

STATE OF THE ASSEMBLY ADDRESS 2015

PAUL'S CORE STRATEGY

- ✘ When we first meet 8 years ago I presented Paul's core ministry strategy as the model for how we were going to attempt to do things here at Grace Life Bible Church.
- ✘ Between Acts 13 and 20, a period of 10-12 years, Paul established churches in four Roman provinces: Galatia, Macedonia, Achaia, and Asia.
- ✘ In Acts 13 there were no churches in these provinces; by Acts 20:1-3 (when Paul wrote Romans) Paul could speak as if his work there was done and could plan extensive journeys into the far west without anxiety that the churches he left behind would perish in his absence.
- ✘ Romans 15:14-24

PAUL'S CORE STRATEGY

- ✘ How did Paul accomplish this amazing feat? What was his strategy?
- ✘ He **evangelized** strategic cities to establish a beachhead of believers.
- ✘ He **edified** the new believers in sound doctrine.
- ✘ He **established** the communities of believers into organized local churches.
- ✘ He **enlisted** key men that could be trained to carry on the work and lead the churches in his absence.
- ✘ He used the local churches as a base from which to **expand** the gospel into outlying communities.

PAUL'S MINISTRY PATTERN

- ✘ Establish local churches in urban centers that could reach into the surrounding areas. Acts 15:36, 16:12, Acts 17, 18:10, 19:35
- ✘ Ordained and established elders that would be responsible for the care and oversight of the local churches. Acts 20:28, Titus 1:5
- ✘ Duly appointed elders are instructed to follow and teach the Pauline design for the edification of the believer.
- ✘ Paul's desire for the saints was to lead the Grace Life in their homes, at their jobs, and in the local church.
- ✘ Paul needed saints to partner with him in the ministry. In order to be successful every ministry needs people to share of their time, talents, and finances. Philemon 24, Colossians 4:11.

GLBC'S MINISTRY PRIORITIES

- ✘ **Edification**—establish the saints of all ages in Pauline sound doctrine and the principles of the Grace Life (II Tim. 1:5; 3:16).
 - + Adult Sunday School, Main Service, Children's Church, Friday Night Bible study, Youth Group, Ladies Conference, Men's Breakfast, Fall Bible Conference, Websites, Etc.
- ✘ **Be the Body**—seek to build up and support our one another in both triumph and tragedy (I Cor. 12:25-26).
 - + Cards Ministry, Notification System, Picnic, and other Events
- ✘ **Train Faithful Men**—identify and train faithful men who will be able to train others also (II Tim. 2:2).

GLBC'S MINISTRY PRIORITIES

- ✘ **Enlist**—identify willing men who are established in the faith to aid in the edification, encouragement, and establishment of other saints, i.e., elders and deacons (1 Tim. 3:1, 12; Titus 1:5-9).
- ✘ **Evangelism**—properly edified and mature saints will have a heart for evangelism and seeing lost souls get saved. It is by doing to work of an evangelist that full proof is made of the ministry (2 Tim. 4:5).
 - + VBS, Easter Breakfast, Christmas Fellowship, Personal Evangelism
- ✘ **EVERYTHING WE DO AS AN ASSEMBLY NEEDS TO BE TIED INTO ONE OF THESE 5 SCRIPTURAL PRIORITIES.**

SUMMARY OF KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✘ Successfully secured a mortgage with Mercantile Bank and continued to pay it down.
- ✘ Hosted a successful Ladies Conference.
 - + Rebooted ladies Bible Study this Fall.
- ✘ Finished the Grace History Project.
 - + Began a new class on the King James Bible.
- ✘ Ran another successful VBS.
- ✘ Fellowship Opportunities—Grace Sisterhood, Picnic, Whitecaps Game, Etc.
- ✘ Restructured and teen class and launched a Youth Group.
- ✘ Hosted a widely successful Bible Conference on issues related to Grace in Culture.
 - + Read emails to the saints.

GOALS FOR YEAR 9

- ✘ Conference Follow Up
 - + Board will be discussing what this will look like.
- ✘ Maintain our current ministries:
 - + Nursery, Children's Church, Sweeping Saints, Etc.
- ✘ Continue the process of building our youth group.
 - + Support Nate and Kristen not only with your prayers but by volunteering to help with the teens.
- ✘ Quarterly church fellowships or outreach events—**Be the Body and/or Evangelism**
 - + Coordinate 4 quarterly events one of which would be an outreach/ministry event, i.e., a church table/booth at Art Prize, for example.

GOALS FOR YEAR 9 CONT.

- ✘ Continue the process of training faithful men within our own assembly.
 - + Right Division 101 Course
 - + Grace History Project
 - + King James Bible Course (In progress)
 - + Continue to offer more teaching opportunities throughout the year to other interested men.

BOARD MEETING PROCEDURES

- ✘ Please submit any proposals for the board's consideration in writing before the meeting.
- ✘ Meetings will have an open agenda portion and a closed agenda portion. When the open agenda portion is concluded the duration of the board meeting will be closed.

BOARD WISH LIST

- ✘ We continue to experience ongoing needs in the following areas:
 - + Help with all children's ministries: nursery through teens
 - + Audio/visual operators
- ✘ Someone with some tech savvy to explore:
 - + Podcasting of church messages.
 - + Other Social Media opportunities beyond Facebook and YouTube.
- ✘ Prayers for the board and assembly.