

Grace Baptist Church endeavors to be Bible driven through:

Glorifying God

- By **Proclaiming Christ** to those who believe and those who do not believe.
 - Through **Utilizing Scripture**
 - ◇ Unto the **Maturing of the Members** of Christ's Body
 - Reflected in members who are characterized by **Loving Others**.
 - Reflected in members who are characterized by **Always Praying**.
 - Reflected in members who are characterized by **Maintaining Unity** in the Truth.
 - ◇ Until every member reflects the image of Christ.
 - Through members who do the work of the ministry because they have been equipped by **Shepherding Leaders**.

Utilizing Scripture . . .

- ◇ The church grows through the preaching of the Gospel (Acts 2:41).
- ◇ The church is focused on the Apostle's Teaching (Acts 2:42).
- ◇ Example: The church's prayers should focus on the bold proclamation of the Word (Acts 4:31).
- ◇ The result of the church member's filling of God's Spirit is the proclamation of the Word of God (Acts 4:31).
- ◇ The church proclaims Jesus as Messiah in the face of opposition and persecution (Acts 5:41-42).
- ◇ The church should give priority to the public teaching of the Word (Acts 11:26-27).
- ◇ The church planter function in a city can be summarized as preaching the Word to that city (Acts 14:25).
- ◇ The church leaders taught and preached the Word as their primary role in the church (Acts 15:35).
- ◇ The summary of what the church leadership did was that they preached the word (Acts 15:36).
- ◇ The church uses lengthy messages (many logos) to strengthen and encourage the believers (Acts 15:32).
- ◇ The leadership of the church should devote themselves completely to the proclamation of the Word (Acts 18:5).
- ◇ The church's must completely rely on the power of the Word of the Lord to change the city (Acts 19:19-20).
- ◇ Member's Responsibility in the Word Ministry
 - ◆ The church members hamper the teacher's ability to teach solid food when they are immature (I Cor 3:1-3).
 - ◆ The church should accept a leader's verbal ministry based on the straightforward proclamation of the truth (II Cor 4:2).
 - ◆ The church members should share all good things with those who teach them (Gal 6:6).
- ◇ Verbal ministry of Leadership
 - ◆ The church should receive lengthy instruction (Acts 20:7).
 - ◆ The church's leadership should be bold in declaring what is profitable (Acts 20:20).
 - ◆ The church planter's teach the people in the family's homes (Acts 20:20).
 - ◆ The manner of the delivery of public and private instruction is with earnestness (Acts 20:20).
 - ◆ The content of our message must include faith and repentance (Acts 20:21).
 - ◆ The church planter's ministry is the earnest declaration of the good news which is the grace of God (Acts 20:24).
 - ◆ The church planter is to preach the kingdom (Acts 20:25).
 - ◆ The church leadership's ministry must be characterized by preaching and teaching (Acts 28:30-31).
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 - ◆ The church members should share in the emotions of the others (Romans 12:15).
 - ◆ The church planter's manner of proclamation should not be characterized by eloquence or superior wisdom (I Corinthians 2:1).
 - ◆ The church planter's theme is Jesus Christ and Him crucified (I Corinthians 2:2).
 - ◆ The church planter's speech should demonstrate a reliance not on the power of persuasion but on the power of God (I Corinthians 2:5ff).
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- ◆ The church planter's speech should demonstrate a reliance not on the power of persuasion but on the power of God (I Corinthians 2:5ff).
 - ◆ The church planter should found the church on preaching Christ and grow the church on that foundation (I Cor. 3:10).
 - ◆ The church leadership must not preach themselves but Jesus Christ as Lord (II Cor 4:5).
 - ◆ The church leaders should instruct the members of the church that those who teach a false Gospel will be condemned to Hell by God (Gal 1:8).
 - ◆ The church planter's speech must not be motivated by a desire to please man but to please God (I Thess 2:4).
 - ◆ The purpose of the church planter's verbal ministry is that the believers would walk worthy of God (I Thess 2:13).
- ◇ The church is best suited when entrusted to the Word which gives grace to be built up and persevere to the end of their faith (Acts 20:32).
 - ◇ The church member should measure his conduct by the conduct of Christ and the OT Scriptures (Romans 15:3-4).
 - ◇ The church members should watch for those who cause divisions and offences by teaching contrary to the correct doctrine and avoid them (Romans 16:17-18).
 - ◇ The church planter's proclamation is what God has said (I Corinthians 2:2).
 - ◇ Doctrine:
 - ◆ The church must be careful to build upon the foundation of Christ with pure doctrine that will survive the Lord's scrutiny (I Cor 3:11-15).
 - ◆ Unity among the members of the body (Eph 4:13).
 - ◆ Based on "the faith"
 - ◆ The purpose of the church leadership's building of the members into the image of Christ should result in steadfastness when exposed to deceptive doctrine (Eph 4:14).
 - ◆ Each church member must teach one another with wisdom as a result of having the Word of Christ richly residing in them (Col 3:16).
 - ◆ The church leadership's instruction must counter strange doctrine (I Tim 1:3-4).
 - ◆ The church leadership must instruct members not to occupy themselves with speculative things (I Tim 1:4).
 - ◆ The church leadership's instruction must further the kingdom of God rather than speculation (I Tim 1:4).
 - ◆ The church leadership must have a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith in order to have loving instruction (I Tim 1:5).
 - ◇ The church should heed Israel's example and flee from evil cravings (I Cor. 10:1-14).
 - ◇ The Gospel is the foundation on which the church takes its stand (I Cor 15:2).
 - ◇ The church members must be alert, standing firm, and being strong in their stand for the faith (I Cor 16:13).
 - ◇ The church leader's ministry in the Word is not motivated by selfish gain (II Cor 2:17).
 - ◇ The church leader's speaking is sincere, from God in union with Christ in the sight of God (II Cor 2:17).
 - ◇ The church leader's handling of the Word is not with deception or distortion but with straightforward proclamation of the truth (II Cor 4:2).
 - ◇ The church is set apart to Christ through being cleansed by the washing of God's Word (Eph 5:26).
 - ◇ Each church member should develop holy character through the Word (Eph 5:26-27).
 - ◇ Each church body must have the Word of Christ thoroughly residing in their hearts (Col 3:16).
 - ◇ The church should rely on God to open up the doors of ministry for the Word of the Gospel (Col 4:3).
 - ◇ The church should pray that God would open the doors for the word (Col 4:3).
 - ◇ The church should pray for other ministries to speak clearly the words of the Gospel (Col 4:3).
 - ◇ The church should pray that we would speak the words of the Gospel clearly (Col 4:4).
 - ◇ The church leadership should sense a responsibility to make manifest the words of the Gospel (Col 4:4).
 - ◇ The church members should each make full use of every opportunity given to share the words of the Gospel (Col 4:5).
 - ◇ The church should read Paul's letters (Scripture) publicly to the church (Col 4:16).
 - ◇ The church leaders are responsible to share the words of God (I Thess 2:13).
 - ◇ The church leaders should pray that the members will receive the Word of God as the Word of God (I Thess 2:13).
 - ◇ The church members recognize that the Word works in them as they are believing (I Thess 2:13).
 - ◇ The church must not despise prophetic utterances (I Thess 5:20).
 - ◇ The church must pray for the word of the Lord to spread rapidly and be glorified (II Thess 3:1).
 - ◇ The church members must keep away from every brother that leads an unruly life defined by the clear

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- ◇ The church members must keep away from every brother that leads an unruly life defined by the clear teaching of Scripture (II Thess 3:6).
- ◇ The church members must take special note of those who disobey Scripture and not associate with them (II Thess 3:14).
- ◇ The church leadership's instruction must counter strange doctrine (I Tim 1:3-4).
- ◇ The church leadership must instruct members not to occupy themselves with speculative things (I Tim 1:4).
- ◇ The church leadership's instruction must further the kingdom of God rather than speculation (I Tim 1:4).
- ◇ The church leadership's goal in their instruction must be love (I Tim 1:5).
- ◇ The church leadership must have a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith in order to have loving instruction (I Tim 1:5).
- ◇ The women in the church must not teach a man (I Tim 2:12).
- ◇ The church is the one institution formed by God to uphold His truth (I Tim 3:15).
- ◇ The church is to show double honor to the elders who work to exhaustion in their preaching and teaching (5:17).
- ◇ The church leadership must hold fast the words of sound doctrine (II Tim 1:13-14).
- ◇ The church leadership must be diligent to accurately handle Scripture (II Tim 2:15).
 - ◆ The church leader must be able to teach (II Tim 2:24).
 - ◆ The church leader must continue in Scripture realizing the Scripture's profitability for all things (II Tim 2:14-17).
- ◇ The church leadership is solemnly charged in the presence of God to preach the Word (II Tim 4:1-2).
- ◇ The church leadership is to be ready to preach the word in season and out of season (II Tim 4:2).
- ◇ The church leadership must hold fast the faithful word (Titus 1:9).
- ◇ The church leadership must hold fast the faithful word in order to exhort in sound teaching (Titus 1:9).
- ◇ The church leadership must hold fast the faithful word in order to exhort in order to refute those who contradict (Titus 1:9).
- ◇ The church leadership must speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine (Titus 2:1).
- ◇ The church members should remember and follow those who have spoken the Word of God and lead them (Hebrews 13:7).
- ◇ The church members must be doers of the word and not hearers only (James 1:22-25).
- ◇ The teachers in the church will be held to a stricter judgment (James 3:1-3).
- ◇ The church members must long for the pure milk of the word to grow in respect salvation (I Pt 2:2).
- ◇ The church members grow through their longing for the Word (I Pt 2:2).
- ◇ The church members must be ready to give an answer to those who ask of them concerning their faith – yet with gentleness and reverence (I Pt 3:15-16).
- ◇ The church must walk in truth (III Jn 1:4).
- ◇ The church must repent from straying from sound teaching (Rev. 3:3).
- ◇ The church should keep the Lord's Word and not deny His name (Rev. 3:8).
- ◇ The church should hear what the Lord is saying to the churches (Rev. 3:22).
- ◇ In response to false teachers:
 - ◇ The elders should be watching because there will be wolves who speak distortions from the truth to get a following for themselves (Acts 20:29).
 - ◇ The church members should watch for those who cause divisions and offences by teaching contrary to the correct doctrine and avoid them (Romans 16:17-18).
 - ◇ The church is holy therefore those who destroy it with false doctrine will be destroyed by God (I Cor 3:17).
 - ◇ The church should recognize the danger of people who will try to deceive church members into believing another gospel (Gal 1:6-8).
 - ◇ The church leaders should instruct the members of the church that those who teach a false Gospel will be condemned to Hell by God (Gal 1:8).
 - ◇ The church should hold fast to Christ as the Head so as to not be deceived by a merely moralistic mindset (Col 2:18-20).
 - ◇ The church is commended by Jesus for not bearing with evil men but carefully testing those who are aspiring to leadership and exposing those who are false (Rev. 2:2).
 - ◇ The church leadership must silence false teachers (Titus 1:10).
 - ◇ The church leadership must reprove severely those who are disobedient to the faith (Titus 1:12-13) *****
 - ◇ The church must warn a factious man and reject him if he does not repent (Titus 3:10-12).
 - ◇ The church members should reject false teaching (Hebrews 13:9).
 - ◇ The church members must not show hospitality to or identify in any way with false teachers (II Jn 1:10-11).
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- ◇ The church should not tolerate false teaching in their midst (Rev. 2:20-23).
- ◇ The church must repent from straying from sound teaching (Rev. 3:3).

- ◇ To Discern what God wants in the Functions/Services of the Church
- ◇ Example: The church should gather together regularly (Acts 2:45).
- ◇ The church should meet on the first day of the week to break bread (Acts 20:7).
- ◇ The church should meet regularly to observe the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7).
- ◇ The church's leadership should teach the people publicly (Acts 20:20).
- ◇ The church is responsible to send out preachers in order for the Gospel to go forward (Rom 10:14-15).
- ◇ The church can meet in homes (Romans 16:5).
- ◇ Spiritual Gifts:
 - ◆ The member of the church that is gifted in prophecy should prophecy in proportion to his faith (Romans 12:6).
 - ◆ The member of the church that is gifted in service should serve (Romans 12:7).
 - ◆ The member of the church that is gifted in teaching should teach (Romans 12:7).
 - ◆ The member of the church that is gifted in exhortation should exhort (Romans 12:8).
 - ◆ The member of the church that is gifted in giving should give liberally (Romans 12:8).
 - ◆ The member of the church that is gifted in leadership should lead diligently (Romans 12:9).
 - ◆ The member of the church that is gifted in mercy should show mercy with cheerfulness (Romans 12:8)
- ◇ The church member's knowledge should be the servant of love (I Cor 8:1-3).
- ◇ The church members have diversity of giftedness for the enabling of the body to have diversity of functions (I Cor 12:14-26).
- ◇ The church should meet on the first day of every week (I Cor 16:3)
- ◇ Giving
 - ◆ One of the purposes for meeting is to take up a collection (I Cor 16:2).
 - ◆ The church's giving is based on God's prospering them (I Cor 16:3).
 - ◆ The church members are to give liberally (II Cor 8:2).
 - ◆ The church members are to give beyond their ability (II Cor 8:2-3).
 - ◆ The church members should see sacrificial giving as a privilege (2 Cor 8:1-5).
 - ◆ The church members should give cheerfully (2 Cor 9:7).
 - ◆ The church members should plan ahead in what to give not grudgingly (2 Cor 9:7).
 - ◆ The church members should look to the Lord to give grace to give liberally (2 Cor 9:8).
 - ◆ The church should give to meet others needs so that thanksgiving would be made to God (2 Cor 9:12).
 - ◆ The church should be open to financially supporting men in other churches to support the Gospel work in other regions (Phil 4:15-16).
 - ◆ The church gives as an act of worship to please God (Phil 4:18).
- ◇ The church's gathering together should be convicting to unbelievers that God is in their midst (I Cor 14:24-25)
- ◇ The church can meet in people's homes (I Cor 16:19).
- ◇ Singing
 - ◆ Each member must manifest the Spirit's control by speaking to one another in Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs (Eph 5:19).
 - ◆ Each church member must sing to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs as a result of having the Word of Christ richly residing in them (Col 3:16).
 - ◆ The church should sing in a thankful manner (Col 3:16).
 - ◆ The church members should sing as an outward expression of their heart attitude (Col 3:16).
 - ◆ The church must sing for God's hearing (Col 3:16).
- ◇ Reading Scripture
 - ◆ The church should read Paul's letters (Scripture) publicly to the church (Col 4:16).
- ◇ The church must honor widows that are widows indeed (I Tim 5:3-13).
- ◇ The church members should be faithful to gather together to encourage others (Hebrews 10:25).
- ◇ The teachers in the church will be held to a stricter judgment (James 3:1-3).
- ◇ The church members that are sick must call for the elder of the church to pray for them (James 5:15).
- ◇ The church members must be hospitable to one another without complaint (I Pt 4:9)

- ◇ The teachers in the church will be held to a stricter judgment (James 3:1-3).
- ◇ The church members that are sick must call for the elder of the church to pray for them (James 5:15).
- ◇ The church members must be hospitable to one another without complaint (I Pt 4:9).
- ◇ The church leadership is joyful when the members are walking in truth (III Jn. 1:4).
- ◇ The church should send fellow workers in the truth on their way in a manner worthy of God (III Jn. 1:5-8).
- ◇ The church as a whole is responsible to repent of failures (Rev. 2:5).
- ◇ The church that does not repent of failures will be removed (Rev. 2:5).
- ◇ The church's opportunities are placed there by the Lord (Rev. 3:8).

- ◇ To Discern what God wants in the Nature/Ordinances of the Church
- ◇ The church is numbered implying a formal association (Acts 5:12-14).
- ◇ The church membership is not always desirable (Acts 5:13).
- ◇ The church leaders make decisions about the distribution of funds for the church (Acts 11:29-30).
- ◇ The church members must be regenerate before they are allowed to be members (Acts 20:28).
- ◇ The church makeup transcends nations (Col 1:29).
- ◇ Polity
 - ◆ Example: The church must seek God's direction in choosing leadership (Acts 1:21-26).
 - ◆ The church leaders make decisions about the distribution of funds for the church (Acts 11:29-30).
 - ◆ The church leaders should be strengthening the souls of the believers during persecution (Acts 14:22).
 - ◆ The church as a congregation has say in the decisions of the church (Acts 15:22).
 - ◆ The church has a plurality of elders (Acts 20:17).
 - ◆ The elder's role is that of a caring shepherd (Acts 20:26ff).
 - ◆ The elders of the church are to oversee the flock (Acts 20:28).
 - ◆ The leadership of the church is a plurality of elders (Acts 21:18).
 - ◆ The church has distinguishable leadership (Phil 1:1).
 - ◆ The church has at least two offices (Phil 1:1).
 - ◆ One of the offices of the church has the role of overseeing the church members (Phil 1:1).
 - ◆ One of the offices of the church has the role of serving the members of the church (Phil 1:1).
 - ◆ The women in the church must not exercise authority over a man (I Tim 2:12).
 - ◆ The church has two major offices: elders and deacons (I Tim 3:2-12).
- ◇ The church leadership is made up of apostles, prophets, evangelists, and pastor-teachers (Eph 4:11).
- ◇ The church is responsible to send out preachers in order for the Gospel to go forward (Rom 10:14-15).
- ◇ The church chooses persons for specific tasks (I Cor 16:1-3).
- ◇ The church consists of a defined group of individuals (membership; II Cor 2:6).
- ◇ The church's foundation was laid by the apostles and prophets (Eph 2:20).
- ◇ The church is the dwelling of God (Eph 2:21-22).
- ◇ The church can have several local expressions (I Thess 2:14).
- ◇ The church has many local manifestations (II Thess 1:4).
- ◇ The church is the house of God (I Tim 3:15).
- ◇ The church is the one institution formed by God to uphold His truth (I Tim 3:15).
- ◇ The church must take care of orphans and widows in their distress in order to have pure and undefiled religion before God the Father (James 1:27).
- ◇ The church must keep itself unstained by the world in order to have pure and undefiled religion before God the Father (James 1:27).
- ◇ The church flock belongs to God (I Pt 5:2).
- ◇ The church that does not repent of failures will be removed (Rev. 2:5).
- ◇ The church can dwell in a wicked city and not deny God's name (Rev. 2:13).
- ◇ Ordinances
 - ◆ Those who receive the word of the Gospel are baptized (Acts 2:41).
 - ◆ The church should be devoted to the breaking of bread (?) Acts 2:42.
 - ◆ The church should partake of the Lord's table in remembrance of the Lord's death proclaiming His death until He comes (I Cor. 11:23-24).
 - ◇ The church member must examine himself so as not to partake of the Lord's Table in an unworthy manner (I Cor 11:27-34).
- ◇ Church Discipline:
 - ◆ The church members should remove wicked unrepentant members from their association (I Cor 5:7-10)
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 - ◆ Each church member sorrows at the sins of another church member (II Cor 2:5)

5:7-10)

- ◆ The church should remove wicked unrepentant members (I Cor. 5:13).
- ◆ Each church member sorrows at the sins of another church member (II Cor 2:5).
- ◆ The church members should forgive, comfort, and love restored brethren (II Cor 2:7).
- ◆ The church members must forgive and restore those who have repented so as not to give place to the devil's schemes (2 Cor 2:11).
- ◆ The church members should restore members who have been caught in a trespass (Gal 6:1).
- ◆ The church members must patiently admonish those in the church who are out of order (I Thess 5:14).
- ◆ The church must publicly rebuke the elder who continues in sin so that all would be fearful of sinning (I Tim 5:20).
- ◆ The church should not tolerate unrepentant immorality and idolatry (Rev. 2:20-23).