

COMMUNITY GROUP NEWS

Sunday, December 27th

Why Community Groups?

Grace Bible Church understands that the corporate gathering on Sunday can be a difficult time to develop relationships characterized by biblical fellowship, discipleship, and spiritual growth. Thus, everyone is encouraged to be involved with smaller segments of the church body: Community Groups. These groups are designed to be a relational network focused on applying scriptural truths to one another's lives.

Community Groups are intended to encourage authentic and honest conversation about the struggles and triumphs being experienced by individual members. These relationships and conversations facilitate the practice of the many scriptural "one anothers," allowing each person in the group to have opportunities to encourage, exhort, teach, help, bear with, pray for, rebuke, and love one another through all the shared life experiences as we encourage one another to grow in Christlikeness.

"But I have children?"

We believe that Children are a gift from the Lord. We also believe that fellowship and discipleship are worth fighting for. We are committed to helping groups/families find creative ways to provide childcare. Let us know how we can help.

How long is the commitment?

The Winter Session will run for 10 weeks & begins Monday, Jan. 11th.

When and Where?

Community Groups meet once a week on weekday nights usually starting at 6:30 or 7:00 pm. During the Winter Session will have over 20 groups that meet in various locations throughout the Gallatin Valley.

How to sign up?

Please fill out a pink-ish orange "Community Group Sign-Up" form found in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office or email us at communitygroups@gbcmt.org. We will contact you to find a group at a location and time that best suits your schedule.

THE "CONTRADICTIONS" OF CHRISTMAS Selected Scriptures

The following are questions designed to facilitate greater learning and deeper understanding of spiritual truths presented in the sermon on titled: "The 'Contradictions' of Christmas." All of the questions are answered as the sermon is presented. We hope that it will be a catalyst to spiritual growth in your life.

1. What are some contrasts between the first Christmas and Christmas today?
2. One prophet wrote that the Messiah is coming to conquer, then he would turn around and say that the Messiah will be what?
3. A prophet would say that the Messiah will be a king of glory, then he would say that the Messiah will have no beauty and will be a what?
4. One prophet would write that the Messiah will come in judgment, then another would say he would come preaching what?
5. The prophets couldn't figure out who or how anyone could fulfill all the what?
6. How did John the Baptizer respond when Jesus came performing deeds of mercy?
7. Why did Jesus say what He said in response to John's inquiry (in Matthew 11:4-5)?
8. Where do we find the first prophecy of the virgin birth?
9. What is the paradox of that prophecy?

Help protect the quality of the sermon recording, please turn quietly to the inside of this study guide. Thank you!

10. Liberal theologians and feminist theologians twist the meaning of Isaiah 7:14 to say that “virgin” simply means what?
11. What other references are references to the virgin birth?
12. Why is “virgin birth” a misnomer?
13. Why does Satan really attack the “virgin birth of Jesus Christ?”
14. Not only has the virgin birth been denied, so as to lose its uniqueness, it has also been what?
15. What is the second paradox about Christmas?
16. What is the prophecy of Isaiah 9:6, which would have stumped Isaiah?
17. Jesus’ favorite title for Himself was what?
18. If you have seen Jesus, you have seen whom?
19. The next paradoxical prophecies about Christ are related to what?
20. Micah 5:2 says that the Messiah would come from where?
21. Hosea 11:1 is used to show that Jesus came from where?
22. Isaiah 11:1 is used in a veiled sense to say that the Messiah would come from where?
23. Matthew wrote his gospel to prove that Jesus is the what?
24. In what sense was Isaiah 11:1 fulfilled?
25. What was the fourth area that had to stump the prophets?
26. The title, “Messiah” means what?
27. For Jesus to be King, He had to come through whose line?
28. Matthew traces whose genealogy?
29. Luke traces the genealogy of whom?
30. Mary’s genealogy goes back to David, but through whom (as opposed to Solomon)?
31. If there had been a king in Israel at the time of Christ’s birth, it would have been whom?
32. Though Jesus had the right to the throne through Joseph, what problem was there (related to Jeremiah 22)?
33. How is the paradox resolved?
34. The final set of prophecies we look at are concerning what?
35. Oftentimes in Old Testament prophecies, the Messiah is seen as a what?
36. How does Peter resolve the paradox of the stone?
37. To those who refuse to believe, Jesus is a smiting stone. But to believers He is a what?
38. The paradox of the stone is resolved depending on how you are related to whom?
39. It is a contradiction to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ while being what?
40. Are you part of the contradiction of Christmas?