

**THIS MONTH'S
Pastor Page...**

**Pastor Brad
shares thoughts on ...**

**"When we miss
God's Heart"**

COMING SOON
IT IS TIME TO SPRING
AHEAD!

Global Missions
Local Outreach

MOBILEPACK

Saturday March 8, 2025
Fond du Lac Fairgrounds
Recreation Center

Mar. 02 - Help for the Homeless Night
(Bring your items, 1pt. per item.)

Mar. 09 - Backwards Night

Mar. 16 - Green Night

Mar. 23 - LOL Night
(Tell us your favorite appropriate Joke)

Mar. 30 - Dress Like a Mess Night

Apr. 06 - Bookmark Night
(Bring a homemade bookmark with your favorite bible verse.)

Apr. 13 - Tie Night

Apr. 20 - Resurrection Sunday
(NO AWANA)

Apr. 27 - Super Hero Sunday

Help for the Homeless

HYGIENE DRIVE

**SUPPORT OUR LOCAL
SHELTERS & CRISIS
PROGRAMS!**

Pick up a donation list from
the Connections Center &
drop off items at Grace
by March 16th.

BIBLICAL COUNSELING SEMINAR

Presented by: Pastor Larry Creamer
Valley Connex Biblical Counseling Center



Open to anyone who is interested in honing the skill of helping hurting people.

"Freedom from Condemnation"

Coming to Grace on Monday evening,
March 17, 2025 from 6:30-8:30pm
in the Sanctuary.

Sign up at the Connections Center or
Sign up @ gracechurchfdl.org/registration

For more information contact
Pastor Grant baumgart@gracechurchfdl.net



163 18th Street, Fond du Lac

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Palm Sunday, April 13th
Worship Service at 9:30am



Good Friday, April 18th
"Christ in the Passover"
6:30pm



Resurrection Sunday, April 20th
Worship Service at 9:30am

MEN'S BEST BREAKFAST HERE

Come join us for reflection and growth.

"What's holding us Back could it be PRIDE?"

Men ages 12 & Up are welcome

▶ APRIL 12th 8:00am - 9:30am


Doors open at 7:45am

Fellowship HALL

▶ Sign up by April 6th on line or at the Connections Center.

Hosted by:
Thursday Morning Men's Group



Come Join US here at  for:

Christ in the Passover

JEWES FOR JESUS
A Presentation
on Friday, April 18th
at 6:30 pm

Speaker: Irina Orf

#ChristInThePassover

An Exploration of Passover,
The Last Supper, & Your Communion Experience.



When we miss God's Heart.

There are many times in our lives when we miss God's heart because it is *crowded out by our sin*. Instead of being able to see God's grace and kindness toward us through His actions, we often only see harshness or unkindness.

A perfect example of this is found in the Genesis 3:21 account of God coming to Adam and Eve after they have sinned, and acting, in our view perhaps, unkindly, harshly or even cruelly, by killing an innocent animal to use its skin to cover mankind's nakedness.

It is easy for us to say that God should have not killed an animal to cover mankind, and that certainly he could have found a more suitable way to deal with the problem. After all, God could have even left them naked. But the point of the covering is easily missed if we always **point fingers at God for doing things the way that we wouldn't.**

So why the dead animal?

God, by the clothing of mankind, was **covering their shame**. The death of the animal was a foreshadowing, a prophetic picture of what was to come – that of the sacrificial death of a symbolic "lamb" – *the sacrifice* that would ultimately cover mankind's shame once and for all the ages to come and into eternity. What God did once to remove the shame of two persons was representative of what Jesus would do forever to remove the entirety of mankind's shame. The writer to the Hebrews, in Hebrews 13:12-13 writes, "*so Jesus also suffered outside the gate (a symbol of the uncleanness of sin) in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore, let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured,*". There are two key points to remember here.

Firstly, the people who lived outside the camp of Israel were traditionally those suffering a physical malady which made them unclean to worship God. Their presence at worship was thought to *taint the holiness of God's people*. This **holiness** is what allowed people to enter the temple to worship. At that time, it was thought that physical maladies were a manifestation of sin, either committed by the afflicted people or against them.

Jesus, however, constantly went to those outside the camp of Israel. Either they were Samaritans, Romans, women, paralytics, lepers, demoniacs, tax collectors or just Jewish sinners. Jesus went to all and, instead of being tainted by their uncleanness, **he offered them forgiveness from sin** or freedom from the curse of oppression or sickness. *He affected them, not the other way around. His righteousness clothes them - not by covering their shame - but by removing it.*

And now, instead of us hiding from the Father, we are able to approach him in the holiness of Jesus Christ and freely worship him. As John writes in The Revelation, "***the sacrificial blood of the Lamb has overcome!***"

Brad

“Live Your Truth & Other Lies”

Have you ever wondered about the catchy little phrases we hear these days? “Live your truth” is one that has become ever so common. People throw this phrase around to signal their supposed virtuous “tolerance”, but it is often just a code for excusing sin. How can one person have a “truth” that is different from someone else’s “truth”? The simple answer is that you can’t. Truth refers to that which is true or is in accordance with reality. So, it is erroneous to believe that you can have your own truth. You can certainly have your own values or opinions or ideas, but you cannot have your own truth.

There are many other phrases and words that are used in our current culture that have been altered to mean something else. As an interesting exercise, go online and use the Webster’s 1820 dictionary and compare word definitions with a current online dictionary. Some definitions have only changed slightly but some have been overhauled in a major way. If words are how we communicate and their meaning is constantly changing, we can find ourselves in a situation where we begin agreeing with lies. This might be unintentional, but Satan is subtle and can use words to deceive us and others to lead us down a path of deception.

Alisa Childer’s “Live Your Truth and Other Lies” is a book that tackles ten common phrases that have been circulating in our current culture. In the book, Childers looks at the origins of these phrases, including the underlying influence of postmodernism, and shines the light of God’s Word to expose their deception. **God’s Word is not silent on the issues of our day**, and we must be like the noble Bereans who examined carefully what Paul and Silas were sharing with them to make certain that it was in accordance with Scripture (Acts. 17:11,12). We too need to be diligent to examine the Scriptures to know what is true and what is not.

If you are interested in learning more about the background of some of the lies circulating in our culture and what God’s Word says in response, come and join me for a six-week dive into this topic. We will meet each Thursday evening from 6:30-8pm in the Youth Room at Grace. You can order Alisa Childer’s book online, but it is not necessary to have the book to participate.

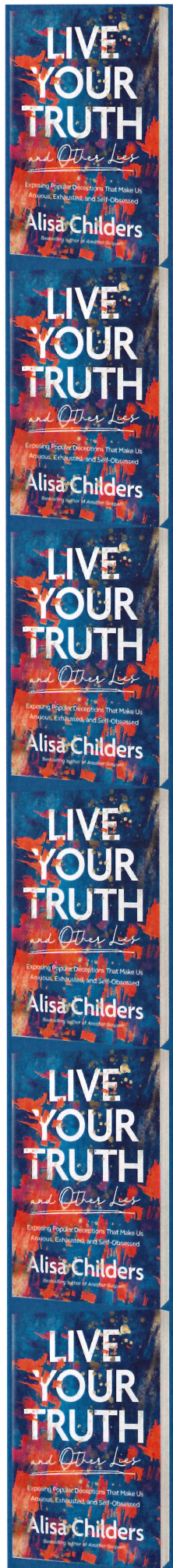
The course will run as follows:

Week 1 (March 20)	Introduction
Week 2 (March 27)	“Live Your Truth” & “Authenticity is Everything”
Week 3 (April 3)	“You are Enough” & “You Should Put Yourself First”
Week 4 (April 10)	“You Only Have One Life” & “God Just Wants You to be Happy”
Week 5 (April 17)	“You Shouldn’t Judge” & “It’s All About Love”
Week 6 (April 24)	“You are the Boss of You” & “Girl Power is Real Power”

God’s Word is not silent on the lies that our Enemy wants to deceive us into believing. Let’s expose them so that we are not deceived and so that we might draw others to the truth of who God is and what he has done for them.

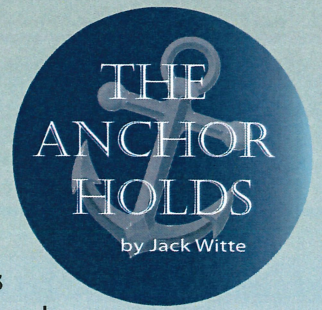
Hope to see you there!

Beth Rutherford



“When the time is right, I the Lord will make it happen.”

Isaiah 60:22



Sometimes, it is hard to accept waiting for an answer to our prayers. So badly we want God to move, so badly we want Him to take action, and yet... we wait. **Life is not always nice and neat and simple.** Living on this broken planet earth will often be painful and hard. While we might wish that God would never let us go through anything difficult, sometimes that is *how God shows His love for us*. It is the opportunity for us to put our complete trust in Him and the plan He has for each of our lives.

If you are going through a difficult or even a heart-breaking time in your life and you are pleading with God for answers, God might be saying, “WAIT!” It certainly isn’t easy, but if we remain patient and faithful, God will see us through the storms. Our relationship with our Heavenly Father is worth everything, and whatever we sacrifice for God in this life, we will receive much more in heaven. Waiting for God requires absolute faith and trust.

Let me finish with these beautiful words from Psalm 62:5, “*Let all that I am wait quietly before God for my hope is in Him.*”

“Don’t let your past determine your future. You can’t do anything about what’s happened to you, but you can choose how you will face what’s in front of you.” Author Unknown

Alexander Graham Bell once said, “When one door closes another door opens; but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we don’t see the ones which open for us.” **Regret** can so often dominate our feelings and our choices, that we succumb to its grip and eventually it may *destroy any chance* we have of a new beginning.

The great basketball coach, John Wooden once said, “There is a choice you have to make in everything you do. And you must always keep in mind the choice you make, makes you.” If you are locked in a struggle with your past, I pray that today you will *surrender it over to our loving Lord*. He has forgiven the past and He remembers it no more. God wrote His name on you the day you accepted Christ. He wants to use you; He has a place and a plan for you. Don’t let the regrets of the past steal that from you. God has called each of us to **live for a purpose greater than ourselves and our past** - a life that is dependent on Him and on His grace, and the power to achieve things we never thought possible. ***This is His plan for life and mine.***





163 18th Street
 Fond du Lac, WI 54935
 office@gracechurchfdl.net
 www.gracechurchfdl.org

Corporate Prayer Opportunities

Sunday mornings at 8:45am
 Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm
 Wednesday AM Men's prayer at 6:00am
 3rd Saturday of the month Women's Prayer at 9:00am

**All meet at
 GEFC
 Building**

OFFERING & ATTENDANCE

01.05.25	\$7,664.00	180
01.12.25	\$14,912.00	180
01.19.25	\$5,930.00	166
01.26.25	\$7,642.00	194

Averages: \$9,037.00 180

Weekly average needed to meet
 Budget: \$8,928.00

YTD Giving: \$270,450.00
 YTD Expenses: \$274,654.00

Shortfall: **\$4,205**

**Y-T-D amounts reflect
 January Month-end Totals**



Head Pastor and Chief Shepherd - Jesus Christ

Lead Pastor - Brad Rutherford
 Cell: 313-0456 email: rutherford@gracechurchfdl.net

Associate Pastor - Grant Baumgart
 Cell: 948-6373 email: baumgart@gracechurchfdl.net

Administrative Assistant - Carol Blain
 phone: 922-7211 email: office@gracechurchfdl.net

Custodian - Jen Koenigs
 phone: 922-7211

Communications/Media Volunteer Team -
 Micaela Vegter, Sarah Baumgart, Aubree Russell,
 Hope DelPonte

Elder on Call: Friday, Saturday & Sunday
 phone: 920-9262