

**WAYS TO GIVE**  
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### THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Last Week Giving  
\$22,234.00  
Fiscal Year-to-Date Giving  
- Starts Apr 1 -  
\$784,646.00

### NEED TO KNOW!

#### #1. Youth MYC Fall Conference

Hey Grace Youth - There is a fall conference that you will not want to miss! It's the MN Youth Conference or MYC and it is over MEA break - Oct 20-22. All the details and registration are on the website so go get signed up! Early Bird price ends on Sept 20.

#### #2. Love our City Day

Is back on Sat, Oct 1 from 9-Noon! This is a day for us as a church to love on our cities. You can choose projects like home repairs, serving a meal, making cards, and more. Projects can bless an individual or an organization - you can even suggest a project! If you are in a small group - you can register your project. And if you are not in small group - check out the projects listed on the website and get signed up. All the info at [findgrace.com/loveourcity](http://findgrace.com/loveourcity).

#### #3. Baptism

We have a baptism celebration scheduled for next Sunday, Sept 18 during either service. If you have made the decision to follow Jesus this is your next step of faith. It is always an amazing day to see how God is working in people's lives. To learn more and get signed up for next week's baptism, head to the website.

# BLESS

## SEPT 11 // WEEK 1 // PASTOR JOE BOYD

### How should we RESPOND when God gives us a COMMAND?

The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. - **Genesis 12:1-5**

### God gave Abram 2 imperatives:

The first imperative was to GO!

There are 2 parts of this imperative: a going FROM and a going TO.

Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. - **Genesis 12:1**

He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. - **Genesis 12:5**

### Why would he go?

I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. - **Genesis 12:3**

### Bless means to "add or enhance life."

Know God | Find Friends | Discover Purpose | Make a difference

### We have to GO.

The Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive. - **Acts 20:35**

### Have we been blessed?

#### Count your blessings. Do this on a regular basis.

Resources: But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. - 1 Timothy 6:8

Education: How blessed are we by what we have learned?

Relationships: How blessed are we by friends and family?

Abilities: What skills are we blessed to use?

Forgiveness of Sin: How grateful are we for God's love and grace?

Presence of the Spirit: How blessed are we to have God with us in the form of the Holy Spirit?

### We are BLESSED to be a BLESSING.

#### First, we go to those who are OPPRESSED.

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." - **Luke 4:18-19**

#### Second, we go to the SPIRITUALLY SICK.

Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." - **Luke 5:31-32**

### We should do for people what Jesus would do with them.

#### We will follow the 5 step BLESS process:

Be in Prayer

Listen with compassion

Eat together

Serve others

Share your story

### Pray for one person to come to faith.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. - **Matthew 28:19-20**