

NOVEMBER 2021

GRACE MONTHLY

"For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

Hosea 6:6



Serving Out of God's Love

by Kiun Lee

Something I've been working on in my walk with Jesus is ways I can serve Him. Recently, I have been working to serve Him more and display Him in my life. But this was extremely difficult and I noticed that I was getting stressed out about trying to find ways I could serve and also feeling guilty when I failed to serve Him. Overall, I felt very overwhelmed and tired. In the past week, however, I have been starting to enjoy serving God and finding peace and rest in Him, and that's what I wanted to share with you today.

The reason I am enjoying God more and finding peace is because after hearing some of PJ's sermons and talking with my parents, I realized that I didn't have to stress out so much about serving God. **As long as I gave Him my heart and opened myself to Him and His will, God will lead and guide me.** Jesus forgives me when I fail, and if I fall away, I know God will always bring me back to Him ("Return" Summer Retreat theme). Thanks to this message from PJ and other spiritual mentors in my life, I am coming to enjoy and find peace in God and serving Him. I think it is really important that we serve and follow Him in love. **For God desires not our sacrifices, but our hearts** (Hosea 6:6). When we find that love for God to know and be with Him, the rest will come. We will seek and glorify God, and we will grow closer to Him in obedience because we love Him, not out of a sense of obligation. So as we go into this next month, I hope we can all strive to get to know God more and that we can make some time to grow closer to Him and to experience and enjoy His love.

Dear heavenly Father, please guide us today to You. Please guide us to Your love and Your grace that You may cover each and every one of us, and that we may open our hands and our hearts to You and Your will. We love You, we seek to be with You, and in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

IN THIS ISSUE:

September & October Highlights

Praise Reports & Prayer Requests

Upcoming Events for November

Return: To the Right Place
2021 Summer Retreat

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

BACK TO CHURCH BASH!

On Friday, Sept 24th, GEM and CLAY Youth had their Friday Youth Night kick-off event! The night began with having snacks together, then students were split into teams to compete in a few games with one another. Games included Family Feud, Minute-to-Win-It Relay, and **고요속의 외침**. It's good to be back! Join us for Friday Youth Night every Friday from 7:30-9:30pm!



PRAISE & PRAYER NIGHT

On Friday, Oct 8th GEM and CLAY youth had their first Praise and Prayer Night for the year. Pastor Bessie gave a short sermon from Psalm 34:1-8 titled, "The Lord is Good," and students had a time to share prayer requests in small groups. The next one will be held in the spring!



BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION

Ten students got baptized or confirmed this year on Thanksgiving Sunday, Oct 10th. Congratulations!

Baptism: Ashley, Ashley, Melissa, Amy, Anna

Confirmation: Dylan, Hayeon, Alice, Yukyeom, Louie, 주연



PASTOR JOSH'S ORDINATION

An ordination ceremony was held on Sunday, October 17th for Pastors Josh, JK, and Andy. Congratulations! Please pray for them as they enter this new season in their pastoral ministry, that they will faithfully continue to serve God from an overflow of His grace.



SMALL GROUP OUTINGS

The grade 11 girls had an outing to Central City Fun Park on Sunday, Oct 17th! They had a wonderful time rollerblading, playing arcade games, and sharing a pizza meal. On Oct 30th, the grade 10 girls did pumpkin carving together at one of their leader's home.



"JEAN" CARNIVAL

On Friday, October 29th GEM and CLAY had a fall festival themed, "Jean" Carnival with "denim" dress code. They divided into teams and did multiple different games like dalgona, jump rope and more. It was a blessed night of fellowship and bonding between the GEM and CLAY ministries.



GRADE 11S PIZZA PARTY

Did someone say pizza, games, AND pajamas?? The Grade 11s did! On Friday, October 22nd, the Grade 11s had a long-overdue pizza party for winning an Advent Instagram challenge a few years back. Yummy pizza and snacks were provided by their beloved leaders and leader Sean brought his fun and unique board games to enjoy with them. They had fellowship with one another and also heard PJ share a few words before his departure, all while wearing comfy pajamas.



Praise & Prayer

- **Praise** God for bringing us back to church for in-person worship services! **Pray** that there will be a revival in our worship, prayer, and fellowship in Grace Youth. For students who are still worshipping at home, **pray** that their homes will continually be filled with God's praise.
- **Praise** God for the 45 leaders who are serving at Grace Youth this year! **Pray** that God would strengthen them and grant them godly wisdom in guiding the students in their faith walk. **Pray** that these leaders would be good role models for the students, being faithful in their own walk with God and seeking Him first in all areas of their lives.
- **Praise** God for the 10 students who got baptized this fall! **Pray** that they will grow to be Christ-like and that even in the driest seasons of their spiritual journey, they would remain steadfast and firmly rooted in God.
- Many grade 12s are in the process of submitting their early applications for college and universities. **Pray** that they would invite God to walk with them in their application process and the Holy Spirit will guide them in all of their decisions.
- Pastor Josh has completed his time in Grace Youth and is moving to Las Vegas with his wife to serve as a pastor at his home church there. We **praise** God for the ways that He used Pastor Josh to serve in Grace Youth to build up, bless, and teach the students for the past 8 years. Please **pray** for Pastor Josh and Pastor Sarang as they step into a new season of ministry, that God would powerfully anoint them to love and minister to the youth in Las Vegas.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

Friday, Nov 5th Friday Youth Night

Friday, Nov 12th (GEM) Friday Youth Night
(CLAY) 06/07 Night

Friday, Nov 19th "Discover" Seminar (for gr 11 & 12s)

Friday, Nov 26th (GEM) Cohort-Split Night
(CLAY) Friday Youth Night

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!

RETURN : To the Right Place



After almost a year and a half of not being able to gather together at church, we held our first in-person worship service at church through the summer retreat. It was particularly special in that it was the first step for many of us to start making our "Return: To the Right Place."

Pastor Daniel centered his sermons around two questions: (1) What do we return with? and (2) Where do we return to? First, he led us to think about the manner in which we find ourselves coming back to the church community. He helped us to see that we are the remnants whom God has called to become bricks in the new walls that need to be rebuilt in

our church community. We were challenged to pray as Nehemiah did - with tears of confession, supplication, and dedication - while remembering our friends who have not yet taken their steps to make their return. Second, we were reminded that this return is not only to the physical church building, but to a person. We are returning to Jesus. Our lives need to be transformed and renewed by the gospel of Jesus Christ each and every day.

God is bringing us back because He loves us so much. Amidst the various spiritual walls that have been broken down, He is actively working to bring His people back "to the right place." So, where do you find yourself? Do you see how

God wants to use you to rebuild our church community? What will it take for you to "return"?

Let us not forget the words that God has placed onto our hearts during the retreat. May they spark in us a new joy and love for God, our church community, and everyone else we encounter in our daily lives!

*"But if you return to me and obey my commands and live by them, then even if you are exiled to the ends of the earth, I will bring you back to the place I have chosen for my name to be honored."
(Nehemiah 1:9)*





blessed to bless

who we are

Grace Youth is the name of our Youth Ministry at Grace Hanin Community Church. We consist of two student ministries: **GEM** (our English-speaking youth ministry) and **CLAY** (our Korean-speaking youth ministry). Both ministries are for students between **grades 7-12**. In addition to our weekly Sunday services, we meet regularly on Fridays throughout the year. Our Friday Youth Night events vary from small group discussions to game nights, outreach and praise & prayer nights. Through these various events, our prayer is to see the youth **grow to be like Jesus** in heart, thought, word, and action.

our vision

Our vision at Grace Youth comes from **Jeremiah 17:7-8**. The aim of our youth ministry is to help our students find their true identity and greater calling in Jesus Christ; to see that they were made to be **blessed by God**, so that they can grow in Christ, bearing the fruit of the Holy Spirit, to become a **blessing to others** all around the world. Our hope is to see the youth grow into spiritually mature **disciples of Jesus Christ**. We believe that God has a unique purpose for each student. And so here at Grace Youth, we are striving to provide ways for the youth to grow in Christ, through the Word, in prayer, fellowship, and student discipleship.