

## OPENING HYMN #255

Blessed Assurance

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Brother Obie Williams from Kingsport Grace Church in Kingsport, Tennessee is scheduled to preach here next weekend, September 29-30. Lord willing we plan to meet Saturday evening at 6:30 with supper and fellowship following the service, and Sunday morning for our regularly scheduled service. If you would like to help with the meal, see Gwen or Dee Anne for suggestions.
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## SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 41:1-20

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## WORSHIP HYMN #295

He Leadeth Me

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## OFFERING

“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.” 2 Cor 9:7

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## WORSHIP HYMN #315

I Am Thine, O Lord

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## MESSAGE

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-4

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## CLOSING HYMN #359

My Faith Looks Up To Thee

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## THINGS TO PONDER

Sometimes the truth gets blurred, or even obscured, by the speaker’s need to be clever or interesting. May we speak the plain, unadorned truth, as it is in Jesus Christ. Nothing is more interesting and exciting to the believer, and nothing else will, by God’s grace and power, make a believer of an unbeliever.

*-Pastor Chris Cunningham*

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When Paul said, “God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,” he used words to express the strongest possible prohibition against glorying in, trusting in, rejoicing in, promoting, or preaching anything except the glorious gospel doctrine of “Jesus Christ and him crucified.”

*-Pastor Don Fortner*

## We are of God. He that knoweth God heareth us.

(1 John 4:6)

John gives us several ways by which we may prove that we are of God: matters of both faith and practice. How can we know if others are of God? The answer is simple: those that know God are willing to hear us. They hear us with understanding, acknowledgement, and faith. It is not as though we are the standard. Rather, God’s truth is the standard. But, if we are of God, it is certain we will tell the truth of God. Since we tell the truth of God, all others who are of God will rejoice in the gospel we preach. We do not need to examine the lives of others, nor delve deeply into their theology. We need only plainly proclaim what God has taught us. If he has taught them also (and all God’s people are taught of God) they will agree. If God has not taught them, they will not agree.

*-Pastor Joe Terrell*

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"He Delighteth in Mercy"

*Micah 7:18*

This statement from God’s prophet should raise a universal shout of “Hallelujah” from the fallen sons of Adam. The God whom we have offended, the God whom we have blasphemed, the God whose law we have broken delights in mercy!

Wisdom and power, justice and truth, holiness and infinity are all attributes of God I am sure he delights in them all. But here one attribute, as singled out by inspiration, gives delight to the eternal God – MERCY! God delights to show mercy. It is both pleasant and essential to his Being. He can no more cease to be merciful than he can cease to be just and holy.

This mercy which God delights to show unto men is in Christ. Read Micah’s prophecy again. In the midst of great trial, Micah’s heart was fixed upon Christ. As he anticipated the coming of Christ, he was comforted with this precious truth – “He delighteth in mercy!” Micah looked for the mercy of God in Christ. And, if you hope to find mercy, you must seek it in Christ. Since Jesus Christ has suffered and died in the place of sinners, satisfying God’s holy law and justice, God is both able and willing to be merciful to sinners! That is the good news of the gospel.

There is only one way to obtain this mercy. You must come to Christ by faith. Bow down at his feet, acknowledging his sovereign Lordship. Confess your sin. Sue for mercy, saying, “God be merciful to me, a sinner.” And believe his Word, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.”

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Depth of mercy, can there be,  
Mercy still reserved for me?  
Can my God His wrath forbear;  
Me the chief of sinners spare?

Indeed he can and will for Christ's sake, because, "HE DELIGHTETH IN MERCY!"

*-Pastor Don Fortner*

### **One Medicine for the Soul**

What if there was a doctor that prescribed the exact same medication for every one of his patients? It didn't matter if you had a broken leg, heart disease, were blind, or had terminal cancer. This doctor always gave every person the same medicine. Your first reaction might be that this doctor was not very capable. He obviously didn't understand the complexity of the human body. You would not trust such a doctor with your health. Now, what if every patient that took this doctor's prescription was healed, regardless of their situation? Immediately, your attention has shifted from all thoughts and concerns for the doctor to this amazing miracle drug. What is it? How can I get some? What does it cost? Then, you find out that it is absolutely free –

You see it really doesn't matter how sin has manifested itself in your life. Its outward effects differ for each of us. Unbelief is the sin that doth so easily besets us all, and it remains the same for us all. The one and only cure for our sin sick soul is the Balm in Gilead, Jer. 8:22. The leaves on the Tree of Life are the only medicine for our souls, Ez. 47:12.

A doctor once told me that ninety percent of medicine is treating the symptoms until the body heals itself. Make the patient as comfortable as possible while the good living cells multiply and the bad cells die. Man-made religion operates on the same philosophy. Man thinks his sin problem is that which manifest itself outwardly. So he goes about treating symptoms, not knowing that the real problem is unbelief. The sin sick soul cannot heal itself. There is no part of it that is good or alive. It is completely dead. It doesn't need reformation, it needs regeneration, and that is a miracle of grace that only God can do.

Don't look, even in the Bible, for precepts to address the symptoms of sin. Look unto Jesus the author and finisher of your faith. His glorious person and accomplished work is sufficient for every need. Where sin abounds, grace does much more abound, and grace comes through faith. Oh Lord, increase our faith.

*-Pastor Greg Elmquist*

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Sunday 9:30 AM Bible Class lesson

10:30 AM Morning Worship Service

Wednesday 6:30 PM Mid-week Worship Service

Listen to the gospel at: [www.freegraceradio.com](http://www.freegraceradio.com)

**Sunday September 23, 2018**

**"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."**

*Rev 22:17*



**"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." 1Cor 8:6**