

The Purpose of Grace Growth Groups:

Growth Groups help you take your next step with God by developing meaningful friendships built around God's Word. As we connect with one another and with God's Word, incredible things take place and we naturally grow. In community, this growth occurs through 4 primary activities:

We SHARE Life

Each week we'll take time to connect and share what is happening in our lives. This will become more natural as we begin to feel more comfortable with one another. Sharing life and accepting each other is essential to the healthy relationships needed for growth groups.

We STUDY God's Word

Each week we'll study the previous week's sermon text, though we will not rehash the sermon. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life. Accountability to God's Word is transformational and brings spiritual growth in our lives. We also take time to seek God in prayer for relevant needs and issues present in our group.

We SUPPORT Each Other

Each week we'll learn how to care for one another as Christ instructed us. People who know each other well, care for each other well. This care will take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging, accountability, advice, and meeting real needs.

We SERVE Together

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. Jesus reminds us that the world will know we're his disciples by our love. The role each member fills in serving one another and the local community is essential; for we were created to serve others, not ourselves. Throughout the semester, we will serve the other members of our group and together the group will serve the local community through one service project.



GUEST SPEAKER
Message #46: Whom or What do you Seek?
Sermon Text: Luke 8:40-56

Rick Lipira, *Elder of Grace Evangelical*
Grace Evangelical Church
November 12th, 2017

Whom or What do you Seek?

Main Theme:

- If you seek Him you _____ find Him.

4 Thoughts from Luke 8:

- 1) He has a need; his _____ is Jesus.
- 2) Jairus will be moved to the _____ - _____.
- 3) She told the whole world her _____.
- 4) _____ the Teacher.

Growth Group Guide

For the week of November 12th, 2017

Fall Growth Group Information:

- **Today begins Week 11 of our Fall Semester of Growth Groups.** Each semester lasts for 15 weeks. Sunday's mark the beginning of each new week.
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Where to begin...

- **1. Pray, 2. Read Luke 8:40-56 and 3. Know the context:**

Luke was a physician, who traveled along with the Apostle Paul, helping assist his ministry efforts. Luke is the only non-Jewish author in the New Testament. He meticulously investigated the claims of Christ and his gospel presents first-hand, eye-witness accounts of Jesus' ministry. The context of our passage in Luke 8 is immediately following Jesus' ministry in the area of the Gerasenes, where he had just delivered the Gerasene demoniac.

My Story:

1. In what ways did this week's message inform, inspire, or instruct your life? What stood out to you? What did you sense God speak to you?

Digging Deeper:

1. Of all the people pressing in for Jesus' attention, two get through to him in this story (*Jairus and the sick woman*); how did these two get Jesus' attention and how does that instruct us in our approach to Christ today?
2. Why do you think Jesus made the sick woman reveal herself? Was it for his sake? Or was it for her own sake?

Follow-up question: What else do you learn about her character before and after she touches Jesus' garment? How was her faith obvious to Jesus?

3. Jesus asks' Jairus not to fear, but rather to have faith to believe his daughter would be healed; in your opinion, what is the relationship between faith and fear?

Taking it Home:

This passage clearly reveals that fear is at odds with faith; yet, even though we're believers, we can still struggle with great amounts of fear when it comes to our lives. Have you ever been too frightened to come to God with a problem? Are you dealing with anything currently that you would like to ask God to take the fear away, and in its place, give you faith?