

FEBRUARY 2019

GRACE MONTHLY

*"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"*

Isaiah 43:18-19



The Growing Process

by Peter Kim

As the first month of the year has now come to a close, one thing that has been on my mind is how some of us may be feeling impatient. Even though it has only been a month, I personally feel that there is so little time, and am finding myself rushing through everything. The new year happens to be the time when everyone is looking for change, and it is, as mentioned by Pastor Josh through his sermon on Isaiah 43:18-20.

We have to remember that change doesn't happen in a day. The change that we want to see happen right now might not happen in the next few months or even within this year. But the truth is that God is always doing His work in the midst of our lives, whether we can see it or not. It's important to remind ourselves of the **process**. So often, we want to skip the wait and go straight to the results, but that's not the way to grow in Christ. As it is stated in 1 Peter 4:12-13, we should consider all of our trials as an opportunity to exercise our faith and grow in Christ.

If you are reading this feeling frustrated or impatient because you haven't been achieving your expected results, I encourage you to remember that God is working out His plan in His perfect time. **Continue to pursue Him** even if it seems pointless, because we live by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). God will not dismiss any of the prayers you lift up to Him, the kind acts you do in His name, and every moment you decide to trust in Him over anyone else. Whatever God has planned for you will come at exactly the right moment.

IN THIS ISSUE:

January Highlights

Praise Reports &
Prayer Requests

Formed for God's Family

Upcoming Events
for February

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

JOINT FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

On Friday, January 11th, GCC held a special Friday Night Prayer service focused on praying for the Children's ministry and Grace Youth. The message that was given by Pastor Josh was titled, "Returning to the Lord Together", where he noted the importance of parents and children giving their attention to one another so that, together, they may come and return to the Lord. Below are the prayer requests that were shared with the families for the youth:

1. That God would give our students His strength to fight against the temptations and distractions that they face in each day.
학생들이 매일 부딪히는 유혹과 방해에 맞서싸울 힘을 하나님께서 공급해주시기를.
2. That our students would grow in a biblical way of thinking, with godly wisdom and discernment, as they continue to build their life in Christ this year.
학생들이 그리스도 안에서 지속적으로 자신들의 삶을 세워감으로 영적 지혜와 분별력을 가지고 성장하는 올 한해 되기를.
3. That our students would become more sensitive to the voice of God this year.
하나님의 음성에 더욱 민감하게 반응하는 학생들이 되도록.



ALONG WITH OUR GOD

On Friday, January 18th some GEM Youth discipleship students prepared and led the Friday Youth Night with a theme titled, "Along with Our God". Through a spiritual activity and a series of 7 games, the main focus of the night was to help students realize some of the things that often distract them from spending time with God, but that they are also capable of overcoming those challenges so that they can grow in their relationship with Him.

Read the full details and see more photos of this event on our [blog](#), on our [website](#)!



VANCOUVER MISSIONS FEST

A handful of GEM Youth students attended the Youth Rally at the Vancouver Missions Fest on Saturday, January 19th. It was a good opportunity to worship with other youths from all over the Lower Mainland.



Praise & Prayer

- **Praise** God for the growing and deepening of relationships that leaders and students are experiencing with one another! Please **pray** that they will continue to spur one another on to live out God's Word as they spend time learning, praying, and worshipping together.
- The Grace Youth leaders will be going on a leaders retreat in the month of February. Please **Pray** that their time at the retreat will be fruitful as they seek God together, pray for Grace Youth, and strengthen their relationship with one another.

CLAY FRIDAY YOUTH NIGHT

2019년을 맞이하며 첫 CLAY 금요모임을 했습니다. 많은 학생들이 게임과 교제를 나누며 즐거운 시간을 보냈습니다. 또 이번 한 해 동안 각자 새해 다짐도 하고 하나님의 인도하심을 따라 사는 CLAY가 되길 기도하는 시간도 가졌습니다. 저희 학생들이 세상의 가치관들을 따라 사는 세대가 되지 않고 분별력 가지고 하나님이 보시기에 기쁜 자녀로서 마땅히 살아내는 귀한 자녀들 될 수 있도록 함께 기도해주세요!



Formed for GOD'S FAMILY

What comes to mind when you think of the word, "family"?

For many of us, the first thing that our mind goes to when we think "family" is our immediate family members. If we take some time to think further, however, we see that the meaning of that word reaches a lot further than those whom we are physically related to. For many of us, "family" includes close friends whom we feel comfortable sharing anything and everything with. For some others, it extends to certain groups that we are an active member of, such as a sports team, community band, social club, or church small group. At the core of it, it is our sense of **belonging** to a certain group of people that lead us to define who our "family" members are.

This innate sense of belonging that we, as human beings, seek shows that **we are made to be in relationship with other people**. Having been created in God's image (Genesis 1:27), we deeply long for genuine, deep-rooted relationships with whom we can share life (fellowship) with because God Himself is relational. Not only that, but we also desire relationships that are committed and long-lasting, because God is eternal. And the relationships that will satisfy these longings are the people with whom we share the faith in Jesus Christ. The church - God's family - is the family that will last forever. If this is the case, then is it not worth investing our time and efforts building meaningful, deep-rooted, long-lasting relationships with the people that we gather with at our local church?

As much as we realize the brokenness in ourselves and in our relationships with others, **God lavishes His love upon us and invites us to become a part of His eternal household** as His beloved children through Jesus Christ (1 John 3:1, Ephesians 1:5). In God's family, His own love for us will drive us to genuinely love each other as brothers and sisters - for eternity.

Based on reflection on chapters 15-21 of Rick Warren's The Purpose Driven Life.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Friday, Feb 1st Friday Youth Night

Friday, Feb 8th (CLAY) Movie Night

(GEM) Praise & Prayer Night

Friday, Feb 15th (CLAY) Board Game Night

(GEM) Bro & Sis Appreciation Night

*There is **no** Friday Youth Night on **Friday, Feb 22nd**.*

*Events are subject to change. Make sure to keep up with our latest updates on our **website** or join our **Kakaotalk open chatroom**.*