

# GRACE CHURCH

## NEWS



By Grace for Grace!

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### “Believe”

**Dictionary:** To have confidence in the truth, the existence, or the reliability of something, although without absolute proof that one is right in doing so. Or to have confidence or faith in the truth of “something”.

Someone once observed that only if one believes in something can one act purposefully. This has had me thinking about what it means to believe in something.

My first job as a waiter found me often having to give my opinion with regards to a Greek menu item choice, when you are reliant on tips for a living this can be a pivotal moment between you and your customer. You didn't want to get it wrong. As waiters we would sometimes buy a menu item just so that we could taste it in order to give a better informed opinion. Our customer would then have to place their belief in our judgement.

My next line of work was food sales. I had over 800 different foodstuff lines. Dozens of cheese lines, caviars, olives, you name it we probably had it. My main challenge was selling new products that people had never heard of before let alone tasted. It was always easy to sell something you personally enjoy, appreciate or find useful.

Now as a Christian believer the question I get asked a lot is how do I believe without seeing? I often say I haven't seen but I have tasted (Psa 34:8). God has intervened in so many ways in my life I have lost count. From giving me a Bible I needed, to giving me a spiritual home, to providing for my family, to answered prayer time and time again. When I begin to doubt like Thomas all I need to do is count my blessings one by one.

***Love & Hugs from Your Grace Church Family!!!!***

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- Believe
- Pastor Don
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Check out our website  
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Offerings and tithes can be given to the church via e-transfer to

[GraceEFC@tbaytel.net](mailto:GraceEFC@tbaytel.net) or

by dropping them off at the office or send them by mail.



**Pastor Don**

**I just invented a new word – plagiarism. Actually, I didn't say that; someone else did. By not quoting the source, I'm plagiarizing.**

**I just listened to a sermon on Melchizedek by Alistair Begg, one of my favourite Bible teachers. It was virtually identical to a sermon I gave over 20 years ago. Plagiarism? I think not. He's never heard of me.**

**Why would the two sermons be so similar? Because we both share one Word of God: one Holy Spirit: one method of looking at the Bible: and one purpose.**

**The one Word of God is unique. It has no parallels; no equals; it is God breathed. But is so often interpreted in radically differently ways, often expressed with conflicting opinions.**

**The one Holy Spirit, indwelling all believers should give us unity of interpretation, as He is the actual interpreter of the Bible. (1 Cor. 2: 11-12) But we are all human and struggle with myriad issues of sin and pride and often cloud the true leading of the Spirit of God.**

**So how can we unite our teaching? Besides coming to God with "a pure heart and clean hands", we use proven tools of hermeneutics, prayerfully, properly.**

**With the same purpose, we must be true to the Word of God: revealing and honouring the Lord Jesus Christ: encouraging believers to follow him and inviting unbelievers to know him and live a life in communion with God.**

**This is such a brief look at a huge area of study that I'm positive it will never be plagiarized – unlike C.H. Spurgeon, the most quoted and plagiarized preacher ever**

**There once was a preacher named Spurgey,  
Who didn't think much of liturgy.  
But his sayings are fine, and I claim them as mine  
And so does much of the clergy.**



**Donna Barron**



### Meditating on Psalm 86 (Part Two)

David not only expresses thoughts about what is true about himself and his own relationship to God in his prayer. He also has a lot to say about God Himself. The second question I asked as I meditated on this Psalm was the following:

**What does David know and declare to be true about God?**

**You are my God.**

**You are forgiving.**

**You are good.**

**You abound in love.**

**There is none like you, O Lord.**

**No deeds can compare with yours.**

**You have made all nations.**

**You are great and do marvelous deeds.**

**You alone are God.**

**Great is your love toward me.**

**You have delivered me.**

**You are gracious and compassionate.**

**You are slow to anger.**

**You abound in faithfulness.**

**This week I encourage you to meditate on each of these aspects of God's character and behaviour. Why not take time to praise and thank Him if you too, along with David, can declare them to be true.**

While there have been many changes in the last few months, the need for fellowship definitely hasn't diminished. So what has our Small Group Ministry been doing?

When the COVID lockdown began, we divided our group up to make sure everyone was in contact with somebody. When a car wouldn't start, it was only a few phone calls to get a boost arranged. When parts were needed for a bed; well that was a few more calls, but the need was met.

As things began to open up, our group was eager to get together again. We met at Brian Ross' place July 19 for what is becoming our annual BBQ. We enjoyed some much needed fellowship, good food (beef on a bun), and a time of prayer.

By the end of summer, it was time to meet again, this time in an open air setting at the Friendship Gardens. It was a BYOL (bring you own lunch) affair attended by 16 of us (almost our entire group). Although it was cool, we enjoyed the surroundings and in particular, catching up on the comings and goings and needs of others in our group, and in the church body as a whole. We finished in prayer, and also considered how we might continue to meet more regularly through the fall and winter.

For our group, the more things seem to change around us, the more we realize, God and His love for us doesn't change. Neither does our need for fellowship with believers.



**John & Sue  
Thomson**

## Ministry Opportunities

**Small Group Ministry:** Would you like to be part of a Small Group? Would you like to host a Small Group? Contact the church office and talk to Pastor Martin or Linda.

**Dew Drop Inn Ministry:** Dew Drop Inn is functioning once again. The Dew Drop Inn has been feeding the hungry in Thunder Bay for over 38 years. A hot lunch is provided daily as well as a warm, welcoming place where hungry men, women and children can come to eat with no questions asked. **Grace Church** has supported this ministry for many years. Our ministry team is scheduled to be there on **Friday October 3, 2020** and we need volunteers. If you are interested in helping with this ministry or you would like more information please contact John Thomson at 767-9288

**Our Welcome Ministry:** Greeters and ushers for Sunday services are needed. Please contact Brian Thordarson at 346-8402 if you would like to help.

