

IN PURSUIT



Welcome to Grace Community Church. I'm glad you've joined us this morning. On a beautiful day like today it's great to gather together and celebrate God. We believe God can be known personally and provides direction for our lives. If you'd like to know more about Him or us, stop by the Discover Grace Counter in the Lobby or come to the Guest Coffee any Sunday at 10:45am in Room A1.

Today Pastor Richard Gotthardt is giving a message on how critical biblical community is to our lives. I appreciate Richard teaching God's Word while I spend some time this weekend in community with the Elders on a retreat. We really appreciate your prayers and encouragement as we seek God and His will. You make serving and leading at Grace Community Church a blessing!



Discover Grace Coffee
10:45am, Room A1

In His Wake,

Scott Jones

The Carnations on our stage represent the lives of those who have recently accepted Christ as their Savior through the outreach efforts of those at Grace.

- A man from Grace led a teenager to Christ at work.
- A GO team to Senegal led three children to Christ.
- A woman from Grace led a woman to Christ at work.
- A girl from Grace led her 14-year old friend to the Lord at a sleepover.



Today's Memory Verse

Philippians 2:29-30

"²⁹Welcome him [Epaphroditus] in the Lord with great joy, and honor men like him, ³⁰because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me."

Foxhole Friendships

Pastor Richard Gotthardt - Philippians 2:19-30

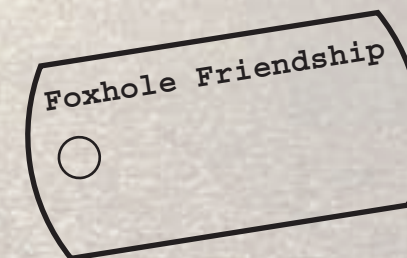
• Invite others into their _____

• Keep _____

• Are _____ to take a _____ for you

• Give _____ where _____ is due

~Notes~



Today's Service

- ~ prelude ~
- ~ praise & worship ~
- ~ welcome ~
- ~ offertory - *Blessed* ~
- ~ praise & worship ~
- ~ offertory - *When You Are A Soldier* ~
sung by Dave Zipfel
- ~ message - Pastor Richard Gotthardt ~
- ~ response ~
- ~ benediction ~
- ~ postlude ~

Core Competency:

Biblical Community

Creed:

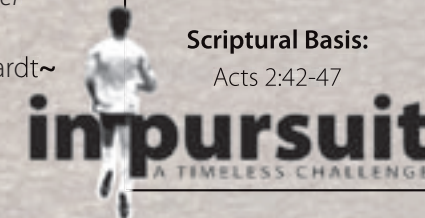
"I fellowship with other Christians to accomplish God's purposes in my life, others' lives and in the world."

Scriptural Basis:

Acts 2:42-47

Foxhole Friendships

Philippians 2:19-30



Shine On - by Richard Gotthardt

When stories of great friendships throughout history are told, any telling would have to include the deep friendship of David and Jonathan- a love and loyalty that proved as strong and deep as life itself. And yet, at first glance, it would seem that this kinship should never have gotten off of the ground. One of them (Jonathan) was royalty- the son of the king and heir to the throne. The other (David) was a poor shepherd boy from a small town, the youngest of eight brothers. To further complicate matters, David had been privately anointed by the prophet Samuel as the next king of Israel- a role that should have been Jonathan's. These two, by all rights, should have been bitter enemies and fierce rivals, not the best of friends. But something happened in the hearts of these two men at an unexpected moment. David had just returned from the most unlikely military victory ever recorded- the killing of a nine foot warrior giant by a teenager armed only with a sling and a stone. This triumph might have inspired the troops, but it couldn't have been great news for Jonathan, for now his own position and standing was jeopardized. But instead of being threatened or jealous, Jonathan "became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself." He removed his royal garb and offered them to David, a breathtaking display of servanthood and humility. And the two made a binding covenant- vows of loyalty and friendship that would survive even the most severe of testing. What forged this friendship so quickly and so deeply? Common interests and mutual acquaintances? No, what drew these hearts together was the bond of souls that share common ground. Both were submitted deeply to God's purposes. Both were willing to place their hopes, dreams, and their very lives on the altar of God's will. Both were men who had learned to live from their heart- connected to the core of their being and willing to wrestle with God about what they found there. Deep friendships emerge among men and women who are willing to live deeply. Discontent with superficialities, they press on to know God and others with fullness and passion. From these depths, they are willing to serve one another- to do whatever it takes to strengthen each other in the Lord. This is the stuff that the deepest friendships are made of. Friendships like these don't happen by accident. They must be pursued, even at great personal cost. But, oh, are they ever worth it. God intended for you and I to experience this kind of kinship and connection. Don't miss out- your heart is at stake.

- How satisfied are you with the depth of your current friendships?
- If you desired to "go deeper", what would be a step in that direction?

DEVOTIONAL



Hiring Teachers

Nursery and Preschool teachers needed during *Insight for Moms* meetings: 2nd & 4th Tue., 8:00am-11:30am. Contact Liz Hyde x332.

Voter Guides

Non-partisan voter guides from the Center for Arizona Policy are available on the porch this morning.

Full-Time Ministry Assistant

Support facilities staff with strong administration, organization and communication skills. Must enjoy an environment of varied tasks and customer svcs. Contact HR at x215.

Harvest Festival Coat Drive

Fourth Grade KidCommunity West will be collecting coats to give to neighborhood ministries as well as hosting a wheelchair race to raise awareness of special needs ministries. Please bring coats on the night of the Harvest Festival to the booth by the A-building. Contact Gina DeGuglielmo, x219 for more info.



Seniors XYZ Meeting

Happens Thursday, Oct. 21, 10:30am in the Davidson Center. Special Music will be provided. Speaker: Ken Kohlmeier, GCC's Men's Ministries Director. Sign up now for the Calif. trip Nov. 27-29 - "Glory of Christmas" Crystal Cathedral, Saddleback Church, Tour of TBN and Disney Parade of Lights. Call Paul/Dottie Hartzler 480.592.9186.



Men's Bible Study

Personal groups with accountability and a way to grow closer to God. Contact Ken Kohlmeier, kenkohlmeier@gccaz.org or x262.

Extraordinary Women Conference

Women at the Well: Finding Life, Love & Relationships. For discounted tickets visit the porch today or call x241. Visit www.gracecommunityaz.org for more info.



Missions Dessert

Hear reports from many different countries. Sunday, Oct. 24, 6:00pm-8:00pm, Davidson Cntr. Children are welcome with parents.

International Turkey Network

For anyone interested in Turkey Missions. Word of Grace Church in Mesa, Nov. 10-12. Cost is \$110 but free after 7:00pm. Contact Pat Lew 480.464.3983.

Pray for Muslims

Five Friday Nights During Ramadan. October 15-November 12, 7:00-8:00pm, Room A1. Contact Julie, 480.236.9763, for information.

Grace Series

Are you wanting to grow closer to God, but aren't sure how? **Discover 201 "Discovering Maturity"** teaches the dynamics of spiritual growth, why we need to be committed to growing spiritually, how to accomplish it and how to develop a life of worship.

Discover 201 will be offered **Sun., Oct. 24-Nov. 14 from 11:05am-12:30pm.**

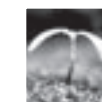
Contact Lois Klein at x214, loisklein@gccaz.org or sign up at the Discover Counter in the Worship Center Lobby.

Harvest Festival "The Night Without the Fright"

This Sunday on the porch you can sign-up to help at the Harvest Festival. Volunteer to help with game booth areas, set-up, greeting, and clean-up. Take part in this huge outreach event! Flyers are available to invite your friends and neighbors to join in this fun evening. If you need further information contact Shirley Brothwell, x331 or shirleybrothwell@gccaz.org.

Tons of Candy Needed

Please bring unopened bags of individually wrapped candy when you come to church. The candy is used for children's prizes at the games booths. A drop-off box is in the Worship Center Lobby and in the Information Center at all times.



Financial Stewardship Update

Budget-to-date, Oct. 15, 2004	\$ 1,027,400
Actual-to-date, Oct. 15, 2004	\$ 975,786

A surprising thing that happens when we get in step with the Lord's plan for our financial stewardship is how we are able to "get by" on what remains after we give to the Lord. In man's economy, our "needs" somehow expand to fill an increase in income. But in God's economy, the reverse is true. Our disposable income is decreased as a result of giving to His ministry, yet our needs are taken care of by a smaller amount of money.

We don't know how this happens, but it does. It's the economy of heaven!

Remember Grace in your will or trusts.

grace community church

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