

Partners in Grace

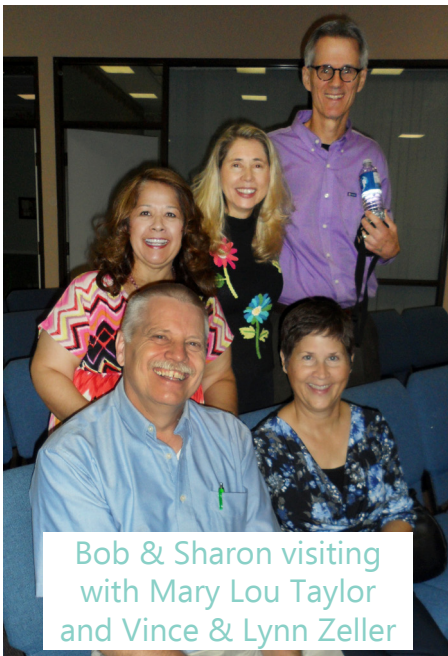
August 2012



The congregation of Vista Ridge Bible Fellowship

Vista Ridge Bible Fellowship Lewisville, TX July 18

Pastor Philippe Sterling, a friend for 30 years, asked me to speak while he was off at a denominational conference. In Sunday school I discussed 1 Cor 3:5-17 and the importance of building up and not tearing down the Body of Christ, the local church. Then in the worship service I spoke on Daniel 3 and Daniel 6: "Don't Bow to Pagan Demands But Do Bow to God's Commands." I've spoken on the three men in the fiery furnace and Daniel in the lions' den separately before. But combining them proved effective too. Everyone was very encouraging.



Bob & Sharon visiting
with Mary Lou Taylor
and Vince & Lynn Zeller

Ministry in San Antonio

July 27-29

I flew in on Friday and spoke at the Bible study of Frank and Susie Mahan. I gave an overview of First Thessalonians (in one session).

On Saturday morning and early afternoon GES partner Tom Hailey and I met with Erez Soref, the President of Israel College of the Bible in Natanya, Israel. GES is considering entering into a partnership with this school in the sense that I would go there and teach a two-week module every year or so and we would help



Bible Study in San Antonio

line up other Free Grace people with Ph.D.'s who could also go there and teach. It was a good meeting.

On Sunday morning I spoke in a Sunday School class at Wayside Chapel (EFCA) on 2 Cor 5:1-11.

It was good to see Frank and Susie, Tom and Belinda Hailey, and others.



Wayside Chapel Sunday School

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the health of our staff and Partners and their families (Mark is walking almost normally again and he's even begun light bike riding), for the August 4th GES Summer Board meeting in Dallas, for the U.S. and world economic woes, for the writing and editing of the Autumn Journal and the completion of the editing of Zane's commentary on Romans, for the Grace movement, and for our production of Free Grace Bible study materials this year.

Spring Journal in the Mail

The Spring Journal went to the mailing service on July 23. It was mailed out before the end of the month. Our aim is to turn around and mail out the Autumn issue by the end of October.

Victor Street Bible Chapel Dallas, TX July 22



Esau is Edom. That is said by Moses multiple times in Genesis 36. The main point of the chapter is found in Gen 37:1. Jacob was still a stranger. He had no nation, not chiefs, no king, no tribes, and no acclaim. Esau had all those things.

Spiritual greatness takes time. That is the point that the new nation in the wilderness should learn from this passage. That is what we should learn as well. Our aim is not worldly prosperity. Our aim is to please God. And that takes time.

NOTES & LETTERS

Not Crazy about Chan's *Crazy Love*

Thank you sincerely for taking the time to write out that webpage exposing the false teachings of *Crazy Love*. First time I listened to Francis Chan preach about lukewarm Christians alarm bells went off. This self-righteous, borderline-Pharisee religious spirit is catching like wildfire. Your webpage is a great resource that I shared last night as I was authoring to explain to others that Ephesians 2:8-9 would render to be false if Francis Chan was correct. So sad that one can view God's love as conditional love...

—JL, email

Liked Article on Phil 1:6 and the Day of Christ

It is funny...when I first went to DTS, I had Dr. Lightner and he asked what Phil 1:6 meant. I said, "Well, it has to do with verses 5 & 7." I always understood them [the Philippian believers] as being part-takers in the gospel ministry. I didn't get much of a hearing [in class], but that's OK.

Thanks for a solid article.

—AK

Spotlight on Your Support:

July is the first month in our new fiscal year. Typically we start off slow since July and August are summer months when people are making less and spending more. While we did not meet budget in July, the total was excellent.

Since we have tentatively set a larger budget for fiscal 2013 (July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013), it is very encouraging to get off to a decent start like this. The budget will be finalized at the August 4 Board meeting in Dallas.

July Financial Report

July Budget	\$45,913	(tentative)	YTD* Budget	\$45,913
July Revenue	\$33,243	<\$12,670>	YTD* Revenue	\$33,243 <\$12,670>

We are very thankful for your gifts.

*Our fiscal year runs from July 1st through June 30th

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Grace Evangelical Society 4851 I-35 E Ste. 203 Corinth, TX 76210
www.faithalone.org 940.270.8827

