

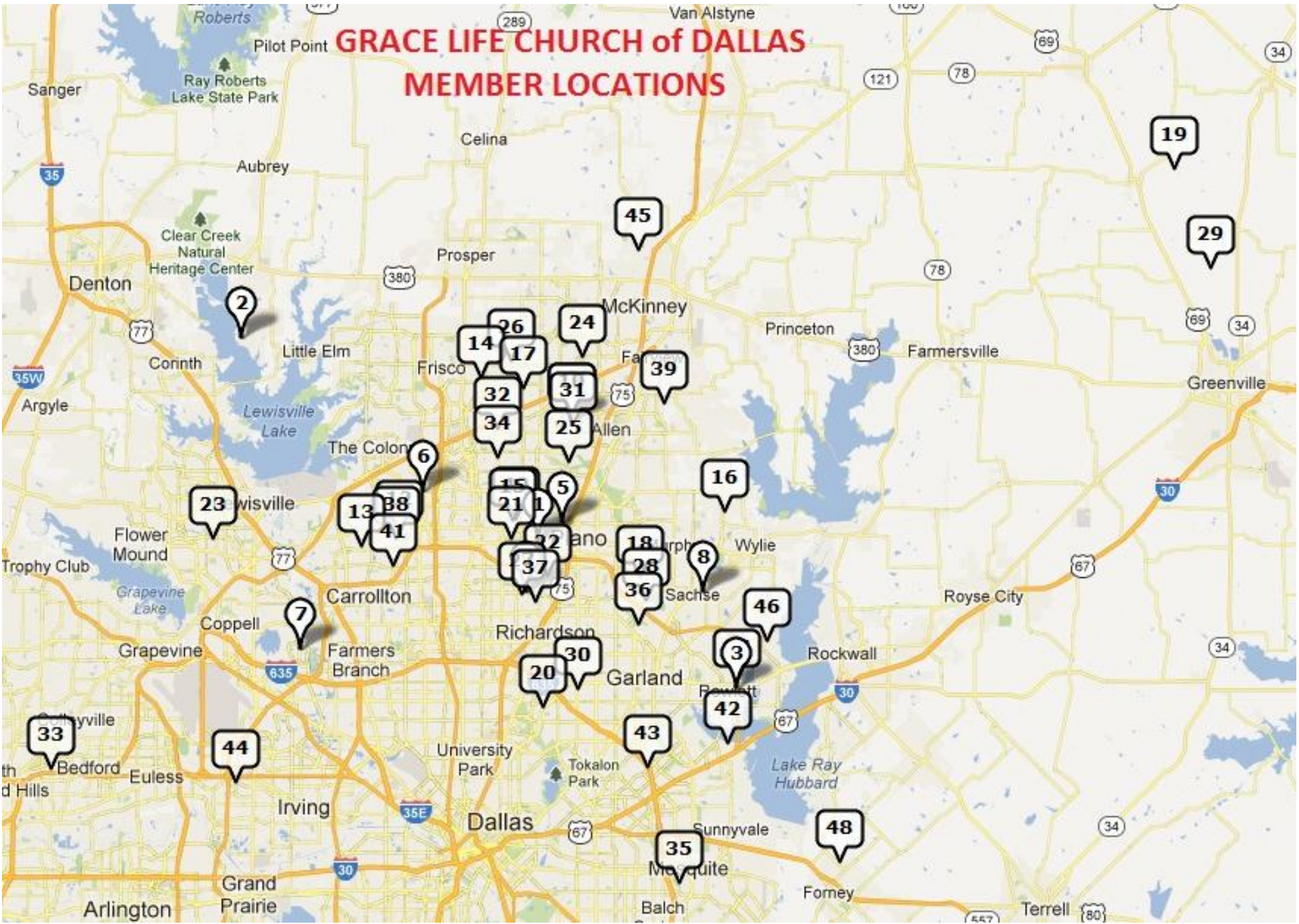


Grace Life Church *of Dallas*

The doctrines of grace, the life of the Spirit, to the glory of God

GRACE LIFE CHURCH of DALLAS

MEMBER LOCATIONS





1 Peter 5:8-11

Your Adversary the devil-Part 2

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1 Peter 5:8-11

⁸ *Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To Him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

- We have an enemy (“we” being all true believers)
 - Note the words “*your adversary*” –It’s personal
- Our adversary is the devil/satan (He is the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4))
 - **He is not working alone**
 - Fallen angels/demons Matt 25:31
 - Unbelieving humans John 8:44/Eph 2:1-2
 - World system “*course of this world*” Eph 2:1-2
- Satan’s goal & desire is to “*devour*” you
 - He is prowling around like a roaring lion
 - This warning is real
- Satan would love for you to either minimize him (not take him seriously) or maximize him (live in fear of him)
 - We are instructed to do neither

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

What are we instructed to do?

- Commanded to “*be sober-minded*”-Collected in spirit/control of our mind
 - Self controlled (1:13, 4:7)
 - Guarding against the pollutions of the world (system)-Not opening self up to satan
 - Seeing things through a biblical perspective
- Commanded to “*be watchful*”-Be ready, be alert, be vigilant
 - Satan/demons/system never rest
 - There is no spiritual down time (*More opportune time* Luke 4:13)
 - Remember scripture warns us that our adversary “*disguises himself as an angel of light*” 2 Cor 11:13-14 so we are not to be “*ignorant of his designs*” 2 Cor 2:11
 - *We wrestle not against flesh & blood, but against rulers, against the authorities, against cosmic powers over this present darkness, against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places* Eph 6:12
 - Believing there is warfare and living in the reality of that, makes you watchful

Now What?

- Let's assume we are guarding our mind/self-control
- Let's assume we are watchful/alert regarding our enemy, the devil
- Now we are aware of our enemy and the warfare, but now what?

V9 *Resist him*-We are commanded to “*resist him*”

- *Resist*-to withstand, oppose, to set one's self against
- James 4:7 *Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist** the devil, and he will flee from you.*
- How do we resist satan?
 - *Resist him, firm in your faith*
 - *Firm* –Strong, immovable, solid, hard *in your faith*
 - What is our faith in? God (and His word) *faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God* (Rom 10:17)
- Peter is calling us to withstand/oppose the devil by having rock solid faith in God's word
 - In order to have faith in God's word, you must know God's word

Resist him, firm in your faith

- Your battle against satan is a battle for truth (in your mind)
 - Notice, it didn't tell you to “bind him” or pray this certain prayer, but to resist him, firm in your faith (this requires responsibility)
- This gives us great insight into satan's plans-If our means of spiritual warfare is being “firm in faith (truth)”, then we know satan's main weapon is deceit (satan is the “*father of lies*” John 8:44)
 - Deceit regarding ourselves, the word, God, the world/sin, church, our trials, suffering, etc (If you do not know word, easily deceived)
- **2 Cor 10:3-5** *For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵ We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, ⁶ being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.*

Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the **belt of truth**, and having put on the **breastplate of righteousness**, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given **by the gospel of peace**. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the **helmet of salvation**, and the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God**, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

After resisting him firm in your faith

Peter comforts the battle worn Christian-*knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.*

- All Christians throughout the world are experiencing suffering (spiritual warfare)
- You are not alone

V10 And after you have suffered a little while

- Suffering is temporary (all suffering)

The God of all grace

- Common grace, particular saving grace, sustaining grace
- His grace is eternal (never runs dry, is always sufficient 2 Cor 12:9)

The God of all grace

Who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ

- *Rom 8:30 And those whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified.*

Will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you

- *Restore/perfect-complete*
- *Confirm-make you stable, fix*
- *Strengthen-to make strong*
- *Establish-to lay a foundation*

We **cannot** do this without God, & He **will not** do it without us
He will keep us by His power through faith (1 Peter 1:5)

- We must act on the faith supplied by grace (Responsibility)

Glory to God

To Him be the dominion forever and ever, Amen

- *For from Him, through Him, to Him are all things, to Him be glory forever, Amen (Rom 11:36)*
- *But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. (1 Cor 15:10)*

In our **greatest obedience**, we are **completely dependent**
on Him and His grace to see us through
He gets all the glory-Rejoice in the Lord