

NOVEMBER 2020

GRACE MONTHLY

"He who has prepared us for [glory] is God, who has given us the Spirit as a [foretaste of what is to come]"

2 Corinthians 5:5



A Foretaste of Glory

by Sungjae Chung

For many families today, Costco has become an essential part of their life. Mothers may see a visit to the wholesaler as a way to stock up on ingredients for dinner or packed lunches, while children occupy themselves among the dozens of racks of books. When I visit, I am there for one reason, and one reason alone: the samples. For any person, walking down the giant aisles anticipating the delicious samples that await at the end of one is like living in a childhood fantasy. Whether it is fruits or pizza, the idea of free food is more than enough to gain one's attention. Now, I know I am not just speaking for myself when I say that I am guilty of taking more than one sample at a time or visiting a single booth multiple times; we have all done it before. Nonetheless, during our little schemes, we have all stopped at least once to ask, "Why give so little of something that is so good?"

God designed us for more than this Earth. Here, we have a temporary home, but He ultimately created us so that we will be able to experience eternal life with Him in heaven. The world we are living in is torn and full of sin. Above all the brokenness, however, God has gifted us with the wonderful unconditional blessing of the Holy Spirit whose presence gives us a sense of God's love, true strength, and joy in being His child - and that is just the beginning. **The epiphanies of the Spirit are just a foretaste, a small sample, of the great blessings that are in store for us when we return home to our God** (1 Corinthians 5:1-5). We undoubtedly experience moments of grace and glory now, but it is important to recognize that those moments are just a glance, a very small portion, of our magnificent and glorious future with God. Until then, the Holy Spirit will continue to work to help us see the bigger picture and radically transform our temporary values to those of eternal values. **God will continue to give us small samples in order for us to have a constant yearning for Him.** Once His appointed time comes, we will then be able to revel in a life of pure joy in God's presence within His vast Kingdom, forever.

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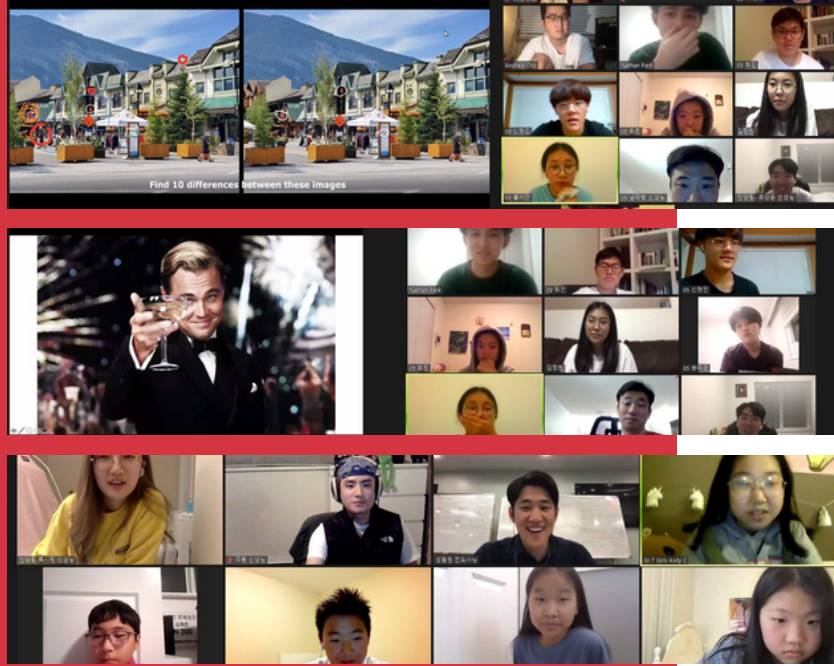
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OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

성필원의 스케치북

On Friday, October 2nd, CLAY Youth held their first Friday Youth Night. They began with a time of sharing in small groups, and then played a series of games afterwards. Games included finding the difference in a pair of photos, and answering a series of "would you rather" questions. It was a fun, casual way to kick-off the new year together!

CLAY Youth small groups meet at various times throughout the month. Make sure to ask your small group leader to find out more about future meeting dates!



THANKSGIVING BAPTISM

On Sunday, October 11th two GEM Youth students got baptized: Austin Lee (gr 12) and Jemmy So (gr 11). Congratulations! In GEM Youth we give a succulent plant as a gift, which serves as a reminder for them to remain resilient, because in Jesus Christ we have living water that keeps us quenched even in the driest seasons of our faith life.

***"all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."
Galatians 3:27***



OFFERING AT HOME

Since we have been worshipping at home, we haven't been able to physically give our offerings on Sundays. We would like to continue this spiritual discipline in our homes, as a way to express our gratitude to God for his grace and provision in our lives.

So, we encourage you to **prepare a small container to put your weekly offering into each Sunday** during our service time. When we can finally meet up at church again, bring this container with you, so that we can physically offer it up to God on that first Sunday back in Vision Hall.

Praise & Prayer

- **Praise** God for the two Grace Youth students who got baptized this past month. **Praise** the Holy Spirit for continuing to work in their hearts and helping them grow despite the circumstances. As they continue to strengthen their relationship with God, **pray** that they will be able to live out their faith with confidence and joy wherever they go.
- **Praise** God for giving us the opportunity to continue our education at school and for the teachers who have been dedicated to help us learn. Please **pray** that God will open our spiritual eyes so that we may grow a thankful heart and appreciate God's blessing in our lives.
- Let's **praise** God for providing the technology to bring the church together in a spiritual place of worship and fellowship, and for our leaders who have chosen to commit their time in this unique and unprecedented season. **Pray** that these online platforms will not act as a barrier, but instead encourage us to reach out and deepen our relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ.



- Recently, Covid-19 cases have been rising in Canada. Please **pray** that everybody will stay safe and healthy. Also **pray** that we would give our worries up to God so that we can find peace and hope in His steadfast love.
- As our grade 12 brothers and sisters approach their final year of high school, **pray** for their hearts to be open to receive God's guidance as they make each decision, so that God's will may become clearer in the midst of their doubts and concerns.

On the next page are some prayer requests that GEM Youth students shared anonymously during one of our Sunday pre-service fellowship time. Please take some time to lift up these prayers as well!

PRAYER REQUESTS 1

I want to know God more everyday and have a firm relationship with Him

I want to be more focused on my school work

I want to stop giving into temptations.

I pray that I can give my faith more opportunities for growth.

God, thank you that you call me your precious son/daughter. May this identity really be rooted in my life :D

That I can fully depend and trust in God for the plans He has for my life.

I want to be able to find happiness in Christ instead of trying to find it in the world.

To be able to forgive others and give people second chances, like the Lord does to us.

To want to prioritize God in my life

God help me to hear your voice everyday and guide me to walk in steps you want me to. Help me to see your greater plans.

I hope to grow further in Christ and not forget about him in the bustle of life

for the uncertainty and worry because of all of this, that we may truly put our faith in God in this time and lean onto him

To be able to fully believe God and not putting God aside in life

to be reminded that God should be my number one priority and that He is in control of my life,

My prayer request is that I am reminded of how big our GOD is this week.

Lately I've been feeling a bit overwhelmed and stressed because of homework and personal relationships, especially those with my friends. From time to time I feel like an outsider, and the

Putting the will of God as my way of life

To be able to find a time of rest in God in the midst of how busy everyday is.

Stay focused on school work.

Help me God to find joy in being your son, let everyday be a day of new mercies and grace!

To walk with God and depend on him

To be able to balance work, school, and my faith life.

I pray that we all stay safe during the outbreak

For God to lead me even though I may feel lost

Please take some time to lift up these prayers

PRAYER REQUESTS 2

I pray that all people can get to know God

I pray that covid would end

To find peace in God's plan for my vocation, to find something I love doing and can glorify God.

To remember that I need to lean on God in every moment of my life and to not be arrogant by realizing that God is the one that makes me able to do what I can do.

Please give everyone a time of rest in their lives, so they can give thanks and reflect!

To keep my full dependence on God and to love him more daily!

For God to give me a sharp mindset that is proactive and attentive to Him.

I pray that as we are getting older, let our love towards God get deeper day by day!

To trust God and let Him do the work in my life

I pray that everybody will find peace and comfort in Christ

I pray that God will restore the joy of salvation in my dad

I want to see people by their hearts not by their looks.

To stay firm in faith, remembering to come back to God in my weakest times.

My prayer request is to always have a thankful heart and while worshipping/resting with God I can give my full love and attention to him.

I pray that covid would stop and to really know him better

My grandfather has been suffering from Alzheimer's. The past couple of months has been a very difficult time for our family. I pray for God's healing and restoring hands for both my grandfather and my family.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

Friday, Nov 6th (GEM) Fall Farm Fun Day
(CLAY) Student Discipleship

Friday, Nov 20th (GEM) Friday Youth Night
(CLAY) Student Discipleship

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

SERMON NOTES

YHWH

Exodus 3:13-15



When Moses encountered God at the burning bush, he wanted to know exactly who He was. To Moses' question, "What shall I say to the Israelites who ask for your name?" God answered, "Tell them, YHWH has sent me to you."

YHWH ("I am who I am") is the name by which the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob revealed Himself to Moses. It means that He is eternal and unchangeable in His divine being; He is who He is, always been who He is, and always will be who He is.

The God we believe today is the same God that appeared to Moses.

What does it mean to you, to know that the same God of Moses is the same God we believe in today?