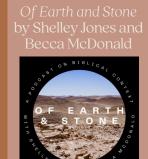
Volume 20

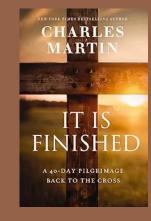
# RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

## **PODCASTS** TO CHECK OUT



# **BOOKS WE LOVE**

It is Finished by Charles Martin



gsOUTREACH Spain Serve Team

Monday

Sunday

1 - Ash Wednesday Service ■ - gsYOUTHIce Camp

Monday

**2** - Seasoned Sisters

Sunday

**3** - gsMEN Breakfast

Thursday

Friday

Saturday 2 3

22

**4** - Families Connect Group

28

- **5** Grief Share Starts
- gsMEN Man Camp

#### **GROWING TOGETHER** Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Our desire is to provide contextualized

resources for our body that will help you to continue to step closer to Jesus. The Discipleship Pathway is a journey of continual growth that will challenge disciples of Jesus to grow through interacting with resources, attending courses and groups, and taking concrete steps in their faith journey.

Visit the Discipleship Pathway at gspathway.org



1 2 3 5 4 6 29 7

APRIL

**MARCH** 

5

Tuesday Wednesday

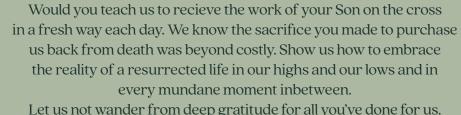
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25

- Prayer Week
- - gsOUTREACH Middle East Serve Team
- 1 Seasoned Sisters
- **2** gsMEN Breakfast **3** - Palm Sunday
- - Holy Week
- 4 Seder Meal
- **5** Good Friday Service
- 6 EASTER
- **7** *gsWORSHIP* Auditions



opportunities and more head to gracespringchurch.org/events



Holy Lord,

Let us not wander from deep gratitude for all you've done for us. Amen





As your pastor, I have been burdened with the awesome responsibility of leading a congregation in a culture that often values form over function. What I mean is that people often look for a church with practices and traditions in which they are comfortable, allowing them a good experience, providing them peace and a sense of direction. And while this is important, may we never forget the importance of HOW it is that God has created the Church to function.

In the prophecies of Ezekiel 37:7-14, coupled with Joel 2:28-32, we are reminded that the life-giving breath of God, through the Holy Spirit, is an essential component of HOW the local church is to function. The apostle Peter confirmed this on Pentecost (Acts 2), acknowledging that Joel's words have now come to pass with the birth of the Church. Because of the cleansing work of Jesus on the cross, NOW the Holy Spirit can indwell a people "made clean." (II Cor. 5:21)

The prayer of gracespring leadership is that we take the leading of the Holy Spirit as seriously as we take the authority of the Scriptures. It is the tandem work of each in which the local church body is to function. So, if our priority of prayer, of asking God to move in power, of encouraging our people to pray with others, causes some discomfort, please know that we do this as an expression of dependence on the Holy Spirit to do His work as modeled in the Scriptures and prioritized by Christ. (John 14:15-17) It should be our desire to take advantage of what is offered by God Himself, and not settle for anything less. So we ask that you continue to pray that we be a church that is bold in praying "for God to do immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine", NOT for our glory, but to the glory of Jesus who made all of this possible. Imagine how powerful the tide of blessing can be when we truly take God at His Word!

In His Grip, Pastor Bryan Engage at gracespring Engage in Communic

BEHOLD

Throughout this fast, God has allowed me to dive into His word with opened eyes, providing a joy and refreshment to my soul that I didn't even know I needed. I am growing in eagerness to quiet myself daily and listen for the gentle voice of my ever-present Shepherd. I have found incredible peace and joy in turning from distraction, inviting the Holy Spirit in, and just sitting at the feet of the Lord. Chains are breaking, faith is growing, and I am so thankful to God for the way He is sirring in my heart!

Cheyenne Humphries

I am incredibly grateful for Pastor Bryan's leading in our church's time of prayer and fasting, and for the incredible resources we were given in the growth guide cards. Although the fast proved very challenging, the Lord was unsurprisingly faithful throughout my experience. I have never taken part in any sort of food

fast in the past, and I found that my greater physical dependence on God led to both an increase in the frequency of my prayers, as well as a heightened level of desperation with which I was led to pray. There is something special about following our Shepherd into the unknown, as we allow ourselves to be made more raw and open to His presence and prompting.

- Steve Doorlag

### PREPARING FOR EASTER

This season we are embracing some traditional church rhythms in the buildup to Easter. Some people might look at these and be confused why a protestant Bible Church might be participating in traditions that feel more Catholic or Jewish, but we are excited for the opportunity to lean into these traditions in a way that is honoring God and providing experiences for our body to engage with historical truths that shine through.

This year we will be participating in an Ash Wedensday
Service where we have the opportunity to remember the
historical reasons for Ash Wednesday - remembering our
mortality, calling our hearts to repentance, and
symbolizing deep humility.

PLEASE JOIN US MARCH 5TH AT 7 PM for an

# ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

a time of PRAYER, WORSHIP, & REFLECTION

We will also spend time on Maundy Thursday (April 17) walking through the tradition of a Passover Seder. This meal is a time of remembrance and preparation as we remember the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We hope you will join us throughout the season for these traditions, brought to life in our body!

PLEASE JOIN US APRIL 17TH AT 6 PM
to share in a

PASSOVER SEDER MEAL

# Join us in Prayer FOR OUR SERVE TEAMS GOING OUT

In late February/early March, we have people joining a team going through Alongside (gracespring partner) to Malaga Spain. They will be assisting Alongside staff for a Med ReFresh conference. While the adults who serve in the medical field are receiving mental health care and training, their children are learning similar information (age appropriate information and words), as well as receiving helpful care from Alongside staff and extra volunteers. Third Culture Kids (TCK's) have certain challenges and care needs that benefit from informed volunteers who see them and show the love of God to them (not just their parents).

Please also pray for the team who will be traveling in the spring to the Middle East to learn about community/business development. Pray for caring hearts and love for those they will meet as they travel.



Our desire is to be a Praying Church, not just a church that prays. We believe that God is doing a good work among us and inviting us into deeper places of prayer and community.

You will have an opportunity to sign up for an hour time slot during Prayer Week as we seek to pray around the clock for 7 days. We hope you will set aside some intentional to seek the Lord during Prayer Week — April 6-13.

We often think of prayer as a solo endeavor. Jesus did encourage that type of prayer, but also praying with one another. During Prayer Week, you will have the opportunity to pray by yourself at the church, in your home, or in your office, as well as with others in the gracespring family.