

Thursday, August 13th, A.D. 2026

Dear Beloved Friends of *Grace Family Ministries*:

“The works of the LORD are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them. His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever. Holy and awesome is His name. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom” (Ps.111:2-3, 9b-10a NKJV).

It’s that time of year again! The back-to-school season. Of course, that means new clothes, new shoes, new backpacks, new lunchboxes, new textbooks, new pencils, new pens, new classrooms, new teachers, new friends, new bus routes, and sometimes even new schools as children grow up through the ranks of this formative season of their lives.

For the vast majority of families, this is reality just as it was a year ago and it will not be altogether different a year from now. All that being said, what would it look like if more families stopped a moment and gave more thought to this annual routine? What would it look like if more families slowed down to think through all the implications of their educational choices? What would it look like if more families prayerfully considered the biblical philosophy and methodology of a distinctly Christian education? Regardless of where kids “go to school”, neutrality is a myth and every educational context is providing some kind of discipleship in the understanding of reality through a worldview.

For all these reasons and more, Lori and I have been committed to parent-led home-based family discipleship via homeschooling for about 20 years now. Having lived in many different places and served in many different churches around the country, we completely understand that this is radical, counter-cultural, and filled with unique challenges but immeasurable blessings. Perhaps the greatest of all is strategically leveraging time and influence with our kids for the sake of maximum impact upon their hearts, minds, and the future trajectory of their lives. This blessing is really a tremendous stewardship responsibility that we pray more Christian families would intentionally own for the sake of ***“Advancing the Cause of Christ to the Ends of the Earth...Beginning Right at Home.”***

← Looking Back

Throughout this summertime ministry season, a common theme has stood out to Lori and I as we have both observed a strange, but unfortunately not uncommon, phenomenon. Namely, it is the tragic plight of young men due to the adverse effects of phones, screentime, and video games. Almost invariably, we find that a vast majority of young men are distracted by technological devices and rarely fully engaged where they are physically located. Many are seemingly deadened and unable to carry on much of a conversation about anything of substance let alone initiate such a verbal exchange. Nevertheless, we are encouraged because of the ministry opportunities that our great GOD has given us to engage young and old at churches in the last month from here in Indiana to up north in Wisconsin to the Chicagoland area as well as Northern Grace Youth Camp near Green Bay (WI).

In continued celebration of America’s 250th anniversary, my recent sermons have included:

- ***“1776 vs. 1789: Gospel Reflections on the Revolutions in America & France”***
- ***“Historic Events that Define Our Lives: Big Lessons from Christ to 1776 & Beyond”***

GFM’s 10 Biblical Convictions

- 1. Sovereign Majesty of GOD’s Holiness**
- 2. Sufficiency & Preaching of GOD’s Word**
- 3. Supremacy of GOD’s Grace for Life & Ministry**
- 4. Security of GOD’s Saints in Christ**
- 5. Solid Theology of GOD’s Design for the Family**
- 6. Singing of GOD’s Praise & Inter-Generational Worship**
- 7. Scheduled Priorities of GOD’s Time Restructured**
- 8. Salt & Light Moral Back-Pressure of GOD’s Truth**
- 9. Stalwart Faithfulness of GOD’s Providence in History**
- 10. Stewardship Responsibility of GOD’s Mission**

- *“Blessed is the Nation Whose God is the Lord: Ancient Wisdom for the Modern Crisis”*
- *“Champion the Great American Experiment: Faith, Family, & the Stewardship of Freedom”*

All these and more have been uploaded to GFM’s YouTube channel and regularly posted on Facebook. Our prayer is that your hearts are encouraged, equipped, and challenged to make a difference in your arena of influence. Please help us get the word out by sharing these with others far and wide!

Looking Ahead →

My family and I are all glad to be back home after an exciting summer of ministry far and wide. Timothy is gearing up for a new semester at Berean Bible Institute. After being at camp for what seemed like most of the summer, Luke is excited to move forward with specialized training for the home inspection business. Elijah is looking forward to turning 17 next month and getting his driver’s license. Along with their academic studies, Bethany and Grace are glad to continue working at the home of a family friend who is a quadriplegic. Noah just turned 11 years old and is looking forward to our upcoming adventures!

After a couple of Sundays at Grace Gospel Church in Linton, Indiana, this month, we’re all especially excited about the original Grace Family Conference in South Dakota next month. En route, the saints at Wall Lake Grace Church in northwest Iowa have welcomed us to join them for a Sunday of worship and ministry on Labor Day weekend. **Thank you for upholding these travels in prayer and generous financial support!**

How to Teach Your Kids to Love America

Back toward the beginning of summer, my wife gave me a book for Father’s Day written by a Christian homeschool dad and Green Beret who also served in the Virginia House of Delegates by the name of **Nick Frietas**. It’s called **“The Manbook: A Point-by-Point Guide to Sucking it Up and Getting the Job Done.”** Chock full of practical wisdom, masculine virtue, and straightforward stuff that’s often in-your-face, it’s meant for guys in general and not just Christian men. Here’s a brief excerpt that addresses how to teach our kids a well-ordered love of country and therefore gratitude to God for His hand at work in our nation’s history:

- 1. Your country doesn’t have to exist.*
- 2. It exists because people believed that it was worth establishing, other people believed it was worth building, others believed it was worth dying for, and now it is your job to determine if you believe the same things.*
- 3. Strive for better for your country, but understand that it wasn’t perfect before, isn’t perfect now, and won’t be in the future. Guess what, neither is anybody else’s country.*
- 4. Saving your country begins with your family.*

The author goes on to explain that **“personal responsibility is a hallmark of individual liberty”** and challenges men, husbands, and fathers to lead well at the helm of their home by proactively **“teach[ing] your children to take responsibility for their actions and thoughts.”** In this way, the Christian home and family is designed by God to be the strategic catalyst toward positive change in the American church and culture.

Thank You for Standing with Us

Whatever the back-to-school season looks like for your family, Lori and I and each of our kids are grateful for you and your vested interest in GFM’s mission. Every month, our hearts are humbled by the kindness of our ministry partners like you who sacrificially give to see this work go forward. We would be glad to come visit your church, Bible Study, or home fellowship sometime to share more about GFM’s mission of **“Advancing the Cause of Christ to the Ends of the Earth...Beginning Right at Home.”**

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Tim Board

GFM Co-Founder & Director