

## Topics for the May 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Brother Ray Keable will be following up on a previous lesson in regards to DIVORCE. The question he will pose: "Is divorce an unpardonable sin?" The scriptural answer is no...the religious answer is yes. The religious answer is not found in scripture. Of course we know that God's wish is that no one get divorced. But we live in a country where the divorce rate is about 50%. This is a very important topic that we feel ALL Christians should be very sensitive to. This means that possibly some of our assembly has been divorced. We want to be "helpers of your joy." Divorce is not a sin. It is the sins leading up to the divorce that cause the divorce. Christ died for our sins.

Brother Clay Madsen will be teaching the adult class, bringing a message from I Cor. 8:1. He will be dealing with an issue of grace application involving CHARITY and the issue of edifying one another. This will be another message you will not want to miss.

## Grace Bible Church WEB SITE

Brother Dean VanDeusen has taken on the responsibility of seeing our new web site through to completion. He has been working with a company by the name of [Atom Solutions](#). Dean has been instrumental in handling the details and working on the layout. There will be changes to come and suggestions are always welcome. However the purpose is to keep the information simple and access easy to other sites of importance, e.g. [www.graceimpact.org](http://www.graceimpact.org). We want to keep the focus on the doctrine. Thanks Dean for the hard work! Our URL or website address is: [www.gracebibleatlanta.org](http://www.gracebibleatlanta.org)

## The building the building!

We are still in pursuit of a place that we can call home. However to date this has eluded us. We are not discouraged and know that persistence will pay off. We have had several buildings that would suit our needs, but would have put us in possible financial hardship. We are all in this together, and we need a place where we can come together and operate as members of the Body of Christ. That means a place where

I Tim. 2:4 can and will be the issue. This will allow us to meet regularly and to grow closer as an assembly. We are looking currently in a broad area from I 285 near Hwy 400 down to I 85. We have looked up I 85 to the first portion of Hwy 316 near Lawrenceville. Any help or suggestions are welcomed.

*LB*

## Soldier's Training for Service

This past April 25-27<sup>th</sup> the annual Soldiers Training for Service meeting was held in Chicago. This conference is an extension to Grace School of the Bible. We had a great time of preaching and fellowship. This happens every year the last weekend in April at Shorewood Bible Church in Chicago, Illinois. The place was packed and the people were pumped...with the doctrine. If you haven't been there before, mark your calendar for next year and make every effort to come. You won't regret it!

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## RECAP OF LOCATION, SCHEDULE AND TELEPHONE #S

### Sunday MAY 18<sup>th</sup> Next Meeting!

At the Comfort Inn Conference Center off of Interstate I-285 N and Buford Hwy, Exit 32, 2001 Clearview Ave, Doraville, GA (770-455-3700)

9:30	- 10:00	Fellowship
10:00	- 10:50	Adult Sunday School Clay Madsen Children's Bible Study Lee/Janet Bonner
11:00	- 12:15	Sermon/Ray Keable
1:15	- 2:15	Optional Studies

We encourage you, your family and friends to come and be a part of what God is doing in the Atlanta area and beyond. May all that we do or accomplish be for the Glory and Honor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Ray Keable	1-888-535-2300
Lee Bonner	770-513-0946
Clay Madsen	770-443-1121
Jerry Wooldridge	770-427-3608

E-Mail: [Gracechurchatlanta@mail.com](mailto:Gracechurchatlanta@mail.com)

## WATCHMAN ON THE WALL

**How do you perceive the word of God?**

This is a question today that has lost most, if not all, of its importance in the majority of members in the Body of Christ, not to mention the lost and dying world around us. It is not uncommon today to be part of a church that does not emphasize the inspiration and preservation of God's Word. There seems to be more emphasis on correcting and comparing verses in the different versions, rather than receiving the word of God's as it is in truth the word of God.

Have you taken the time to look at how the Thessalonians perceived the word of God? Lets look at a particular verse, [I Thess. 2:13](#), and notice how Paul starts this verse off. **"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing,....."** Paul in verse 12 has just made the statement that they were to walk worthy of God, and how God has called them unto his kingdom and glory. So he makes the statement of thankfulness without ceasing. Before Paul gets to this point he has made some very clear statements on the time and care that was spent delivering the word of God to the Thessalonians. Verse 7 & 8 you have the example of Paul's attitude toward the saints there, **"....even as a nurse cherisheth her children."** Paul had not only imparted the gospel of God to them, but gave himself also. He labored and *travailed*, e.g. (hardship, and toil) night and day preaching the gospel. Also notice verse 4 and 5 how it makes clear that Paul was not concerned with pleasing men, and he did not come with flattering words.

We can see Paul's sincerity in verse 11. How he comforted and charged them; because he valued and esteemed each and every believer **"...as a father [doth] his children,"** Can you imagine telling your children something that is not true for the sake of personal gain, or not telling your children something that you know would keep them from harm? Paul summed up in verse 20 what the believers at Thessalonica who received his word and were established in the faith meant to him, **"...ye are our glory and joy."** Verse 13 Paul makes the statement,

"...thank God without ceasing." Why? Because when they received the word, they received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth the word of God. This is a statement of fact.

The Thessalonians understood that the power of God is in the message that was given to the Apostle Paul by the risen Christ. Hence, their response to his message was belief, which had the proper effect in building their faith. Notice Paul's summation of those who believed in verse 13b. **"...which effectually worketh also in you that believe."** What is belief then? Belief is faith, faith in what God has said to and about you in his word.

Faith has an efficacious, i.e., active, operative and productive effect on our inner man to bring about the life of Christ living out through the believer in the details of life. There is a lot of erroneous teaching on faith today. Some say, "Just believe and God will work." The question is: believe what? The answer is found in [Rom. 10:17](#) **"Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God."** Faith then is not blind faith, just believing, but rather faith has its foundation in what God has said to the church today. This information can only be found by using [II Tim.2: 15](#). Key words: Study, Rightly Dividing, and Word of Truth. This formula for Bible study unlocks the power of Gods word and causes the **Effectual working** of the doctrine in the believer.

Study is the method for instruction in righteousness. Rightly dividing is the key to understanding the instruction. The word of truth is Christ the foundation we stand on.

We pray that as you study, and believe the Bible that it would impress upon you the perception that you have in a book, the life, and the will of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thankfully, God has preserved in our language words for our edification, in the King James Bible. Through these inspired words we too can grow together in **HIS GRACE.**

*Brother Lee*