

“Zealous Christianity: Beware of Self-Righteousness” (Part 1)
Luke 5:33-39

“Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that **they may be saved**. For I bear them witness that they have **a zeal for God**, but not **according to knowledge**. For, being **ignorant** of the righteousness of God, and seeking to **establish their own**, they did not submit to **God’s righteousness**.” (Romans 10:1-3)

“No one **born of God** makes a practice (or is passive) of sinning, for God’s seed (the Holy Spirit) abides in him; and **he cannot** keep on (passively) sinning, **because** he has been born of God. By this **it is evident** who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice (or is passive about) righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.” (1 John 3:9-10)

“But **by the grace of God I am what I am**, and His grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, **I worked harder** than any of them, though it was not I, **but that grace of God** that is with me.”
(1 Corinthians 15:10)

“The Self-Righteous man, standing by himself, prayed, ‘God I thank You that I am not a great sinner like _____. I go to church three times a week, I give 25% of my income to the church, I go to prayer meetings, I go to theology courses, I have accurate theological views, I attend all the fellowship events, and I fast twice a week.’ But the humble man standing far off said, ‘God if it wasn’t for Your grace, I would be eternally lost, I would have no desire to know You in a deeper way, I would have no desire to go to church, give to You, love other people, or live for Your glory. God continue being merciful to me, a sinner.’ ”
(Paraphrase of Luke 18:10-14)

- Luke 5:33-39
 - “The disciples of John and the Pharisees **fast often** and **offer prayers....**”
 - In this statement they are referring to the cultural or traditional expectations of prayer and fasting, not the Biblical. *“This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me; in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”* (Matthew 15:8-9).
 - “Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?”
 - Jesus’ incarnation is the pinnacle of human history. He is the clearest expression of the Revelation of God for salvation. This is the most joyous occasion in human history. *“I bring you good news **of great joy** that will be for all people.”* (Luke 2:10)
 - The Three Illustrations that the transformative work of God is from grace, not works. Works are an expression of God’s grace, not our **inherent righteousness**.
 - New garment and old garment.
 - New wineskins and old wineskins.
 - New wine and old wine.

“To the extent that I have got anything correct spiritually, from salvation to having a proper understanding of deep theology, it is ultimately due to the grace of God. And to the extent that I fall short of the wisdom, effort, or practice in which the Bible demands, His grace is sufficient. With this said, God desires and commands that I strive with everything in me that the latter be not so.”

Worship: Bless the Lord, O My Soul (Psalm 103) — Sovereign Grace Music
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms — Various Artists Be Thou My Vision — Norton Hall Band
Closing Song: O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer — Sovereign Grace Music

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 9:45a/Church 10:30a; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30p/Men 6:30p & 7p; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20p/Church 7p

Account Balance: \$40,242.19 December Balance: \$40,268.93	Weekly Budget: \$3,460
Total Giving: December 31	\$3,920.00
Total Giving: January 7	\$6,397.95
Total Giving: January 14	\$2,565.00
Total Giving: January 21	\$979.00
Total Giving: January 28	\$1,755.00

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of February we are collecting monetary donations for the Lambs. They are a missionary family living and serving in Papua New Guinea, working to translate the Bible into the multiple different languages of that country. For more information about the Lambs and their work in Papua New Guinea, please see the board at the back of the sanctuary. There is a container on the back table to collect your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Lambs.

★**NEW MEMBERS CLASS:** For anyone interested in becoming a church member, we are offering a 2 week New Members Class starting Sunday, February 18th, from 9-10am in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up if you are interested in participating in this class. This class is also open to any current church members who are interested in learning more about our Church By-Laws.

★**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** We are having a Fellowship Lunch NEXT Sunday, February 11th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the meal. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us!