

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

Trees and Grace

By Edd Sterchi

I have given a lot of thought on how to describe God's grace, and I have come up with the following: Grace is like a tree. Now, stay with me on this:

Only God can make a tree. As we know from the famous poem, only God can make a tree and only God can give His grace – we cannot make or earn it for ourselves. Trees are very beautiful. God's grace is a most beautiful concept. Trees benefit mankind. They take in that which would kill us (carbon dioxide) and renders that which gives us life (oxygen). God's grace takes away that which would kill us (penalty of sin) and gives us that which we need for eternal life (forgiveness).

You can stay protected under a tree from the harsh sun's rays, but you can leave the protected area. It's the same with God's grace – it will always shield us from Satan as long as we remain in it. A tree may look dead in the winter, but in reality it is still alive. God's grace may not always seem evident in our lives, but if we are faithful, we can rest assured that it is always alive and well.

A tree's roots support it. God's grace goes way deeper that we can ever imagine, bearing us up always. So the next time you see a tree, thank God for His grace!

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Eph. 1:7)

"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus." (2 Tim. 2:1)

Online services available at
Melbournechurchofchrist.com
[Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/melbournechurchofchrist)
Citylinktv.com/channel/melbourne/



Melbourne
 Church of Christ
 A Place to Belong

Elders

Danny Brightwell
 291-3439
 Shelby Qualls
 346-5255

Deacons

Bryan Phillips David Brightwell
 373-0546 291-1122
 Alan Love Joe Cooper
 243-4608 291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
 368-7886
 Melbourne CoC
 Box 267
 Melbourne, AR 72556

Family News

- Ted Kidd has developed an abscess that will require major abdominal surgery this week. Please continue to pray for his health and any cards or letters of encouragement are appreciated.
 270 Easley Mountain Rd.
 Melbourne, AR 72556-8060
- Diane Owens is struggling with blood clots and having further tests ran. She is not doing well at this time. Please keep her and Jerry in your prayers.
- * Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
SONG LEADER	TBA	TBA
OPENING PRAYER	TBA	TBA
CLOSING PRAYER	TBA	TBA



Self-Served

It's All Up to Me

**I cannot change others
But I can change me
I must learn to focus
Being the best I can be**

**When I change my outlook
And improve through and through
Amazingly I find by grace
That others get better too**

Matthew 7:3-5, "Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brothers eye."



Prayer List

Military: Derek Love, Tyler Talkington, A.J. Talkington

Officers: Steven & Sherry Davidson, Josh Morehead, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

Health:	Joyce Newbrey	Donnie Vest	Joanna Smith
Joe Guiltner	Dan Clark	Wilma Cooper	Wayne Crosby
Tracy Thomas	Brooke Partin	Troy Gaston	James Nicholson
Bill Roland	Hayden Phillips	Donny Smith	Joanne Weston
Bill Wiseman	Debbie Nicholson	Helen King	Phil Haagenson
Mary Kosmitis	Tommy Washington	Jim Fowler	Dale Smith
Buddy James	Ivy Jo Slade	Jeff Young	Andrew Weaver
Johnny Guthrie	Charlotte Cooper	Cecilia Broughton	Sue Campbell
Bob & Arlene Davidson	Chip & Regina Masters		Earl Stephens
Dorothy Teague	Ted & Sanyia Austin	Ted Kidd	Richard Gunter
Diane Owens			

Nursing Home: Lucille Linn, Debbie Hoskinds, Holly Stroud, Emma Jean Cooper

April Birthdays

Betty Brightwell 2 nd	Tyler Kelly 4 th	Donna Hill 7 th
Derek Love 8 th	Imodean Webb 9 th	Cleve Weaver 12 th
Melissa Morrison 14 th	Nancy Richardson 15 th	Rhett Morrison 17 th
Son Lamb 18 th	Francis Gillihan 22 nd	Doug Sipe 25 th
Michelle Smith 26 th	Kenya Wyatt 29 th	Dana Ingram 30 th

April Anniversaries

Joe & Dana Ingram 17th

Luke 6:33-36, "If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is *that* to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is *that* to you? Even sinners lend to sinners to receive back the same *amount*. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil *men*.

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."