



GRACE WEEKLY

60TH EDITION

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Order of Service

Sunday Morning | 8:45am & 10:45am

The small group who gathered on September 20, 1961 as charter members of Grace Baptist Church could not have imagined the vast expressions of God's faithfulness and rich blessings that would characterize those who follow after them.

In this commemorative edition of the Grace Weekly, we will discover that the enduring legacy of Grace Baptist Church is not expressed through corporate gatherings, ministry programs, community events, and campus buildings. The legacy continues through the lives of Christ-followers who are committed to understanding and applying the word of God into every area of life through every season of life. This foundational commitment has spanned six decades of ministry among the Grace Baptist Family, in our Santa Clarita Valley community, and through our Grace Partners all around the world.

The story of Grace Baptist Church is still being written on the hearts of this generation who make and multiply Christ-followers and magnify the glory of God.

As we celebrate this meaningful milestone in the history of this church, our hearts resonate with the psalmist in Psalm 115:1.

*Not to us, LORD, not to us
but to your name give glory,
for the sake of your steadfast love and faithfulness!*

Grace to you!

Dr. Joe Keller
Executive Pastor

60th Anniversary Video 2011–2021	Featuring Nancy Ake Hill <i>A Founding Charter Member</i>
Welcome	David W. Hegg <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Call to Corporate Worship	From Everlasting to Everlasting (Psalm 90)
Song of Adoration	Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Song of Assurance	Jesus Messiah
Pastoral Prayer of Blessing	Gene Newman <i>Elder Chairman</i>
Proclamation	David W. Hegg <i>Senior Pastor</i>
<i>Our Story: By God's Grace, for God's Glory: Part 1</i>	
Song of Gospel Sufficiency	In Christ Alone
Proclamation	David W. Hegg <i>Senior Pastor</i>
<i>Our Story: By God's Grace, for God's Glory: Part 2</i>	
Congregational Prayer of Thanksgiving and Supplication	Geoff Beckwith <i>Pastor of Congregational Life</i>
Songs of Devotion	The Church's One Foundation
Pastoral Prayer of Gospel Advancement	Jared Burkholder <i>Pastor of Outreach and Connections</i>
Songs of Commission	O Church, Arise (Arise, Shine)
Announcements, Benediction and Closing Prayer	David W. Hegg and Leadership Team



Celebrating Our Legacy

Candice Hill

Assistant Director of Grace Media

The birth of Grace Baptist Church in 1961 began as many stories involving God's people do — with a faithful believer in prayer. Reverend Harry Gay, full-time butcher and part-time minister, was deep in prayer when he felt God calling him to start a church in Newhall. He followed that calling and asked his friend, Nancy Ake Hill, to partner with him and host the very first prayer meeting in her home. A newspaper ad was published and a burgeoning church was born with eight believers on Scherzinger Lane in Mint Canyon. The initial prayer meetings bounced between early church members' homes before the first official Sunday school and morning worship service was held at the Moose Lodge with 35 people in attendance.

On September 20, 1961, the church's charter was approved and in March 1962, Grace Baptist Church of Newhall was incorporated and received into the Southwest Baptist District and the Baptist General Conference. Our church met in a few other locations including garage units on Pine Street and the former Southern Baptist Church on Lyons Avenue before the purchase of the Quigley Canyon Road property in Placerita Canyon in 1963.

Charter member, Nancy Ake Hill, shares, "Early members — Ethel Russell, Zona Ake, and Alberta Carson met every Tuesday to pray for the church. I believe the reason Grace Baptist has grown so beautifully is because those three women were powerhouses for prayer. They had a heart for the Lord and the church."

"They were faithful to the Lord, faithful to the word, faithful to serving."

God sustained the family of Grace Baptist Church throughout the years under the leadership of Rev. Harry C. Gay (1961), Rev. Robert L. Spence (1964), Rev. James E. Rentz (1970), Rev. Donald Coddington (1976), Rev. John L. Swanson (1977), Tom Givens (1984), and currently David W. Hegg (2009).

In the 1980s, church attendance was thriving and overflowing and eventually we outgrew the Placerita Canyon location. Pastor Tom Givens led the relocation project to our current site on Copper Hill Drive in 1998. Pastor Peter Beers recalls: "Tom and Geoff Beckwith — through their leadership — focused the congregation to not talk about money month after month." Pastor Beers echoes Pastor Tom's words in saying, "We all know what it will take, but if God is in it, He will supply." Beers continues, "It was a community effort to build this place, planting trees, and filling sandbags. It was an opportunity to feel like this is your home. Pastor Tom let God set the temperature rather than trying to create it, and I think people responded."

We have been blessed with a rich history of believers who responded to God's call and over the generations steadfastly prayed and sacrificed to be a church. Pastor Geoff Beckwith reflects: "To think of 60 years at Grace, I think the most important part is not the last 20–25 years, but the first 20–25 years when the pattern of the first members was set. Those are the real heroes because they were faithful. They were faithful to the Lord, faithful to the word, faithful to serving."

To honor the legacy of Grace Baptist Church, let us continue on in prayer, seeking and obeying God's call for our life. Pastor Beers encourages us that, "The value of the church is the people." May we value each other as God values us.





Gathering

Ryan Foglesong
Director of Corporate Worship

If we take a moment to reflect on all that God has accomplished at Grace Baptist Church over the past 60 years, certainly the “Worship Service” has been the weekly landmark event God has used to reform us for his glory. Our conviction to gather regularly every week has its foundation in Scripture as we see it modeled in Acts 2:42 and commanded in Heb. 10:24–25. We see its importance throughout 1 Corinthians 11 where Paul gives instructions for what to do “when you gather as a church,” so we joyfully obey what God requires. We meet to praise him and edify one another.

We need to gather; it’s not an option. Can we enjoy God, His Word, have deep individual worship apart from assembling as a church body? Of course! However, the corporate nature of our gathering highlights that it’s not just me praising my Savior or just me being encouraged in my faith. It is us, the whole church expressing together our

shared gratefulness to our triune God who has redeemed us in Christ, and sealed us by his Spirit. In an increasingly individualistic, consumeristic society, we must recognize our need for togetherness.

Over the years, several men have filled the pulpit, music styles have morphed, but the gospel remained and still remains “of first importance” (1 Cor. 15:3–4) in our Gathering. It is so easy to get “gospel amnesia,” isn’t it? Forgetting the centrality of the cross, the hope of the resurrection, the utter dependence we have on God to sustain us and sanctify us. God knew we would be prone to forget, so He prescribed every element in our corporate worship time to bring us back to the gospel, to allow it to “dwell in us richly” (Col. 3:16). Those elements include preaching (2 Tim. 4:2; Rom. 10:14–17), scripture reading (1 Tim. 4:13), singing (Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19), prayer (1 Tim. 2:1–2), the Lord’s Supper (1 Cor. 11:23–26), baptism (Mt. 28:19–20), and testimony (1 Chron. 16:8, Lk. 8:39).

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And as the story of God’s plan of redemption is retold, rehearsed, sung, heard, tasted, and acted out during our brief time together, we can expect that God will use those activities to shape us more and more into the bride he’s preparing for his Son.

As we look ahead to the next 60 years, should the Lord tarry, I would hope that we are more and more aware of who is leading the “Worship Service.” It is Jesus Christ, the true “worship leader.” He declared himself to be the builder of his church and affirmed that the gates of hell would not overcome it (Matt. 16:18). In Eph 2:20, the apostle Paul emphasizes the centrality and sufficiency of Christ to the church when he describes its establishment being built “on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with

Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.” His lordship extends to and is at the heart of our biblical corporate worship. There are three reasons:

1. Our worship is only made possible by Jesus

Hebrews 10:19–22 teaches us that only the death of Christ on the cross made our access to God possible. Prior to that, not only did we not have the ability to come before a holy God, but we wanted nothing to do with Him.

2. Our worship is made acceptable by Jesus

We’re redeemed, but we still sin. That’s the reality. This affects our worship. Nothing that we do has the purest motive or is entirely free from the old self. “Our finest works are stained with sin,” as the song says. 1 Peter 2:4–5 reminds us that it is Christ who gathers our worship, as faulty as it is, but then makes it acceptable. But not only that. He perfects our worship before the throne in Heaven, for he was and is perfect. How glorious and reassuring that is!

3. Our worship is unified by Jesus

It’s not unique that people come together united by a common interest. We see it at sports games, parties, and clubs. But what is striking about the gathering, is recognizing that the family of God, coming from different backgrounds, occupations, ethnicities, ages, and financial statuses, then sets aside those things that could divide to join us in a bond of peace to glorify our Lord. Ephesians 2:14–16 explains that Christ, through his death on the cross, has broken down those walls of hostility, given us that peace, and reconcile us to God. He unifies his people as our worship ascends with one voice.

May we continue to enjoy exalting our triune God, edifying one another, rehearsing for Heaven, and reveling in the beauty of the gospel for God’s glory and our good.

Engaging

Aaron Miller

Pastor of Adult & Family Ministry

Engaging in discipleship has always been a community event at Grace Baptist Church. Indeed, disciples are made in community, rather than in isolation. And what a rich history we have as a discipleship community. Any community that celebrates 60 years of history will naturally conjure up nostalgia in its members. On the shoulders of giants, as the saying goes; but there's more than just reflections of the past. There is also future anticipation. On the shoulders of giants, indeed, but we know the truth of it. Grace Baptist Church has only ever persisted in this town because of the sovereign grace of God. And just as he carried our older brothers and sisters before us, we trust and anticipate him carrying the current generation of the Grace Baptist family into the future. Four key areas will continue to highlight how we engage one another as followers of Christ.

Through the Word

Our view of the Bible is unique by today's standards. We believe that the 66 books of the Bible are God's inspired revelation to man. They are the very Word of God without error, completely authoritative, essential, sufficient, trustworthy, and constitute the only infallible rule for truth and life. The Grace Baptist family is edified and energized by the regular reading and preaching of God's Word, and we will continue to gather ourselves around its power and revelation. We also recognize our responsibility to prepare the future generations to contend for the faith and understand why the Bible is trustworthy and true. (Psalm 19:7–14; 2 Timothy 3:15, 17; 2 Peter 1:20; 2 Peter 3:14–16; Matthew 5:18; John 10:35; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; John 17:17; Hebrews 4:12; John 19:36–37; Romans 9:17, 10:11, 11)

“And just as he carried our older brothers and sisters before us, we trust and anticipate him carrying the current generation of the Grace Baptist family into the future.”

In Fellowship

The early church devoted themselves to the fellowship (Acts 2:42b). The Grace Baptist family must continue to rediscover the power of biblical fellowship if we are to make disciples for Christ in the twenty-first century. Fellowship is an intimate union in which Christians share. It is more than just friendship; it is the deep bond that only we as Christ-followers know as the family of God. Fellowship occurs when Christ-followers gather around the teaching of Scripture and join in prayer.

Observing Baptism and The Lord's Supper

Grace Baptist Church will continue to observe that which Jesus commanded us to observe: Believers' baptism and the Lord's Supper. Believers' baptism is a public display and confession of faith for everyone who has accepted the free gift of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord (Acts 2:38, 39). The Lord's Supper is a meal of remembrance that Christ-followers share together. The bread representing his body, and the cup representing the shed blood of Christ (1 Cor. 11:23–26). Both ordinances are reflective and celebratory events and are occasions where the Grace Baptist family recalls our connection, love, and unity with one another through Christ.

In Prayer

The Grace Baptist family will continue to grow in the area of prayer. Sometimes it seems like God's sovereignty is a game changer when it comes to prayer. It follows that if God will do what He desires anyway, why pray? Why request or petition or intercede? We should just rest in God's sovereignty, right? Not exactly. We, as the Grace Baptist family, recognize that we pray because God commands us to pray (Matthew 6:9–13, Luke 11:5–13). We pray because Jesus showed us how to pray (Luke 6:12, Luke 9:28, John 17). We pray because God responds to our prayer (James 5:17–18, Daniel 10:12, Acts 4:29–31), and we pray because God has ordained prayer as the means by which he accomplishes his purposes (Jeremiah 29:12–14, Ezekiel 36:37, Matthew 9:38, Ephesians 1:11).

For 60 years God has been faithful to preserve our gospel testimony in this town. It is our time to continue walking the paths laid before us. Our identity and unity are in what Christ has accomplished, and by his grace, through the power of the gospel, we will continue to persevere. Let us not grow weary in doing good and let us not relinquish our commitment to pursue one another with the love and endurance of Christ. All glory be to Christ.



Reaching

Jared Burkholder

Pastor of Outreach & Connections

In any of these three areas — Gather, Engage, and Reach — it is entirely impossible to capture 60 years of faithfulness, effort, generosity, intentionality, and investment. Several godly men have held my position here, hundreds of committed men and women have led Grace Baptist towards actional faith, and thousands from the Grace Baptist Family have labored to bless our community and to love the nations in truth and action. In my several trips to candidate for a pastoral position at Grace Baptist, I interacted with several people in the community who did not attend Grace Baptist but spoke glowingly of its impact in the community. And, perhaps most precious, the reality that many of our global ministry partners grew up and were sent out from Grace Baptist served as a lasting testimony to the legacy of this church family in loving the gospel and the lost.

I wanted to reflect on three commitments which led Grace Baptist to be so involved in the mission of Christ and to consider what commitments are needed for the future:

A Generous Congregation

We often think of dollars in speaking of generosity, but at Grace Baptist, generosity has been more of a cultural ethic than simply an item in the budget. Certainly, millions of dollars have been given towards the cause of Christ. This church family is overwhelmingly generous towards members of our community, Grace Baptist Family members participating in GO teams and other ministries, and towards partners and projects around the world. Beyond financial generosity, however, this church has invested itself well for the gospel. So many hours of service and so many hours of prayer have been sown by this church family.

As we would look towards the future, this generosity is vital to continued faithfulness. We need another generation to sacrificially give their time, energy, resources, and lives to pursue the lost and support ministry the world over. A generous congregation, gathering behind a common purpose and goal, can help mobilize another generation of gospel workers.

A Clear Vision for Holistic Gospel Ministry

Finding ministry partners and opportunities that reflect a biblical balance can often be challenging. At Grace Baptist, we can be so thankful for opportunities and partners that both hold fast to the truth of Christ and are zealously intentional in showing his love to the hurting. Domestically and internationally, Grace Baptist has been part of some amazing work to bring healing to the broken. And, this commitment must continue. In a world increasingly ravaged by sin, we do not merely dispense spiritual nuggets of wisdom. We are called to love the hurting, the orphan, the widow, the broken, and to love them to Christ. Firm confidence that only the gospel can save must be accompanied by a willingness to wade into the practical mess that a world broken by sin experiences. Only Jesus can bring hope to the broken. And, the love of Jesus drives us not towards safe retreat but into the trenches — to be the hands and feet of the one who came to seek and save the lost.

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A Conspicuous Care for Our Ministry Partners

From meals and birthday cards and loaned vehicles, all the way to a house dedicated to blessing our ministry partners, Grace Baptist has a rich history of care for those we send out. Over many decades, this has created a culture of confidence that Grace Baptist will walk faithfully and enduringly with our partners. Many here have been so generous in their care. And, another generation is needed — a fresh set of legs to care for our gospel workers as they labor faithfully. This has been and must continue to be a true partnership. These are not just names on checks but people and families that we love and pray for and encourage and help sustain.

God has used the intentionality and kindness of this church family to reach many. Because of the work of his Spirit among our midst, we have seen much good done from this church, to the glory of God. Because of the great cloud of witnesses that have gone before us in this endeavor, let's commit to another 60 years of being zealous to see the broken healed through the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is our identity — we are ambassadors for Christ until he comes back to get us. Let us hold fast to this identity — even as we cling to Christ.







Holding Fast, Holding Forth

David W. Hegg
Senior Pastor

Back in my college days, Dr. John R. Dunkin would often remind us about the faithfulness of our great God. He used to say, “He would not have taught us to trust in his name and brought us this far to put us to shame.” The area of concern was never God’s faithfulness. It was always this question: “Will we have the courage to trust in the words and ways of our sovereign Lord in times of adversity?”

The command of Jesus to the church in Thyatira was to “Hold fast what you have until I come” (Rev. 2:25). As we look forward to furthering the mission of Christ in our rapidly changing culture, we must dedicate ourselves to “be the church” that courageously and winsomely “holds fast to what we have” as we witness to the truth of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior, and the Shepherd of our souls.

The command to “hold fast” presupposes the presence of opposition that attempts to loosen our grip. And, we don’t have to look far to understand that our culture is becoming more and more antagonistic to the biblical view. All around us, our biblical beliefs, values, and standards are seen as a threat to the pervasive idolatry of personal freedom and happiness. Having effectively pushed God first to the margin and then clear off the page, our society has replaced the unchanging truth of God’s words and ways with the conviction that they can create their own truth, define their own identity, and make the pursuit of personal happiness their god.

As we look to the future, it is essential that we prepare ourselves and our children to respond well to a culture that increasingly sees Christianity as an enemy to self-expression and a harmful restraint on lascivious desires.

There are three options open to us in our relationship with culture. First, we could withdraw. Historically, some have considered isolation from sinners and the sin-ridden culture to be the best method of remaining unstained by the world. And while we are called to love and live in community with fellow Christ-followers, Jesus also calls us to be salt and light in a dark world. Salt only has effect through contact, and light must not be put under a basket. Simply put, the more we isolate the less useful we will be to the Master.

“By far, the best option to culture is neither withdrawal nor war. It is the call to witness.”

On the other end of the spectrum is the option of going to war against culture. This brings to mind the picture of angry, irascible, and pugnacious Christians who have fashioned truth into a club with which to thrash their opponents even as they stand ready to fight at a moment’s notice. And while there are times where a measured response to those propagating error is useful, we must never forget

Paul’s exhortation to speak the truth in love. That is, to make sure both our message and our method of communication represent well both our Savior and the character of those transformed by the gospel.

By far, the best option to culture is neither withdrawal nor war. It is the call to witness. As witnesses, we engage those opposed to our biblical worldview by winsomely exposing them to our narrative, to our views, and the reasoned arguments behind them. This option simply carries on the command of Jesus to the apostles in Acts 1 when he promised that the coming of God the Spirit into their lives would allow them the privilege of being his “witnesses,” first, in Jerusalem, and then on to the whole world. To witness is to declare the truth about the mighty acts of God, demonstrate how biblical truth provides a coherent worldview that offers the best plan for this life and the life to come, and do it all in a way that adorns the gospel of Jesus Christ.

As witnesses of Christ, we hold fast to the truth of God while carefully and winsomely holding forth the biblical worldview as the only hope for humanity. This is our calling; this is our privilege.

Our God has blessed Grace Baptist Church with his favor for 60 years, and the efforts of those who have gone before us have built not only a foundation but a strong tower of testimony in our city. And, as we stand looking out on the future, we rejoice that the same Lord whose Word has sustained us will continue to do so in the years to come. But again, the question is not whether he is faithful. He is! The question is whether we will hold fast the truth we’ve been given, hold forth the message of salvation, and do so understanding the times in which we’re living.

Recognizing the speed with which our culture is moving away from any semblance of biblical truth and values, it is essential, indeed imperative, that we pour our vigor and resources into a greater investment in four areas of our church life:

Truth: Everything stands or falls on knowing, applying, and practicing the truth of God revealed to us in the Bible. And while this has always been the church’s marching orders, it is even more important now that the culture considers truth to be flexible — malleable to its desires. Consequently, truth has

become whatever you want it to be as long as it allows for the pursuit of happiness.

What are we to do? In a world where biblical truth is too often demeaned as an example of power play on the part of a few who are trying to “moralize” the many, we must hold fast to the truth of God, growing in our knowledge, delighting in its comfort, and applying it consistently to our daily lives as a witness to its transforming power.

Our challenge going forward will be to hold fast to God’s truth and the worldview it creates as the only philosophy that can truly explain the reality of our existence, make sense of the presence of evil and suffering, and offer purpose and hope in this life and the next.

Identity: Today, the question of identity is at the center of our culture even as, in large part, has been unhitched from reality. Some declare that ethnicity dictates who you are, and that your identity is fixed regardless of how you think and act. Others demand that their identity is fluid, subject to their own changing sexual and societal ethics. Still others find their identity in their political preferences, their hobbies, their careers, their financial position, or any number of other beliefs and pursuits that provide their answer to the question — Who am I?

In a society that is abandoning biblical truth, we witness to our world as those created by God, in his image, as his representatives. Further, as those adopted into the family of God through Jesus Christ, we are privileged to show them how to find purpose in this life as it is lived, not for self, but to glorify God and enjoy him forever.

As the family of Grace Baptist Church, we must become even more committed to living out our identity as new creatures in Christ — a new kind of humanity whose passion is to show the world how life was meant to be lived as we prepare to share eternity together.

Community: As our world is becoming more and more driven by technology, it is essential that we — the family of God here at Grace Baptist Church — come to a deeper commitment to true



New Testament fellowship. As our society becomes increasingly suspicious and even hostile to our biblical worldview, it is essential that our communal bond of fellowship, friendship, and mutual dependence and care be reinvigorated. We simply must live, love, and share life together at a deeper level. This will mean a deeper commitment to love one another that deals with conflict biblically and resists division. We must hold fast to the twin truths that we are desperately dependent upon God’s Word and God’s people.

After all, as society resists our biblical worldview, we will find that the influence of our lives will matter most when we live life together.

Education: Increasingly, our biblical worldview is being labeled as detrimental to the expressive individualism of our day. Already religious schools, colleges, and universities are being targeted by those intent on replacing biblical moral and ethical standards with the ideals and actions of permissive secularism.

The obvious solution is to provide in our educational ministries here at Grace Baptist Church a full-orbed biblical worldview for our children. This means developing and implementing curricula for our Children’s Ministry and Student Ministries that teach not only what God tells us, but also why it is true — and, as importantly, how to live out God’s Word and ways in our increasingly secular culture. As well, we will be producing resources for parents who remain the primary educators of their children.

In conclusion, as we look ahead, we do so with the calm assurance that we are not our own but belong to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the head of our church. We also enter the future with the assurance that whatever our Lord asks of us he will be faithful to enable as we set our hearts on him.

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Hope: The Church of which Jesus Christ is the head is the primary way gospel hope is lived out in our broken, disappointed, and despairing world.

Both Paul (Phil. 4:4–7) and Peter (1 Pet. 1:13) exhort Christ-followers to first, fix our hope in Jesus alone, and then allow that hope in Jesus alone, and then allow that hope to be conspicuous in our lives. As we strive to live out the truth of the gospel, and especially its transforming power in our lives, we must do so with smiles on our faces knowing that the “momentary trials” of this life are just that, momentary. And they are so small compared to the unimaginable glory of all that Christ has in store for us. Here’s the point: Let’s share the joy of salvation and the hope of glory, and let’s share it courageously and compassionately with those around us.

Influence: The primary work of a witness is to influence others by bringing them the truth to bear on every situation. The church does this with our lips and through our lives. The mission of Christ through the church is primarily a mission of gospel influence. We can neither withdraw from our society nor go to war against them. Rather, we are privileged to witness to them proclaiming the truth that their lives don’t have to be broken, sad, hopeless, and filled with disappointment. They can find hope now through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

In the end, we must remember. The ascended Christ left the gospel mission to us. We are Plan A, there is no Plan B. Let us hold fast to the Word, to the truth that has been handed down to us and bravely displayed for 60 years here at Grace Baptist Church. And let us hold forth the wonderful news of the gospel before the eyes of a needy watching world. Grace to you!

Communicating Our Legacy

David Foglesong
Director of Grace Media

Why Rebrand Now?

Every so often, organizations have the opportunity to reassess their current state of visual identity systems (i.e. — logo, colors, icons, typography, etc.). This is usually the case when there has been an internal shift (both good or bad) in the organization enough to merit a reassessment. Coming out of the 2020 pandemic, with all of its hurdles and challenges, there has been an internal shift at Grace Baptist Church ... a good one. There has been a tangible rallying over our mission to make and multiply Christ-followers who magnify the glory of God. Also, we have felt a unity and bond among our staff team (church staff, pastors, and elders) and our congregation that I can only describe as from the Lord. Not only has there been this felt unity, but by God’s providence, this year is our 60th Anniversary as a church family. What better way to celebrate and mark what God has done over the last 60 years then by designing an identity that honors our history, shows our unity, portrays our legacy, and prepares us for the next 60 years?

Apart from a rallying over our mission as a church, we are around the 8+ year mark for our current logo. Most organizations fall into this timeline for rebranding and is very normal. During our reassessment, it was also discussed how our current logo lacks the feeling of legacy and heritage. Grace Baptist has such a rich heritage, in its history and story, and long-standing legacy in our valley and the world. Our current logo, as it stands, just doesn’t feel ... well ... old. It doesn’t look or mimic a church that’s been faithfully preaching God’s Word and loving thy neighbor for 60 years in this valley. Lastly,

our logo lacks a multigenerational representation. The font choice of our current logo is very modern and corporate looking, and is disconnected from representing a beautiful broad range of generations that make up Grace Baptist. We want a logo that spans the generations — that a junior higher and an XYZer could embrace. This is a challenge, but a good one.

What We Need in Our New Logo

As we come out of our reassessment, things start to come into focus as to what we need represented in our new logo. We need “Accessible Nobility.” Pastor David Hegg says this a lot in regard to the preaching of God’s Word. It is accessible to the people of God, but there is also a nobility to it — a healthy fear and reference for God’s Word. There also needs to be a better visual representation of what we value: Christ, God’s Word, and our multigenerational congregation. Lastly, if you look at some of the other churches around us, they have the same structure as our current logo. They have the circle symbol on the left — with the font on the right. To have something unique to our church family, in this valley, would be of benefit.

“We want a logo that spans the generations — that a junior higher and an XYZer could embrace. This is a challenge, but a good one.”

Our New Logo

Having the privilege of being able to design our new Grace Baptist Church identity, the hope is that as people see it, they would know right up front what we are about: *The truth, the gospel and our mission.* The truth found in the Word of God is preached and taught as our foundation for life and ministry. Our focus is on the *gospel* of Jesus Christ, and his finished work on the cross. Additionally, as if we are looking out a window, we live on *mission* past our unique campus to reach our valley and the world with the gospel.

All of these symbols are then bound up stylistically to mirror our beautiful stained glass and to represent our multigenerational church family. Who knows how long this logo will last us, but what I do know is that the work of Christ through his Word, to his people will joyfully last longer than any logo we could ever make. May God be praised and honored for his work over the last 60 years at Grace Baptist, and may we wait in anticipation for what he will do for the next 60.



EMBLEM LOCKUP



TRUTH



GOSPEL



MISSION

SYMBOLISM



COLOR INFLUENCE

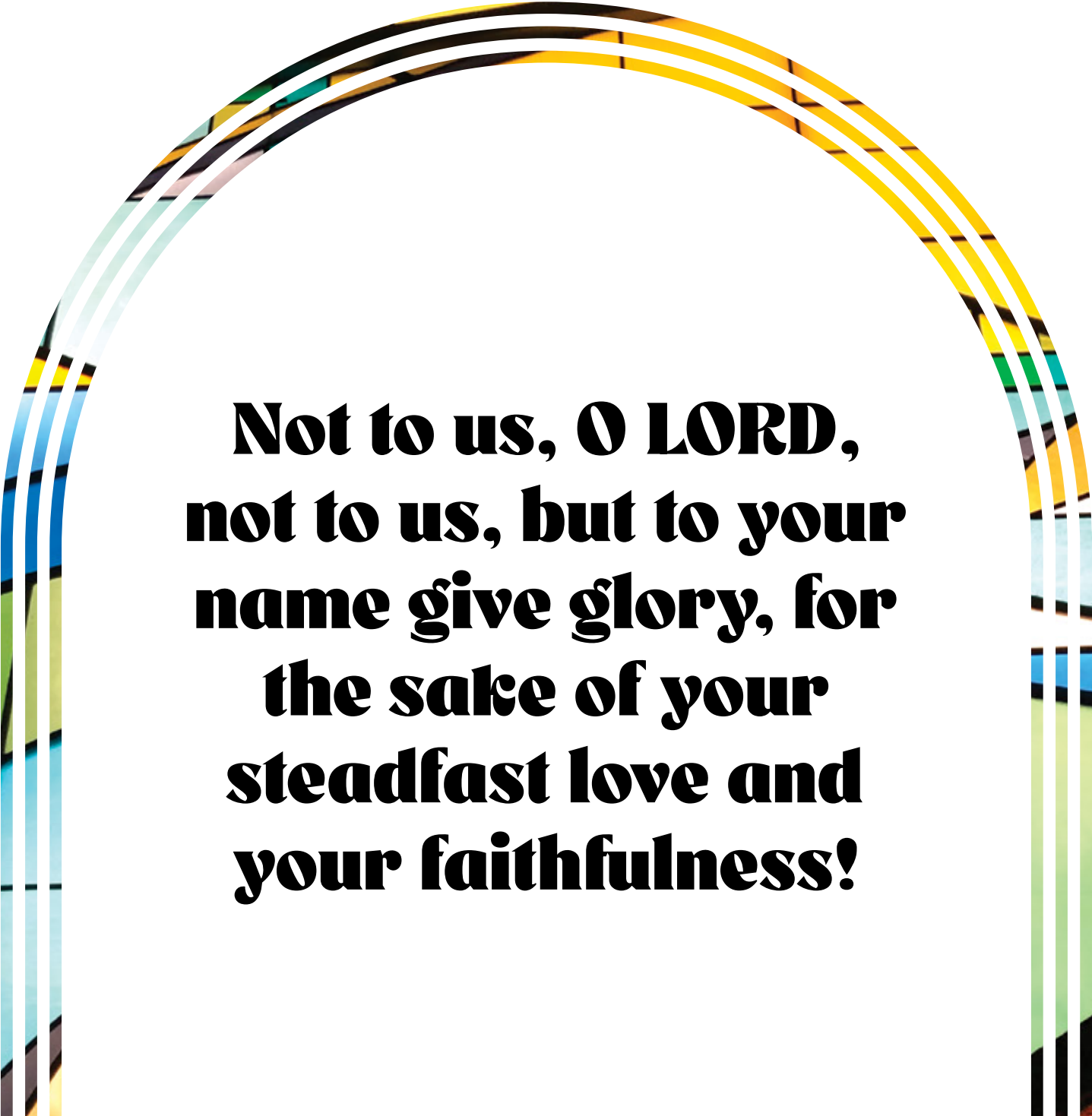


IDEATION PROCESS SAMPLE

**ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890**

FONT





**Not to us, O LORD,
not to us, but to your
name give glory, for
the sake of your
steadfast love and
your faithfulness!**

PSALM 115:1



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