John 4:46-53
7	Suit Up with the Sword of the Spirit	Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness	Matthew 4:1-11
8	Suit Up and Pray	The Sun Stands Still	Joshua 10:1-14



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!!!!

Bring a friend and join us for a free event:

Saturday, August 3rd "Crazy Dinner-Crazy Life" at 6:00 p.m. in the GPCC Fellowship Hall. A dinner to remember with special guest speaker at no cost!! Reserve your slots on the GPCC website under the women's ministry tab. RSVPs will close July 29th.

Save the Date: **Saturday, October 5th** at 8:00 a.m., "8th Annual River Region Prayer Walk" in Montgomery, AL. The women of GPCC will be forming a group to prayerfully walk together at this event. Details to follow in the Fall.

Are you interested in helping develop the Women's Ministry events calendar for 2020? Would you like to be on the planning committees? Please contact Emily Shade at 478-213-3634 with any suggestions.

Contact Emily Shade at 478-213-3634 with any questions.



Our next Membership Class is Sunday, **August 4th** following the morning service! Are you new to Grace Point? Wanting to know more about who we are and what we believe? Are you ready to talk about planting roots here and officially join GPCC?

If so, this class is for you! To register for the class, simply email info@gracepoint.info. Lunch will be provided so please indicate in your email how many will be attending!



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, follow-

ing 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 gpccmeals@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHURCH-WIDE

- July 3 No Service
- July 7 Commissioning Service for Mission Team
- July 12-18 Matamoros Y LaQuipilla Mexico Mission Trip
- August 4 New Members Class
- August 11 Baptism Service
- August 11 Night of Worship
- August 17 Back To School Drive In Movie

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

- July 9 No Service
- July 10-12 Celebrate Recovery Summit
- July 30 Testimony Tuesday: Mike Palombi with Prisoner of Hope Ministries

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

- July 23 Serving: CR Dinner
- August 3 Crazy Dinner, Crazy Life

MINISTRY LEADER'S CONTACT

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

If you have questions or recommendations for our Leadership Team, please send an email to: askleadership@gracepoint.info