

MAY 2022

# GRACE MONTHLY

*"And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith... Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart"*

*Hebrews 12: 1-3*



## Walking With Faith

by Kiun Lee

In Hebrews 12: 1-3, Paul describes our faith as a race that needs to be run with perseverance. For Christians, I believe this is an extremely powerful and insightful verse. Through the message Paul is conveying, we can learn two main things:

1. Our faith walk, as the term implies, is a "walk" with God. It's not a sprint, nor is it a race competition against others. Rather, it is a marathon where each and every one of us must "run with perseverance" and endure hardships of our own as we strive to strengthen our faith and finish the race. (Think of it as enduring a cramp while jogging.)
2. But how do we overcome trials along the way? We overcome them by "[considering] him [Jesus] who endured such opposition from sinners, so that [we] will not grow weary and lose heart" (Heb 12:2-3). In other words, to overcome our hardships we must fix our eyes on Jesus. Why? Well, by looking to Jesus we learn from Him who is the "perfecter of faith" on how to conduct ourselves and grow in our own faith, for He overcame the same temptations during His time on Earth. In addition, we look to Jesus so that we do not lose hope or feel defeated by our transgressions. Jesus bore our sins "so that [we] will not grow weary and lose heart," and only by looking to Him and remembering this can we walk boldly with God without fear or shame. The final reason we set our eyes on Jesus is to give Him recognition that we want to be with Him, and acknowledging that we need His help in running our race. In doing this, we give to God our troubles and worries, and allow His love to cover us. We allow Him to work in our lives, and can find reassurance in the fact that God is always aiding us (Isa 41:10) and guiding us toward Him when we seek Him (Jer 29:13).

With this in mind, let us take heart in Christ and continue to walk faithfully with God in our lives, trusting and praising Him with all that we are. I pray that we will continue to grow and become trees planted by the streams of water, never fearing the heat or the droughts in our life. God bless you all!

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# APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

## EASTER BAPTISM & CONFIRMATIONS

On Sunday, April 10th, 18 Grace Youth students made the commitment to dedicate their lives to Jesus and the Body of Christ as each and every one of them was baptized and or confirmed in front of the congregation.

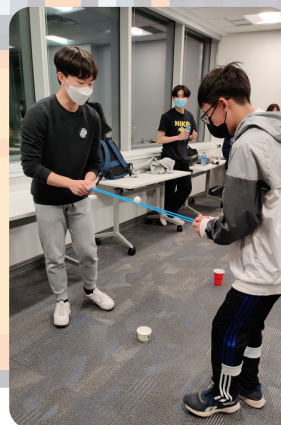
On the following Sunday, April 17th, they received gifts in their respective ministries. For GEM students, they each received a succulent to symbolize their firm faith and commitment to rooting themselves in the Word of God in any season, whether it'd be grueling or joyful. Congratulations!



## GAME NIGHT

On April 22nd, GEM Youth went over to City Center 2 where they engaged in a time of games and fellowship with each other after being split up into different groups. The games varied from guessing the faces of celebrities and leaders to pictionary with a twist.

As we are slowly reaching the end of this school year, having a time of relaxation and fellowship with our peers was a good way to unwind and refill our energy as we keep moving forward. Let us continue to stay persistent in our studies and in our pursuit to get to know God!



# APRIL HIGHLIGHTS cont'd

## DODGEBALL NIGHT

CLAY Youth had an intense dodgeball night at a school gym on April 22nd. It was fun a time for students and leaders to interact with each other through friendly competition.



## PRAISE & PRAYER NIGHT

On Friday, April 29, GEM and CLAY Youth had a joint praise and prayer night. It has been a while since they had an event together! The night began with a time of worship. Then, Pastor Alex has preached on John 10:10, focusing on the topic of "Healing". Here are the takeaways:

1. Let's truly know who Jesus is. (John 5:2-9)
2. Let's have a compassionate heart toward others. (Luke 5:17-20)
3. Let's not hide from God. Let's come to Him with persevering faith. (Genesis 32:22-23)

Afterward, they had time to pray for others whom God had placed on their heart. The joint night was a blessing to worship and pray together as one body in Christ.





## Praise & Prayer

- **Praise** God for a wonderful Good Friday service, and for allowing the missionaries to share their testimonies. Let us be thankful and in remembrance of the resurrection Christ. **Pray** that those who have yet to hear the good news will one day receive the message and rejoice in the Lord.
- **Praise** God for the 18 youth students who were baptized and confirmed this Easter, dedicating their lives to Jesus Christ! Let us **pray** that God will use these students as His hands and feet in this world. **Pray** that their faith will be firmly anchored in Christ and continue to flourish and bloom.
- **Praise** God for the Family Brunch! **Pray** that it is a blessed time for family members to bond and grow in their relationships in the presence of the Lord. **Pray** also a prayer of thanks to all those who helped in preparing this event.
- Let's **pray** for students who are starting exams, that they may find strength and rest in God during this busy and stressful time. Even though exam season is tiring, please **pray** that they would all continue to spend time with God, resting in His presence.
- **Praise** God for showing us his glory and love through the sunny weather we've been having lately!



## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MAY

- Saturday, May 7th** Family Brunch
- Friday, May 13th** Friday Youth Night
- Friday, May 20th** Friday Youth Night
- Friday, May 27th** Year-end Picnic

Events are subject to change. Make sure to keep up with our latest updates with your small group leader, on our website, or Instagram!