## Hello Friends of Grace Family Ministries!

In this season where we experience the warmth, light, and beauty of spring overcoming the cold and darkness of winter, I am reminded of our glorious Savior who rose again with the dawn, bringing life and light as He triumphed over sin, death, and darkness. As this new season unfolds and we prepare to not only celebrate our mothers but also remember those who have given their lives in defense of our homeland, I want to share with you what the Lord has been doing in our ministry and give you a picture of what this new month of ministry will look like for our family.

The beginning of this past month found our family in Hartford, WI for a marriage and family conference themed "True Love in a Culture of Counterfeits" where my father preached a couple of times. Our family ministered at *Slinger Community Church* that Sunday and it was a blessing to meet the saints there. We were in the Chicago area with family for *Resurrection Sunday* and had the opportunity to share some special music at my grandparents' church and spend time with much of my extended family celebrating our Risen Savior and enjoying good food and festivities.

I am excited to share that my older brother, Timothy, with Elijah, drove up to Beloit, WI, where he preached and they ministered in special music at *Grace Bible Church*. It is exciting to see what the Lord is doing in my brother's life as he continues to train for pastoral ministry at *Berean Bible Institute* and look for ways to serve the Lord and preach His Word.

Most recently, my family and I headed east to Ohio and were excited to attend a fabulous Christian homeschool theatre performance of *Mary Poppins*, in which a few of our friends took part, before arriving in Rootstown where we ministered at *Community Bible Church* and did some other ministry with the saints there.

On a personal note, I (Luke) am wrapping up my homeschool education, and, as I prepare to graduate, I am so thankful for my parents who have poured into me in these past 12+ years and who will continue to do so in the future. Dad and Mom have endeavored to cultivate in me a love of learning, and they have taught me to love, honor, and serve our Lord Jesus Christ wherever I go in life. Thank you so much! I have taken some CLEP (*College Level Examination Program*) tests earning college credit while still in high school, and I am already taking *Berean Bible Institute* classes, with plans to continue to do so in the future. I am an avid student of history, theology, worldview, and politics, and I enjoy reading good literature, playing my mandolin, traveling with my family, and working in the outdoors. Thank you for all your prayers for me in these past few months; I am doing very well with my chiropractic treatments, and I covet your prayers for protection and wisdom as I move forward in life for the glory of God!

As we look forward to celebrating *Mother's Day* it is vital to remember that the role of a mother is one of the most powerful in the world. Mothers exercise an enormous amount of influence on their children, and are called by God to, alongside their husbands, love their children by fulfilling their sacred responsibility to raise, nurture, and train them to fear the Lord and to serve Him for the rest of their lives. By instilling in them a comprehensive biblical Christian worldview that applies to every area of their lives, be it education, work, relationships, etc. moms are making a difference in the lives of their children. Moms (& dads) are primarily given this responsibility, not the government, not the church, and not even other parents.

In Deuteronomy 6:6,7 in the context of passing on the truth to the next generation, the Lord God through His servant Moses says, "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children...." It is clear that before parents can teach their children the truth, it must be a reality in their lives first. Since you cannot give what you do not have, get in God's Word, fellowship

with others who will encourage you (speaking to moms) in the importance of being a mom, get your hands on some good and helpful resources that provide practical tips and encouragement in biblical motherhood. You can never measure the impact you will have on your children, and you must realize that, as *Aubrey Andelin* so aptly says in his book "Man of Steel and Velvet" (1972),

"No work anywhere is more important than caring for children and doing other domestic duties which keep the homefires burning. This work naturally falls to the women and can best be done by them. It is a sacred responsibility. Only when...women willingly assume the responsibilities they were born to do, when they devote themselves to making a success of them and lose themselves in this great responsibility, forgetting about their own selfish desires, will they find happiness and will we have a better world."

Besides providing pulpit supply in Linton, IN later this month, our family will be heading to Alpha, KY to share about our ministry and preach the word at *Old Bethel Bible Church*. At the end of the month, we are excited to celebrate and remember, with friends and family, those who have given the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation. May we resolve to never forget what they have done and live our lives to the fullest, never taking for granted the freedoms and liberties we enjoy. In light of this I am reminded of the poignant words of President Abraham Lincoln where he says in his famous **Gettysburg Address**,

"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

As I bring this letter to a close, I applaud all you mothers who work tirelessly day in and day out often in times of great difficulty carrying out your vital role as mother. Your work is not in vain. Live in the moment and capitalize on every opportunity you have to pour into your children's hearts and build your relationship with them. Know that God sees you, and before you know it, you will begin to enjoy the fruits of your labors as your children become adults who will one day start their own families and whose friendship is priceless and powerful. So, on behalf of *Grace Family Ministries*, I thank you mothers for all you do and remember that your labors are not in vain in the Lord (1 Cor.15:58).

Because of Christ.

**Luke Board** – for Grace Family Ministries

"The homemaker has the ultimate career. All other careers exist for one purpose only – and that is to support the ultimate career." C.S. Lewis

**P.S.** This is Tim with a quick update about an additional need: Last month, we encountered some significant vehicle maintenance expenses along with a medical bill resurfacing that we thought had been resolved. We praise GOD for those of you who have already given over & above your monthly support to help with these extra costs. Besides our house, we are debt free & are thankful for the LORD's provision every month. Anyway, I'm confident that many of you will appreciate the heads up & this level of transparency about things. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We're grateful for every one of you & your investment via prayer & financial support into GFM's mission of "Advancing the Cause of Christ to the Ends of the Earth... Beginning Right at Home." As you know, there are a host of resources available online at <a href="https://www.GraceFamilyMinistries.org">www.GraceFamilyMinistries.org</a>, the GFM YouTube channel, and we also welcome you to help us spread the word through avenues like social media, word of mouth, & texting friends. Soli Deo Gloria!