

Welcome
to



GraceUnion
CHURCH

Encountering Grace through Jesus, right where we are.
Being moved by Grace toward all God has for us.

3900 Union Rd, St. Louis, MO 63125 | graceunionstl.org
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WELCOME TO GRACE UNION

Thank you for joining us today! If this is your first time with us, please stop by the Connect Center in the lobby for a free gift. We'd love to meet you.

GU SPOTLIGHT

Find out more about these events at graceunionstl.org.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS REHEARSALS - No Practice Today

FINAL DRESS REHEARSALS: Saturday, 12/2 & 12/9 at 9 am.

The performance is Sunday, December 10th!



Thank you to everyone who donated boxes and helped in the Relay Center for Operation Christmas Child. We collected 352 boxes here at Grace Union and 2,053 in the Relay Center! Chris Pahner is taking dunk tank drawing entries today for Pastors Bob & Jason!



We would like to take a special evening to celebrate and thank all of the leaders and volunteers at Grace Union. If you serve in any capacity at GU, please join us this Friday, December 1st at 6:30 p.m., where we'll have snacks, prizes and a time of appreciation for all you do.



Ladies please join us for a beautiful night, celebrating the Christmas season with games, delicious food & wonderful friends. All ladies 18 & up are invited. Please bring a finger food to share. Sign-up sheets for food are going to be in the foyer. Bring a wrapped gift (\$15 value max) to play in the the rob your neighbor gift exchange. Contact Karen with any questions at karenmomma@live.com.

WATER BAPTISM - Sunday, 12/3

Water Baptism is a public declaration of ones' faith and newness of life in Christ. If you would like to take this important step of faith, or have any questions, please see or contact Pastor Bob at bobpoley78@gmail.com.

WAYS TO CONNECT



SUNDAYS @ 10AM
Nursery—Elementary



PRAYER NEEDS
Email: gucprayer@gmail.com



SUNDAYS (Middle School) @ 10:15
WEDNESDAYS (Gr 6-12) @ 6:30PM



SUNDAYS @ 9AM
Women's Group (Conf. Room B)
Men's Group (Conf. Room A)

CONNECTION CARD

If you're new to GU, want prayer, or need to update your info, fill out a Connection Card, and put it in the Offering or the Giving Box in the lobby.

STAY CONNECTED



@graceunionstl | #graceunionstl

LISTEN ONLINE



ONLINE AUDIO
graceunionstl.org/multimedia

WAYS TO GIVE



ENVELOPE
Offering/Giving Box




TEXT TO GIVE
314.888.5188



ONLINE
graceunionstl.org

SAVE THE DATES



12/1	Leadership Party Night
12/2	Kids Christmas Dress Rehearsal
12/3	Water Baptisms
12/3	Ladies' Christmas Party
12/9	Breakfast with Santa
12/9	Kids Christmas Dress Rehearsal
12/10	Children's Christmas Performance
12/24	Christmas Eve Services (3 & 5pm)
12/31	GU Students NYE Lock-in
1/13	Ministry Workers Safety Training
1/24	Wednesday Night Experience (NEW)

OUR STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

OFFICE: 314.892.2757

- **Rev. Bob Poley, *Lead Pastor***
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- **Rev. Jason Myers, *Associate Pastor***
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- **Patrick Daniels, *Student Ministry Pastor***
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- **Carrie Indelicato, *Worship Leader***
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- **Carrie Clifton, *Publications & Media***
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OVERFLOW (PART 4): *Ordinary Love*

Problem: Fear is a great initiator but a terrible long term motivator.

Question: Is there something that produces reactions as powerful as Fear, but is also sustainable over time?

Luke 7: 36-50

36 One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. 37 When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. 38 Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them. 39 When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!" 40 Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied. 41 Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. 42 But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" 43 Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. 44 Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. 47 "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." 48 Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 The men at the table said among themselves, "Who is this man, that he goes around forgiving sins?" 50 And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

- I. When you know that you have been forgiven much, you will love much.
 - A. Do you want to feel a love for God that drives you to overflow like this woman did?
 - Be honest with yourself about how sinful you really are.
 - There is no mess or secret you can unroll before him that will not be met with forgiveness and cleansing.

II. What about people who don't need that much forgiveness?

- A. At first glance it would appear that Jesus told the Pharisee that he did not owe as great of a debt.
- But what does Jesus actually say about the Guilt of the Pharisees?

Matthew 23:25-27

- 25 What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence!
- 26 You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too.
- 27 "What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurity.
- B. According to Jesus some of us have death and mess attached to us on the outside of our life (like the Prostitute) and some of us have death and mess on the inside (like Pharisees).
- C. Until we recognize the magnitude of the debt God has canceled for US, a compelling love for God will be out of our reach.

William Barclay: "And the strange thing is that the better a man is the more he feels his sin. Paul could speak of sinners 'of whom I am foremost' (1 Timothy 1:15). Francis of Assisi could say, 'There is nowhere a more wretched and a more miserable sinner than I.' It is true to say that the greatest of sins is to be conscious of no sin; but a sense of need will open the door to the forgiveness of God."

III. Great forgiveness opens the door to greater love with people as well.

- A. James 5:16 actually tells us to confess our sins to each other.
- B. It requires vulnerability and humility to confess our wrongs to each other.
- C. When that vulnerability is met with the GRACE OF GOD, it gives life to a kind of love between people that is not possible otherwise.
- When that happens you are experiencing that actual grace and forgiveness of God flowing to you, from him, THROUGH a person.
 - With God, with Friends, with your spouse, parents, kids, or whoever; if you have been forgiven much, you will love much.