

GRACE ESSENTIALS

God - Grace - Nations - Unity

Welcome to GRACE

Why do we exist?

We are an ordinary group of people who have encountered God's extraordinary love in Jesus Christ. Jesus came, lived, died and rose again all in order to show us grace; God's undeserved, life-changing love.

We hope to be a community of people who put Jesus on display, *helping people of all backgrounds discover and be transformed by God's amazing grace, in South Cardiff and beyond.*

As part of this, we have 4 core passions; pursuits that we hope characterise people who call GRACE their home. None of us live these things perfectly. But we want to be a community of people who are enjoyers of God and embodiments of grace, with big vision for the nations and big hearts of unity.

We hope that people who encounter us will find God, find family, find purpose and find themselves being part of something bigger. And as we live in this way, we hope to play a small part in God's big plan - to see *"grace extending to more and more people, bringing glory to God"* (2 Cor 4:15).



ENJOY

GOD



Enjoying God in His Word

The gospel is our foundation. The message of Jesus is “good news” for all people. We proclaim what He has done for us, seek to understand more of His love for us and want to grow into the new identity we have in Him. (1 Cor 15:1-5)

The bible is our authority. We seek to be led by God’s word in everything we do. We believe the bible is completely inspired by God and given for our encouragement and instruction. We are committed to growing in truth together. (2 Tim 3:16)

Enjoying God by His Spirit

The presence of God is our fuel. We love praising God in song; magnifying the goodness of Father, Son and Spirit. We prioritise prayer, relying on God’s strength, not our own, and partnering with Him in His work in our lives and the world. (2 Cor 3:18)

The gifts of the Holy Spirit shape us. We believe the Spirit gives gifts to us, for the building up of the church and the furthering of God’s kingdom. We seek to encourage everyone to discover, develop and deploy their God-given gifts. (Eph 4:11-16)



EMBODY

GRACE



Embodying grace as family

Love is our main metric. We want to live like God's family; loving each other as He has loved us. We seek to be patient, kind, honouring, encouraging and forgiving, believing the best and committed through thick and thin. (1 Cor 13:1-7)

Vulnerability is not a weakness. The gospel frees us from pretence to be ourselves. We want to be a church where people can be honest and seek healing in the context of grace and trust. We open our lives and carry each other's burdens. (2 Cor 12:8-10)

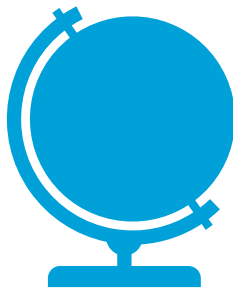
Embodying grace in our lives

Hospitality is our culture. As God has welcomed us in Christ, so we want to welcome others. We want to open our homes to the hurting, cultivating habits of friendship and listening, and being a people marked by kindness to all. (Heb 13:1-2)

Courage is our calling. When we know God is our Father it makes us courageous. In a culture that doesn't embrace Christ and His truth we are called to live lives of happy, humble courage; taking God-inspired risks and trusting in hardship. (Luke 12:32)



BIG-VISIONED
FOR THE
NATIONS



Vision for the neighbourhood

We share the gospel. The gospel is good news - news to be spoken, shared, received. We believe that the gospel is God's power to save all people and so we seek opportunities to share it in any way we can, with sensitivity, love and boldness. (1 Pet 3:15)

We care for the community. God cares about material needs as well as spiritual needs, and so do we. We innovate and join in with opportunities to love our neighbours, seeking the welfare of communities, especially in South Cardiff. (Jer 29:7)

Vision for the nations

We pray for the nations. We are based in the most ethnically-diverse corner of Wales. We want to take ownership for praying for God's kingdom to come amongst the nations represented here, as well as interceding for global issues. (1 Tim 2:1-5)

We bless the nations. We seek to send missionaries, support missionaries and give to mission and justice initiatives in the wider world. We want to be a church with a missionary-heartbeat, participating in God's big plan. (Rev 7:9-10)



BIG-HEARTED
IN

UNITY



Big-hearted in church

Everyone has a part to play. We believe in unity in diversity; we are united in Christ but all have a special role to play in His church. We encourage everyone in church to find a place to belong & serve, whether old or young. (Gal 5:13)

Freely we've received, freely we give. God has been so generous to us. We want to be generous with our finances in response. We always want to use our resources in a generous way that pursues God's kingdom, not our own convenience. (2 Cor 8:9)

Big-hearted beyond

We play a small part in God's work locally. We believe in the power of partnering with other gospel-churches locally, in order to display the unity the gospel brings and to work together for the good of our communities. (John 17:21)

We play a tiny part in God's work globally. What we are part of is so much bigger than who we are. We seek out partnerships with the global church that can be mutually beneficial, as we receive support and inspiration and give generously. (Col 1:6)

We hope that this booklet has been helpful.

It simply articulates what matters most to us, as we together pursue the vision to *help people of all backgrounds discover God's amazing grace.*

Our church is led by a team of elders who seek to guard the culture described in this booklet and guide the church in such a way that we can be all God is calling us to be.

To get in touch with the elders, email elders@gracechurchcardiff.org.
They would love to hear from you.

