



# I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES.

JOHN 15:5

Grace Baptist Church • 605 E. McCoy • Santa Maria, CA • 805-925-2671 • [www.gracesantamaria.org](http://www.gracesantamaria.org) • April 30th, 2021

*We exist to ignite  
a passion in every  
person to glorify and  
enjoy God everywhere  
and in everything.*



**SUNDAY MORNING  
INDOOR SERVICES**  
@ 9am & 10:30

**Livestream @ 9am**

"How To Mix A 'Glawspe' Cocktail"

2 Corinthians 6:14-16a

[https://youtu.be/F2MmdUh\\_TiE](https://youtu.be/F2MmdUh_TiE)

Pastor Benji



## We Go to Pray

"...You do not have, because you do not ask.<sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions." James 4:2c-3 ESV

James tells us there are two key reasons that we don't have what we need or at least think we need.

First, we fail to pray. We are in a redeemed relationship with the sovereign, omnipotent God who loves us and we forget or neglect to talk to Him. So, we go without. We can't forget to pray...about everything. Pray for what you need and even for what you want.

Speaking of what you want, the second reason we go without is that we ask selfishly. So, God ignores the request. God is neither a vending machine, nor a genie, and we shouldn't pray as if He was. Prayer isn't a commercial transaction in which we give something to God who now owes us something in response. Prayer isn't wishing for something that must be granted. Prayer is conversation within that redeemed and loving relationship. God will give us all that we need and even some or much of what we want. But He knows what is best for us and He knows our hearts. He refuses to be stuffed in a genie's lamp or treated like a vending machine that kept our money and our candy bar.

I think there is an important contextual qualifier to remember here. James is condemning coveting, jealousy and fighting among the church. He is addressing a lack or need of things. He is not discussing a lack of healing. Chapter 4 doesn't talk about loss, sickness or suffering unless you want to argue those that are humbled by suffering as the recipient in v.6 where it states that God gives more grace. He isn't talking here about the consequences of the fall on humanity or a weakness of faith but a weakness of holiness, a lacking of character and the consequences of individual sin.

So pray about everything, including things that you want.

Pray because you're in right relationship with our loving God.

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## WOMEN'S IGNITE:

Evidence of Grace  
Hosted by the GBC Women's Board

Friday Night, May 28, 7pm— 9pm

Come gather for dessert and  
fellowship  
in the Ed Building.

Be encouraged hearing testimonies of  
God's grace from a few of our GBC  
women.

No cost & no sign up  
Bring a friend!

## Announcements

But don't pray selfishly and while you're praying you might also quit fighting with your brothers and sisters in the faith...after all, He's their Heavenly Father and He listens to them too.

- Pastor James

### NEED PRAYER?

Our Elders will be available this Sunday morning, in the Church Office from 10:15am- 10:30am to pray with you.

### NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Thinking about becoming a member?

Our membership classes are geared for those wanting to become Grace Baptist Church members or needing more information about who we are as a church. Please contact the church office or Pastor Benji if you are interested in attending a class.

### GREETERS/WELCOME CENTERS

Do you long for a place to minister to others on Sunday? We are looking for people to serve as greeters at the doors or at our Welcome Centers. Please contact the church office at 805-925-2171 or email us at [Gracebaptist@gracesantamaria.org](mailto:Gracebaptist@gracesantamaria.org) and let us know.

### WEEKLY ZOOM WORSHIP AND PRAYER for the Muslim World

happens for one hour each week on Thursday night from 7:00pm to 8:00 pm. If you would like to participate please email Dan Harter at [dharter@generalmail.com](mailto:dharter@generalmail.com) or text him at 805-863-6894. The month of Ramadan has begun which is a good time to pray and ask God to draw Muslims to Jesus!



**SPREAD THE WORD!** Help us get the word out about Grace! Would you consider dropping a review of our church on Yelp! or Google Maps? It only takes a few minutes. Or, get on social media and tell people what you love about Grace and use the hashtag [#lovelychurch](https://twitter.com/#!/lovelychurch).



If you "love" hot coffee or tea on Sunday mornings at Grace and you want to help serve in your church, then please consider joining our *Grace Café* team. Please contact the church office for more information.



### Grace Celebration Committee Needs You!

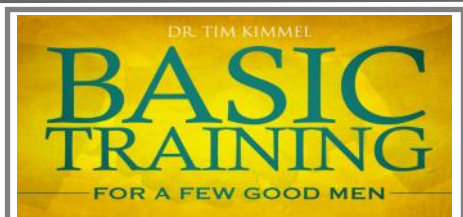
Are you looking for a place to serve others at our church? Please contact the Church Office if you are interested in serving on the Celebration Committee.



Reminder:

Next **"Bug Out Awana Club"**

May 5th @ 6:15pm



Sunday Evenings  
at 6:00 PM

\*Interactive Video Series  
facilitated by Ken George in  
the Ed Building Chapel