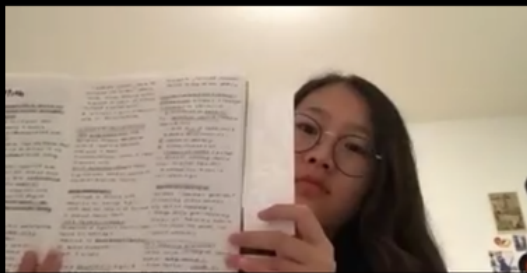
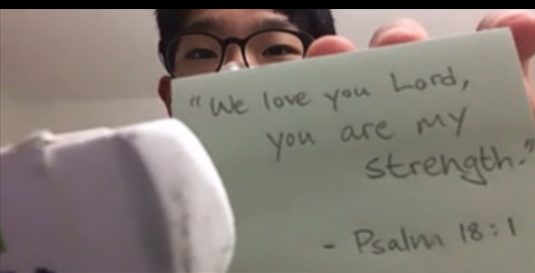


OCTOBER 2020

GRACE MONTHLY

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!"

Philippians 4:4



The Joy of Christ

by Hannah Byun

In the midst of a suffering world, many of us can succumb to pessimism, and blame the pandemic for a horrible year, and for the hardships we face. The question, "Can this get any worse?" has become part of our daily lives, and we blame the pandemic for making us look at everything with negativity. While it is definitely not an easy task to see beyond the disappointments and the struggles, as Christians we must always remember that God has promised us joy; joy that is so abundant it overcomes the hardships that may try to tower over our shoulders.

In Philippians 4:4, Paul writes to the Christians in Philippi from prison, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!" While I was reading this passage, I wondered what allowed Paul to proclaim such words with excitement when he was in prison, while knowing the possibility of himself getting martyred. Though it may not be to this extent, when we get stuck in scary and stressful situations, it is very easy for us to lose our joy. We might search for happiness in the world, but it won't satisfy us to the fullest. As I reflected on this passage, I noticed one key thing that allowed Paul to be joyful: Jesus Christ. **Paul was able to rejoice because Christ was the source of his joy.** While this season is very tough, we have a reason to be joyful because Jesus Christ, who has overcome even death, promises to give us His joy, for He said, "these things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full" (John 15:11). This is not to say that it is going to be easy to overcome our struggles and brush aside our disappointments. Rather, it is a reminder that **we have been provided with an overflowing source of joy** that surpasses the pain of our struggles - the joy of Christ.

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SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

GRADE 7 WELCOME

On Saturday, September 12th, our youth pastors met with the new Grade 7 students on Zoom with a couple of the Grade 7 leaders. They played a speed game where the Grade 7 students had to come up with a list of items that matched the theme for that round. And a couple of the teams actually came up with all 15 items! Afterward, the pastors shared about our identity in Grace Youth ("Blessed to Bless"), what the new ministry year will look like, and they took some time getting to know the Grade 7 students. The pastors asked them what they were most excited about coming into Grace Youth, and a few of them said that they were excited to meet new people, have their own service, and grow deeper in their walk with God!

YOUTH SUNDAY LIVE SERVICE & SMALL GROUP

Grace Youth launched their live Sunday worship service on September 20th! Though we are continuing to worship in our own homes, we are grateful for the technology that allows us to gather together to praise God and listen to His Word.



CLAY and GEM Youth are holding a joint youth service at 2:00pm every Sunday, and meeting in small groups afterwards on Zoom. If you have not received the Zoom details yet, make sure to submit a Video Conferencing Consent Form, found on our website.




BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

On Friday, September 25th GEM Youth had their annual Back to School Bash event. It was the first time this event was held virtually, but it was exciting and fun nonetheless! Students were able to meet some of the new leaders that joined GEM, and were then split into teams for a couple of games. The first involved gathering specific school supplies to take a back-to-school themed team photo. For the second game, students collaborated on Google sheets to create 8-bit artwork. Have a look at some of our favourites from the gallery!





Praise & Prayer

- **Praise** God for the new education year! We are excited to see the things that God has planned for Grace Youth this year. As Sunday small groups and Friday Youth Nights have begun, **pray** that students will draw closer to God in their times of sharing, discussion, and prayer. Please also **pray** that they will be able to develop meaningful relationships with one another, even through the virtual platforms.
 - The grade 7s this month are deciding which specific ministry (CLAY or GEM) they would like to join for the year. **Pray** that, whichever ministry they join, they will be able to get connected with their brothers and sisters in youth, and grow to love Jesus more and more.
 - Schools across the province have re-opened in September so that students can continue their education. As there are many changes and safety measures in place, please **pray** that students will adjust smoothly to the new learning environment and help each other keep healthy.
 - Several students from Grace Youth are getting baptized this fall. As these students take this step in their faith life, please **pray** that they will continue to grow deeper in their personal relationship with God.
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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OCTOBER

Friday, Oct 2nd (CLAY) 성필원의 스케치북
Friday, Oct 9th (GEM) Friday Youth Night
Sunday, Oct 11th Fall Baptism
Friday, Oct 23rd (GEM) Fall Event


Various meetups are also happening online at different times throughout the month.

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

Leaders of Grace Youth

Each year, God blesses Grace Youth with leaders who are willing to faithfully teach and serve the youth students, walking with them in their Christian faith journey as an older brother, sister, and mentor. Here are the leaders who are serving at CLAY and GEM Youth this year:

CLAY



엄다혜 문예지 박승원 정지윤 남주형 강창엽 김지우 SMALL GROUP
윤영희 예승지 이은진 권민서 엄현주 박상우
류시원 이상운 PRAISE TEAM
김영재 김주동 ADMIN
유민지 NEWCOMERS
이준규 MINISTRY LEADER
김주찬 HIS JOY
성필원 PASTOR

GEM

SMALL GROUP Brandon Kim, Gloria Kim, Laeya Park, James Leem, Dami Kim, Hayley Yoon, Eugene Kwon, Jeff Lee, Esther Kang, Michelle Moon, Sean Jeong, Jon Kim, Alice Kim, Judy Park, Joseph Kim, Brian Seo, Esther Choi, Sylvia Cho, Charles Lee, Jim Ko, Grace Choi, Julia Bae

MEDIA JD Kim, Alex Sung, Brandon Kim, Joseph Lee

STUDENT DISCIPLESHIP Stephen Lee, Laeya Park

MINISTRY SUPPORT Chris Yun, Miso Lim, Jessica Kim, Jamie Lee, Sylvia Cho

PRAISE TEAM Joshua Han

MINISTRY LEADER Jay Choi

INTERN Bessie Lee

PASTOR Josh Kim

