

Wednesday, April 2nd, A.D. 2025

Dear Friends - Living & Making History,

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him” (Col.3:17 NKJV).

Living all of life for the glory of our great God and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ought to be the passion of our hearts and at the forefront of our minds every day thus making history for the glory of His Name. Magnifying Him in every arena of life is our stewardship responsibility for which the Body of Christ will be held accountable at the Bema. Faithfulness in defending the truth like a soldier, advancing the truth like an athlete, and cultivating the truth like a farmer is something that GFM takes very seriously (2 Tim.2:3-7; 1 Cor.9:24-27 cf. 2 Cor.5:9-11).

GFM endeavors to be a catalyst toward **“Strengthening Church & Family as Co-Champions...of the Next Generation.”** In other words, the Church & Family are designed by God to proactively work together at intentionally passing on the faith to the next generation. The church is to equip the home with the ministry tools needed for family discipleship, and the home is to enrich the church through active involvement. Foundational to this dynamic of GFM’s mission are the following biblical convictions:

- **Solid Theology of GOD’s Design for the Family** – Gen.1:26-28; 2:15-24; Matt.19:4-6; Eph.5:15-6:4
 - Biblical marriage & family life is central to strong churches & communities. The irreplaceable nature of the nuclear family, gender roles, & the glory of motherhood must be upheld. Men need to be mentored in courageous manhood & intentional fatherhood that passes on a godly legacy.
- **Singing of GOD’s Praise & Inter-Generational Worship** – Ps.96:1-9; Eph.6:1; Titus 2:1-10
 - Biblical worship is God-centered & doctrinally robust as congregational singing is vital to the health & strength of the church. Children should connect with church & be encouraged to be in the entire service as soon as they are able, so parents need to prepare them throughout the week.
- **Scheduled Priorities of GOD’s Time Restructured** – Ps.90:12; Eph.5:15-17; Col.4:2-6
 - Biblical stewardship of time invests in family discipleship by just being together right at home in order to prioritize spiritual disciplines like Family Worship & suppertime around the table. Crazy busyness too often robs families of the heart level quality time that requires quantity time.

A biblical reformation, spiritual revival, and revitalization of the church and family is needed here in America beginning on the grass roots level where we live every day. In light of this, I’m grateful for **Leonard Ravenhill’s** bold declaration in his classic book, **“Why Revival Tarries”** from back in 1959:

“Some declare that in America Patrick Henry did more to pave the way for freedom and liberty than any other man in its history. Hear him, fired with passionate devotion for his people, as he speaks at the Virginia Convention, March 23, 1775: ‘Is life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take. But as for me, give me liberty—or give me death!’ Could Cato or Demosthenes surpass that oratorical gem? Can we translate it?

The fearful bondage and slavery that exists in the world today and threatens the rest of mankind is no fairy story! Though Communism may conquer the world (terrible and unimaginable as that might be), to the true child of God there is a greater horror—eternity for the unrepentant in an endless hell!

Perhaps we should get near Patrick Henry’s language this way: ‘Is life’s span so dear and are home comforts so engrossing as to be purchased with my unfaithfulness and dry-eyed prayerlessness? At the final bar of God, shall the perishing millions accuse me of materialism coated with a few Scripture verses?

*‘Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, **GIVE ME REVIVAL** in my soul and in my church and in my nation—or **GIVE ME DEATH!**’*

Last month, at *Grace Bible Fellowship Church* in Inverness, Florida, I included this powerful quote in my sermon called **“This is the State of the American Church & Family”** because March 23rd, 2025, was the 250th anniversary of Patrick Henry’s famous speech. By the way, I made sure to add *“GIVE ME REVIVAL...in my family”* to the last line. Prior to that, we were blessed to worship together with the dear saints at *Avalon Grace Church* in Naples and preach a sermon called **“Christ’s Supremacy in Family Relationships Amidst a Secular Age”** from Colossians 3:17-21. We also enjoyed going to Bradenton Beach on the shores of the Gulf of America before joining some of the saints at *Palma Sola Community Church* for their mid-week Bible Study & Prayer Meeting and sharing a brief GFM update.

This month, we’re gearing up for a one-day *Marriage & Family Connect Conference* in Hartford, Wisconsin, coordinated by a family friend. There is also an open door to present GFM’s mission at *Slinger Community Church* while we’re in town for that event. Very much like your family, we’re also excited to especially celebrate the triumph of our risen Savior on Resurrection Sunday on April 20th. That same weekend is another notable item of historical significance: the 250th anniversary of **“The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere”** perhaps made famous by Longfellow’s poem titled accordingly. Whereas *“the shot heard round the world”* certainly did spark the American War for Independence, how greater is *“the shot heard throughout eternity”* that decimated the tyranny of sin and death along with the demonic forces of evil. Indeed, the blazing center of the glory of God vested in the Person and finished work of our risen Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the centerpiece of history and ignites the hearts of God’s people with zeal and living hope for time and eternity.

On a more personal note, my oldest son **Timothy** preached his first sermon from Colossians 3:1-4 at *Grace Gospel Church* in Linton, Indiana a month ago. He is fully engaged in his course work at *Berean Bible Institute* online and plans to, once again, serve on staff at *Northern Grace Youth Camp* this summer. **Luke** is also taking classes at BBI online, wrapping up his senior year of high school, and has already racked up substantial college credit via CLEP exams. Before he leaves this summer to serve again at NGYC as a cabin counselor, he is glad to be working part-time at *Dammann’s Garden Center* near our home. **Elijah**, our resident “Bob Ross”, is finishing up his freshman year of high school, thoroughly enjoyed being in Florida as it is a naturalist’s paradise and is licking his chops for planting season in his backyard garden. **Bethany**, turns 14 this summer, starts the high school version of *“Enlisted for His Glory Academy”* in the fall, and just started working at the home of a family friend who is a quadriplegic by helping her with various things around the house. **Grace**, turns 12 this summer, is very diligent in her studies, is quite the avid reader, and is ready to begin Algebra ½. **Noah** is a hard-charging almost-ten-year-old whose temperament reminds **Lori** and I that we need to faithfully shepherd the hearts of every one of our children in the pathway of righteousness and not just lock our parenting journey into cruise control as it were.

Every month, we’re grateful for the kindness, friendship, and generosity of ministry supporters like you who faithfully uphold my family and I in prayer. May each and every one of your hearts be filled with joy and gladness especially as we look forward to celebrating the all-glorious reality of Christ’s history-making triumph over sin and death and the demonic forces of evil for time and eternity. Thank you for partnering together with GFM in our mission of ***“Advancing the Cause of Christ to the Ends of the Earth...Beginning Right at Home.”***

Living & Making History Every Day for His Glory,

Pastor Tim Board

GFM Co-Founder & Director

P.S. For more frequent updates on GFM, be sure to check out www.GraceFamilyMinistries.org, the GFM YouTube channel, and help us spread the word through avenues like social media. Soli Deo Gloria!