

# Character Development | Part 4

When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish." So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions. Esther 4:12-17 (NIV)

### How do I as a Christ follower courageously respond to "Kingdom opportunities?"

1. Rely on my \_\_\_\_\_\_.

2. Die to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Embrace \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Xerxes, near and far, to have them celebrate annually the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar as the time when the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month when their sorrow was turned into joy and their mourning into a day of celebration. He wrote them to observe the days as days of feasting and joy and giving presents of food to one another and gifts to the poor. Esther 9:20-22 (NIV)

# **GRACE NEWS**

**High School Retreat** - All high school students are invited to spend a weekend connecting with one another and God at Riverside Retreat Center November 30-December 2. Experience a weekend of camp activities, games, worship, and diving deeper into a relationship with God. Register at egracechurch.com/events. Contact Taylor Brown at tbrown@egracechurch.com.

Parent's Night Out/Grace Kidz Christmas Jammie

**Party!** – Saturday, December 15 from 5-8 PM. Sign up your Grace Kidz ages 0-5th grade for a night of Christmas Jammies, pizza, games, movies, and fun while you get your Christmas to-do list done! Cost is \$10 per child and registration is online at egracechurch.com/jammies. Space is limited so sign up today!

Hospitality volunteers needed for Christmas Eve

services. If your gift is hospitality and you would like to help, please call or email Sherry Nisbet at 574.7161 or snisbet@egracechurch.com. Areas to serve are greeters, ushers, parking lot, refreshments, and more.

**Holiday Reach Opportunities** - stop by the Reach table in the lobby for a list of giving and serving opportunities this Christmas!

**Advent Bible Study,** led by Pastor Cindy Jones, November 29, December 6, and December 13 from 10-11 AM at The Gathering Table.

**Christmas Story & Cookies for Toddlers** - Friday, December 7 at 1 PM at The Gathering Table.

**Surviving Christmas** - resources and conversation for those in grief. Saturday, December 8 from 9-10 AM at The Gathering Table.

**Grace Cancer Support Group** – Join us Thursday, December 6 from 7-8 PM at The Gathering Table. "PARAKALEO" is the Greek word for walking beside. Come alongside friends with cancer at an informal gathering for family and friends dealing with a cancer diagnosis and treatments.

# LET'S CONNECT

PLEASE TEAR OUT AND DROP IN BASKETS AS YOU EXIT

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Service Attended:			$\leq$		
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How did you hear about Grace Church?					
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Name(s):					
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Married	□ 24	1-29		50+	
Divorced	□ 30	)'s			
Widowed	□ 40	)'s			
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Please update my contact information

## **MY DECISION TODAY**

I said YES for the first time,

- and became a follower of Jesus.
- I decided to RENEW my relationship with Jesus.

We have resources to help you with your decision.

# PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY FOR:	
Public Prayer List	□ For Pastors Only

#### I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT:

# **SMART GIVING**

go to: egracechurch.com/give -OR-

text any amount to: 239.205.3123

An effective and time-saving way to give your tithes and offerings without carrying cash or writing checks.





**The Gathering Table Café & Consignment** – Our store is open Monday through Saturday 8 AM-4 PM. Located at 601 Del Prado Blvd N. in the North Cape Crossing Plaza. Donations accepted during business hours. In November, all coffee drinks are half price between 8-9 AM. We also have a wide variety of items available to be purchased from Exceptional Entrepreneurs. Hope to see you soon!

**Food Pantry Ministry** - The current needs are shelfstable milk, jelly, and cereal. We are running low on these staple items so any help would be appreciated. We take all non-perishable food donations. Food can be dropped off at the table in the foyer. Thank you for your donations!

**Sunday at the 11:30 service,** we celebrate the baptism of Isabella Joy Hogencamp born July 30, 2018. She is the daughter of Matthew & Sarah Hogencamp and the granddaughter of Charles & Sandy Hogencamp.

# SCHEDULE

### Worship Times:

Saturday @ 5pm | Sunday @ 10 & 11:30am, Sunday at 8:30am (Traditional)

### **Grace Kidz/Youth**

Grace Place (Infant - 5th grade): Sat. @ 5pm, Sunday @ 10 & 11:30am Planet 45 (4th & 5th): Sunday at 10am Revolution (Middle School + High School): Wednesday from 6:30-8:30pm

## **Recovery**

Friday @ 6:45pm

# GIVING

General Fund			
Last Week	\$ 23,837		
Received YTD	\$ 1,407,876		