

THE
GOD
QUESTIONS

EXPLORING LIFE'S
GREAT QUESTIONS
ABOUT GOD

WELCOME TO GRACE UNION

WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY
SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2017

- ➔ Praise & Worship
- ➔ Welcome/Announcements
- ➔ Offering
- ➔ Message: Pastor Bob Poley
- ➔ INDEPENDENCE DAY BBQ



It's a great day to be at GU! If this is your first time with us, please stop by the Welcome table in the lobby for a free gift. We'd love to meet you.



We're so excited about our Independence Day cookout today! There are a few things you need to know:

- **Pick up a Scavenger Hunt sheet at the 4th of July table** in the lobby as you exit service. The first person to complete it, and return it to Samantha Salomon, will receive a great summer prize!
- Activities will begin right after service. Kickball will begin when everyone has had a chance to eat.
- **If you are able, we need all hands on deck to help break down after the BBQ.**

THE
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QUESTIONS

We are in the 2nd week of "The God Questions!" If you don't have a book yet, please stop by the table in the lobby, and pick one up for \$5. You can also get a gift book to give to a friend or neighbor.

We have several groups meeting throughout the week, as well as programs for all ages on Wednesday. **See the attached small group information sheet to find the best group for you.**

SAVE THE DATES



GUstudents
YOUTH MINISTRY

CITY MUSEUM
SUNDAY JULY 16
\$20 FOR LUNCH AND ENTRY



VOLUNTEER & LEADERSHIP
party

JULY 28 FAMILY ROOM 6:30 PM



Jul 30 NIGHT OF *Worship* 5 pm



Clothing Items
July



OPERATION
Christmas Child
Samaritan's Purse

THE

GOD

QUESTIONS

YOU'RE INVITED
Grace Union Small Groups

SUMMER 2017

JUN 25 – AUG 2

Everyone has questions about God. How do I know that God is real? Is there really only one way to heaven? We've all grappled with these questions and others like them. The resources in this group will give you the courage to ask the tough questions of God, and the confidence to believe he is big enough to answer all of them!

Our weekly topics are:

- Week 1 - Is God Real?
- Week 2 - Is the Bible True?
- Week 3 - Do all Roads Lead to Heaven?
- Week 4 - How Can a Good God Allow Suffering?
- Week 5 - Which is Right: Evolution or Creation?
- Week 6 - What Happens When I Die?

Whether you grew up in church, are new to your faith, or are questioning what you believe in, this is a great opportunity to ask your toughest questions and discover real answers. Learn more and listen to the previous messages at www.graceunionstl.org.

During our mid-week groups, we also have programs for children (newborn-PreK), GU Elementary, and GU Students for kids middle-high school.

**Additional TGQ home groups near you. If you are interested in joining a home group, contact Jason Myers for complete details at jscott5157@gmail.com. **

SUNDAYS @ 9 AM

Men's Group - Led by Bill Fain

314.420.2115; billfain7@gmail.com

Women's Group - Led by Karen Fain

314.846.7194; billfain7@gmail.com

SUNDAYS AFTER SERVICE *(childcare available)*

High School/College/Young Adult - Led by Bryan Bochantin

618.514.9408

Adults (Men & Women) - Led by Jason Myers

314.745.6281; jscott5157@gmail.com

SUNDAYS @ 5PM *(at the Cox home)*

Couples/Adults/Families - Led by Shane & Jennifer Cox

636.575.9061; shanecox198324@gmail.com

WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30PM

Women's Group - Led by Crystal Myers & Stacey Bush

417.619.4399 & 314.280.8599;

crystaldawnmyers@gmail.com & newagainexteriors@gmail.com

Adults (Men & Women) - Led by Bob Poley

314.712.8500; bobpoley78@gmail.com

Grace Union Elementary (The Blender)

This session for our Elementary kids is led by Chris and Lisa Spindler and meets each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. We will be exploring The God Questions through a "blend" of Science, Bible and Activities. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Spindler at spindlers@gmail.com.

GU Early Childhood (Nursery-PreK)

Nursery and Early Childhood care is available for children ages 0-2 during our 6:30 p.m. small groups. Crystal Myers is the Early Childhood Director, and you can contact her at crystaldawnmyers@gmail.com. PreK, led by Angela Caldwell, will also be available. You can contact her at angelaparson04@yahoo.com.

3900 UNION ROAD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63125

314.892.2757, WWW.GRACEUNIONSTL.ORG

FIND "GRACE UNION STL" ON 



OUR MISSION

We are helping people to live in union with Christ by grace.

- Union with God through a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Union with Others through investing in people through Biblical community.
- Union with Ourselves with a wholeness found in a new identity in Christ.
- Union with our Broken World by being an agent of change in our society by caring for and serving those who are poor, oppressed or marginalized.

We value sharing the love, life and power of God to our communities and world, joining Christ in his mission to rescue fallen humanity.

WAYS TO CONNECT



For any special needs, please email our Prayer Team at gucprayer@gmail.com.

WAYS TO GIVE



ENVELOPE

Offering or Giving Box



TEXT TO GIVE

Text GIVE to 314.888.5188



ONLINE

graceunionstl.org

MAILING ADDRESS

3900 Union Road, St. Louis, MO 63125

Visit us online to learn more about Grace Union at graceunionstl.org.

All of our message recordings can also be found on our website.



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THE GOD QUESTIONS

Week 2: Is the Bible True?

Timothy 3:16-17

- 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,
17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

I. What is the Bible?

A. 66 books written by about 40 different authors over the span of about 1500 years. It is divided into two main sections: Old Testament & New Testament.

- These books are not trustworthy because they are in the Bible, they are in the Bible because they have been proven trustworthy.

B. **The Old Testament:** The OT is made up of 39 books Starting with Genesis and ending with Malachi. 3 Genres:

- **History:** Genesis – Esther
- **Poetry:** Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon
- **Prophecy:** Isaiah – Malachi

Old Testament

History:

Genesis

Exodus

Leviticus

Numbers

Deuteronomy

Joshua

Judges

Ruth

1 Samuel

2 Samuel

1 Kings

2 Kings

1 Chronicles

2 Chronicles

Ezra

Nehemiah

Esther

Poetry:

Job

Psalms

Proverbs

Ecclesiastes

Song of Songs

Prophecy:

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Lamentations

Ezekiel

Daniel

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

C. **The New Testament:** 27 books starting with Matthew and ending with Revelation. 3 Genres:

- **History:** Matthew– Acts
- **Letters:** Romans – Jude
- **Prophecy:** Revelation

New Testament

<u>History:</u>	<u>Letters:</u>		<u>Prophecy:</u>
<i>Matthew</i>	<i>From Paul</i>	<i>From others</i>	<i>Revelation</i>
<i>Mark</i>	<i>Romans</i>	<i>Hebrews</i>	
<i>Luke</i>	<i>1 Corinthians</i>	<i>James</i>	
<i>John</i>	<i>2 Corinthians</i>	<i>1 Peter</i>	
<i>Acts</i>	<i>Galatians</i>	<i>2 Peter</i>	
	<i>Ephesians</i>	<i>1 John</i>	
	<i>Philippians</i>	<i>2 John</i>	
	<i>Colossians</i>	<i>3 John</i>	
	<i>1 Thessalonians</i>		
	<i>2 Thessalonians</i>		
	<i>1 Timothy</i>		
	<i>2 Timothy</i>		
	<i>Titus</i>		
	<i>Philemon</i>		

D. So that is what the Bible is. God compelled these people to record the events and revelations that they were a part of and eyewitnesses to.

- They passed the tests of historical accuracy and reliability.
- They passed the test of being in line theologically.
- They passed the test of fulfilled prophecies.

II. We can trust the Bible because it is accurate in its copying and translation.

A. While we do literally have thousands of translations and copies, it is not done "telephone game" style. Everyone comes back to the starting point each time.

B. The discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls gives proof of the fact that the Old Testament that Jesus or his contemporaries would have read matches what we have today!

C. **What about the reliability of the New Testament?**

<u>Author:</u>	<u>When Written:</u>	<u>Earliest Copy:</u>	<u>Time Span</u>	<u># of Copies:</u>
Caesar	100-44 BC	AD 900	1,000 years	10
Plato	427-347 BC	AD 900	1,200 years	7
Tacitus	AD 100	AD 1100	900 years	20
Thucydides	460-400 BC	AD 900	1,300 years	8
Herodotus	384-322 BC	AD 900	1,300 years	8
Aristotle	450-385 BC	AD 900	1,400 years	49
Homer (Iliad)	900 BC	400 BC	500 years	643
New Testament	AD 40-100	AD 125	25 years	24,000

- The Oldest Manuscripts or Copies of the New Testament we have date from AD 125 We actually have about 24,000 copies that date back to AD 125!
- There were tens of thousands of copies of the New Testament circulating during the time that people who witnessed the events were alive.
- The Bible has not been slowly mutating over the centuries with each new translation, copy, or interpretation.

III. We can trust the Bible because it is Scientifically and Historically Accurate.

The fact that these ancient people in so many situations relayed information that was centuries or millennia beyond their knowledge demonstrates that their message did not originate from them.

A. How is the Bible shown accurate by History?

- The Bible is jam-packed full of Historically Verifiable events.
- Archaeologist Nelson Glueck said, "It may be categorically stated that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference."
- Every archeological discovery we have made only added to the credibility of the Historical Record of the Bible.

IV. Documented Fulfilled Prophecies are strong evidence of why we can trust the Bible.

A. The Old Testament contains 332 prophecies related to the Messiah.

- Jesus directly, or indirectly, fulfilled all of them.

- Many of the prophecies that Jesus fulfilled, he did not actually have control over.
- B. All of these predictions were recorded as part of the public record in Israel.
- In print, and circulating for hundreds of years in the Old Testament.
- C. There is a mathematician named Peter Stoner found that for a person to fulfill just 8 of the prophecies had the odds of 1 in 10^{17} .
- 100,000,000,000,000,000
- D. The probability of one person fulfilling 48 of the those 332 prophecies:
- 1 in 10^{157}
 - Scientists have estimated the number of atoms in our universe to be 10^{80} .
- E. If any source of information in the world could correctly predict the future 332 times. It is reasonable to believe anything and everything it has to say.

The reason this book is so unique, so outstanding among all other books,
 The reason it is so reliable historically, and scientifically, and the reason it has
 been able to predict the future,
 God himself breathed these words out.

This book is remarkable because it is not just history or science, or even just
 instruction on how to live a better life.

THE BOOK IS THE LIFE GIVING BREATH OF GOD, breathed out into the hearts of
 people and recorded on pages for us all to experience.

NOTES

Thank you for joining us today. You can find this, and all of our message recordings, on our website graceunionstl.org.

THIS WEEK

Visit us online for information about these events and more.
graceunionsil.org or facebook.com/graceunionsil

MONDAY (7/3)

Alcoholics Anonymous (GU Family Room) - 7 pm
(Led by Jeff Hall - 314.620.6635)

TUESDAY (7/4)

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

WEDNESDAY (7/5)

Drive-By Prayer (Main Auditorium) - 4-7 pm
Kids Book Club (Led by Carrie Clifton) - 5 pm

GU Small Groups - 6:30 pm

Women's Group (Conf. Room A)
Adults Group (Conf. Room B)

GU Students (Youth Auditorium)

GU Kids (Nursery - PreK)

GU Elementary/The Blender (Elementary Room)

THURSDAY (7/6)

FRIDAY (7/7)

SATURDAY (7/8)

SUNDAY (7/9)

GU Small Groups

Women's Group (Conf. Room B) - 9 am
Men's Group (Conf. Room C) - 9 am

Adults/Students Service (Main Aud.) - 10 am
GU Kids (Early Childhood-Elementary) - 10 am

GU Students TGQ (Youth Aud.)

Adults TGQ (Family Room)

Couples/Family Group (Cox Home) - 5 pm

OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

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