

**OUR  
ONLY  
HOPE IS  
CHRIST'S  
PHYSICAL  
RESURRECTION**

**EASTER RESOURCES  
FOR PARENTS**

**GSM UPDATES**

**NAVIGATING  
PARENTING TOGETHER**





# **MEN'S MARCH MADNESS BRACKET PARTY**

**MAR 20 • SIGN UP AT  
[GRACEB3.ORG/EVENTS](http://GRACEB3.ORG/EVENTS)**

**Men, join us for a day of basketball, Bdubs\*, brackets and buddies! Men of all ages are invited to come out either all day or drop in as you can to \*Buffalo Wild Wings. We will have an area reserved - drop in for lunch, appetizers, happy hour, dinner or evening snack, or join us for the whole event. (Yes, some of us are there for the whole time!) We will also have a bracket challenge! Winner gets an autographed basketball and a \$50 gift card! Bring a friend or coworker or two! It's a great time to watch basketball, meet new people, eat some great food, and win prizes! Sign up and let us know you're coming!**



# HAPPENINGS

Learn more and sign up for events at [graceb3.org/events](https://graceb3.org/events)

## WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Study Revelation verse-by-verse to discover how the last book of the Bible is accessible, helpful, and speaks a steadying word of assurance and endurance to the church in every age. Ten weeks on Tuesday nights beginning Mar 4 • 7-8:45pm

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## WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

This nine-week study, with an emphasis on biblical theology, traces the promise in Genesis 3:15 through seven Old Testament accounts. Each story gives us a glimpse, a foreshadowing, of the greater salvation Jesus wins. Friday mornings beginning Mar 7 • 9:30-11am

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## MARCH MADNESS BRACKET PARTY

Men, join us for our annual Men's March Madness outing! It's a great time to watch basketball, meet new people, eat, and win prizes. Fill out a bracket and bring a friend, coworker, neighbor, or your kids. We will have an area reserved at Buffalo Wild Wings in Coralville all day and evening. Mar 20 • 11am-10pm





# JOIN THE EASTER CHOIR

**INTERESTED?  
EMAIL ZACK AT  
ZACKS@GRACEB3.ORG  
BY MARCH 16**

If you like to sing with others, join the choir! We will lead congregational singing during our three Easter services on April 20. Four rehearsals will be on Sundays after church in March and April, and one dress rehearsal will be on the Thursday evening before Easter.

Interested? Email Zack Stanton at [zacks@graceb3.org](mailto:zacks@graceb3.org)

#### **Rehearsals:**

- Sundays - March 23 and 30, April 6 and 13.  
*Time: 11:30am - 1pm*
- Thursday - April 17 | *Time: 6:15pm - 9pm*

#### **Leading Worship:**

- Easter Sunday, April 20 at all three services:  
*8am, 9:30am, 11am*

**Location:** North Liberty Campus

**Questions?** Contact Zack Stanton, Director of Worship, [zacks@graceb3.org](mailto:zacks@graceb3.org), (319) 626-2040



# EASTER RESOURCES *for Parents*



*By Children's Ministry Lead Coordinator Natasha Miller*

**AS PARENTS WE OFTEN FIND OURSELVES LOOKING FOR RESOURCES TO HELP TEACH OUR KIDS ABOUT VARIOUS TOPICS, AND EASTER IS ONE OF THOSE TIMES.**



The Children's Ministry team desires to come alongside parents to disciple the children of Grace. Part of what we do is provide resource options to save you time and energy, but this is definitely something you can do on your own. Our goal in offering these resources is to help take the guesswork out of finding tools to use with your family. [Here are some resources to check out](#) in case you miss one of our resource tables in the foyer, or if you just want to take a closer look at something that caught your eye.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

**When we evaluate a resource we ask several questions.** And when a resource meets these criteria, we will present it to you:

- ※ Does this resource contain **biblical truth**?
- ※ For **what ages/stages** is this best suited?
- ※ Is it **easy to use**?
- ※ Does it provide **ways to interact beyond** just consuming information?
- ※ Is it well-priced, making it **accessible to most families**?

We could evaluate resources all day because there are so many options, but that isn't feasible, so we pick and choose. This means if you don't see a resource you are thinking about on our list, it may still be a great

option; we just didn't choose to evaluate it at this time. We are always eager to hear about resources you know and love and are thankful to those of you who have shared in the past. **If you are looking for something specific, don't wait for us to recommend it; ask your community group and friends what tools they use to help disciple their children.**

## **Easter Resources**

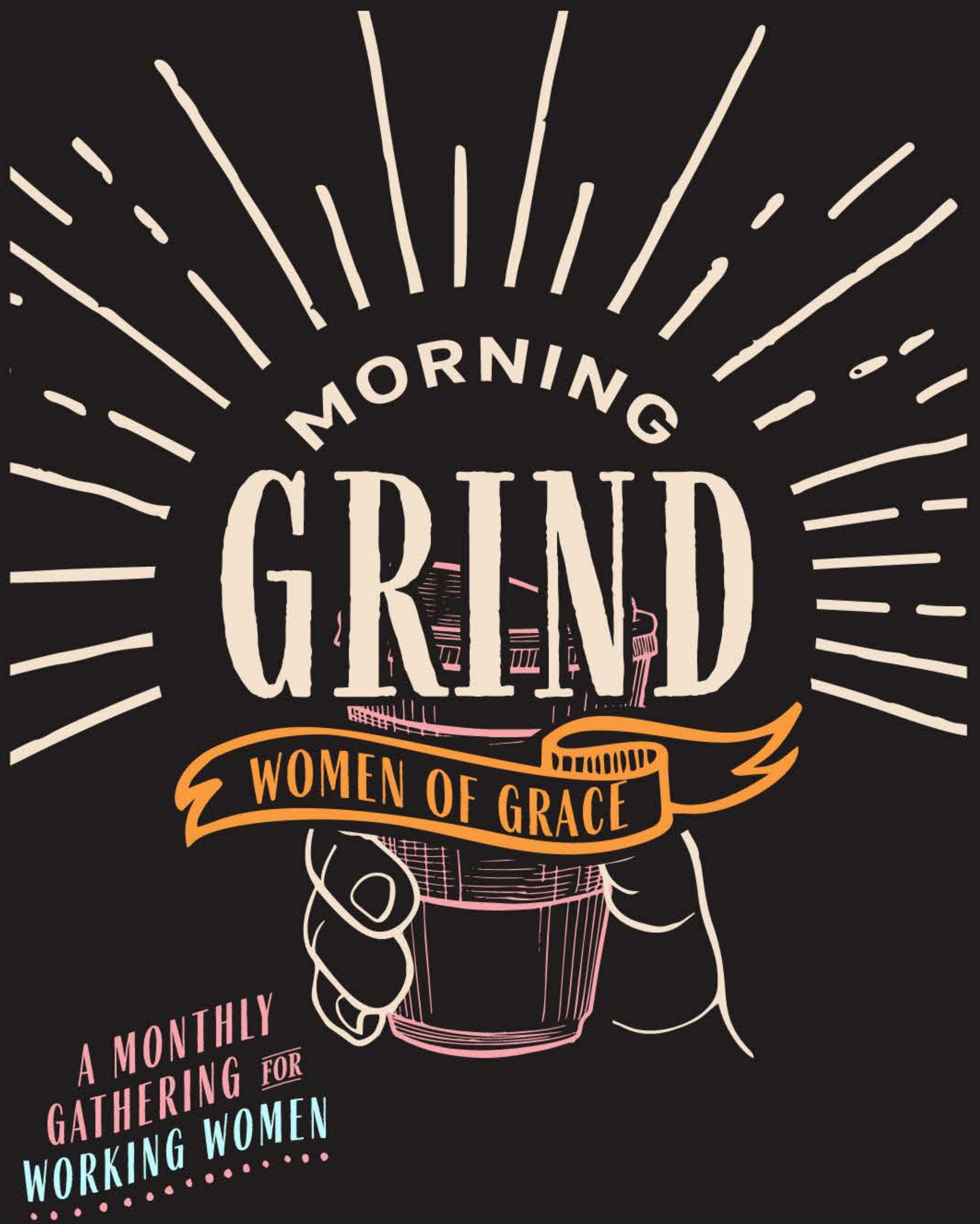
※ [Scratch off calendar/poster](#) (for families with elementary-age children and older)

※ [Darkest Night Brightest Day Family Devotional](#) (for families with elementary-age children and older)

※ The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross (Tales that Tell the Truth):

- [Full Picture Book](#) (PreK through Elementary)
- [Board Book](#) (condensed version of the picture book for toddlers)
- [Family Easter Devotional](#) (recommended for families with children in 6th grade and younger) 🌿





**TIME: 6:30 - 7:30AM  
FOR ALL DATES**

**DATES & LOCATIONS:**

**MONDAY, MARCH 10**  
COFFEE EMPORIUM  
IN NORTH LIBERTY

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**  
CARIBOU COFFEE  
IN CORALVILLE

**TUESDAY, MAY 6**  
DUNN BROS.  
IN CORALVILLE

**THURSDAY, JUNE 5**  
PRESS COFFEE  
IN IOWA CITY

Join us for a refreshing time of connection and encouragement! This monthly gathering is for Christian women who currently work full-time outside the home, or aspire to. This ministry strives to provide an adults-only space to share, pray, and support one another over coffee before the workday begins. Whether you're seeking fellowship, inspiration, or simply a moment to recharge before the workday, this is the perfect opportunity to grow together in faith and community. Let's gather, refresh, and strengthen each other as we navigate the challenges of balancing work and faith.



*By Student Ministry Director Brian Hagedorn*

# IGNITE YOUTH CONFERENCE & THRIVE CLASS

This month we have two quick highlights to share.

## IGNITE YOUTH CONFERENCE

In just a couple of weeks, many of our students and some of our volunteer leaders will travel to Grace Church in Des Moines for the **annual Ignite Youth Leadership Conference**. Ignite has become a staple weekend for us as it provides opportunities for students and leaders to spend time traveling, eating, laughing, and learning together — Ignite offers **gospel and leadership training** for students and leaders alike.



As we get closer to the trip, we have a couple of **prayer requests** as we worship and learn together:

- \* **Spiritual development** for the students and leaders who will attend
- \* **Safety** as we travel
- \* **Relationships** to be built and deepened
- \* **Growth** in our knowledge and love for Christ

## GSM THRIVE CLASS

Also, our Student Ministry Thrive class is wrapping up at the end of this month. We have been working through the book “Visual Theology: A Guide to The Bible” since September. We’ve enjoyed learning alongside the students, and the students have had **many conversations as they’ve deepened their understanding of how the Bible was collected and protected throughout church history.** We have had a lot of fun together, and the students have asked many great questions. Our seniors have served as table leaders, and they’ve done a fantastic job preparing and facilitating small group discussions!

We’re continuing to pray that what we’ve learned will strengthen the faith of our students and that our time together has solidified the strong and consistent evidence and support for our foundational doctrines about the Bible’s inspiration and inerrancy. 🌿



**SUNDAY, MARCH 30 AFTER 2ND SERVICE**

# **THE GREAT GRACE BAKE OFF**

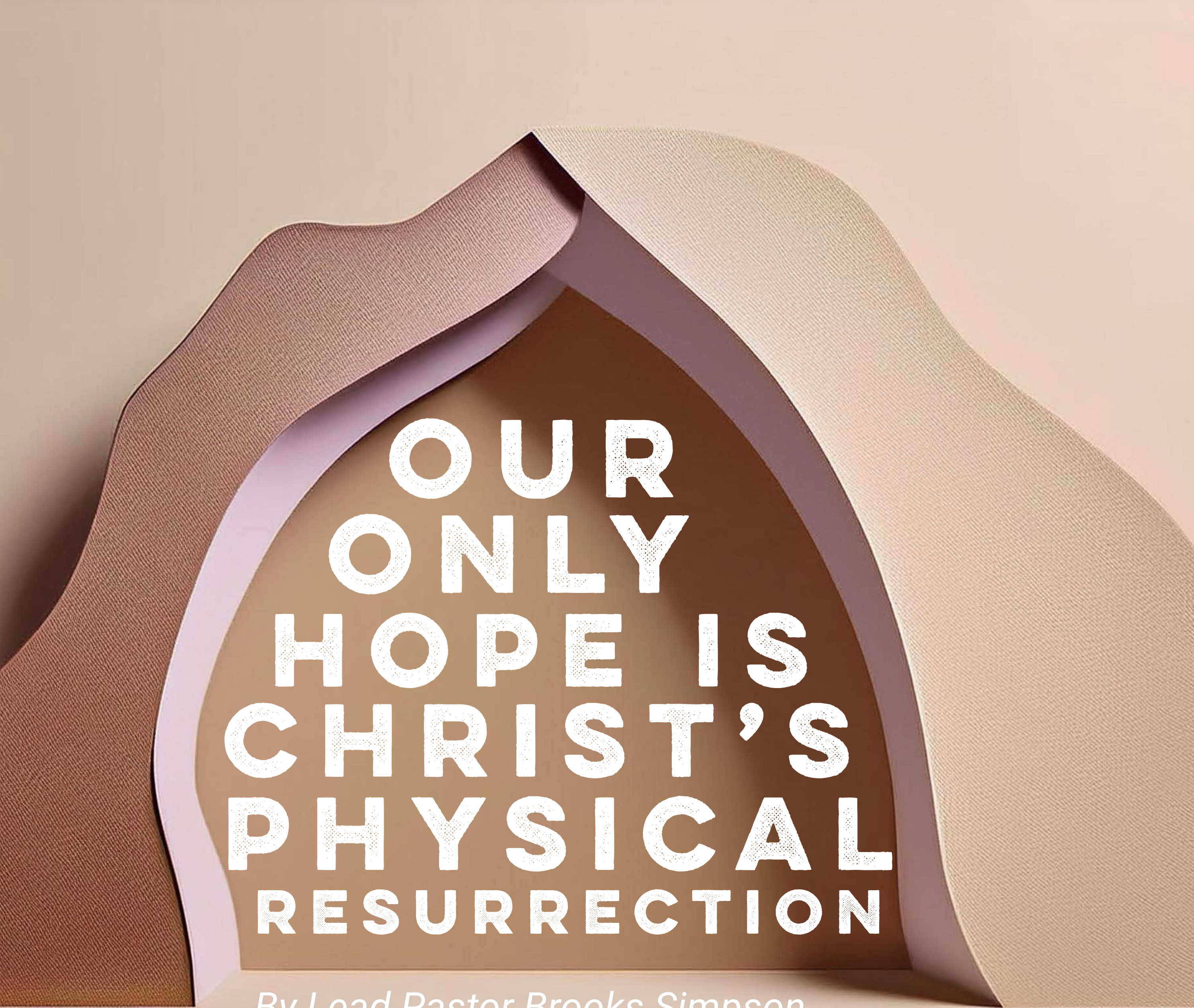
**SWEET AND SAVORY BREAD EDITION  
TRY 'EM ALL AND VOTE FOR  
YOUR FAVORITE!**



**WANT TO BAKE?  
SIGN UP AT [GRACEB3.ORG/EVENTS](https://graceb3.org/events)**

**JOIN US FOR THE GRACE BAKE OFF IN THE  
GYM AFTER 2ND SERVICE ON MARCH 30!  
Get your Costco sample fix by trying a variety  
of our congregation's best baked breads -  
both sweet and savory - and vote for your  
favorite! Enjoy some good food, good  
company, and conversation.**





**OUR  
ONLY  
HOPE IS  
CHRIST'S  
PHYSICAL  
RESURRECTION**

*By Lead Pastor Brooks Simpson*

The bodily resurrection of Jesus from the grave is the most essential truth a suffering person could ever hear and hold on to. If it's true, all the pain we endure through this pain-filled existence is nothing more than a refiner's fire preparing us for future glory. But what if the resurrection isn't true, or what if it's not literal, just a spiritualized story told to help us walk through the valley of the shadow of death?



Twenty years ago, I read a statistic that stated 67% of pastors who led mainline denominational churches did not believe Jesus physically rose from the grave. They thought it was a spiritual reality meant to show that good ultimately overcomes evil and we should not understand the gospel accounts literally. That makes me very angry, not that some discount the bodily resurrection, but that there are pastors who rob suffering people (whom they claim to love and care for) of their only hope — the physical resurrection of Jesus.

IF Jesus did not rise from the dead, the apostles lied. Nothing you read in the New Testament can or should be trusted (1 Corinthians 15:15).

IF Jesus did not rise from the dead, our faith is worthless (1 Corinthians 15:17).

IF Jesus did not rise from the dead, our friends and family who died before us are gone forever (1 Corinthians 15:18).

IF Christ did not rise from the dead then we are the most pitiable and pathetic of all peoples (1 Corinthians 15:19). Why? Because Christians believe our suffering has a purpose (Romans 8:28-29), which hinges on Christ's physical resurrection.



But, if Jesus did not rise, your cancer is meaningless, your loved ones will stay dead, and the pain you endured through this, that, and a million other trials is pointless suffering. There is no plan, and the universe doesn't care. There is no purpose — just life, pain, and death, followed by nothingness.

Fortunately, the historical reality of Christ's resurrection is not affected by the unbelief of theologically liberal pastors or other skeptics. After his resurrection, Jesus physically appeared to his disciples and more than five hundred people at the same time (1 Corinthians 15:1-8). Jesus, who died on the cross, rose bodily from the grave and ascended bodily into heaven. And someday, he will return bodily to receive his bride.

During that reunion of the groom with his bride, all the pain we experienced will be undone in the blink of an eye. We will discover that the glory of heaven is not a consolation for the trials we endured but the result of our trials; in the same way, the resurrection is the result of the cross. Join us on Easter Sunday as we cling to the hope of Christ's literal resurrection. 🌿



# Remember 'Your Joy

**A WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY**  
**Fridays starting March 7. Childcare provided.**  
**Register at [graceb3.org/events](https://graceb3.org/events)**

This 9-week study, with an emphasis on biblical theology, traces the promise in Genesis 3:15 through seven Old Testament accounts. Each story gives us a glimpse, a foreshadowing, of the greater salvation Jesus wins. In each encounter, we'll see how God faithfully fulfilled his promise as He prepared us for the ultimate offspring who brought our eternal salvation. Our hope is that you will remember the joy of your salvation - and praise the One who accomplished it - as you consider the battle he won on your behalf.

## **Features:**

- In-person teachers each week!
- 5 days of study each week—observing, interpreting, reflecting on, and applying the text
- Memory verses
- Small group discussion questions
- Optional video teaching (to supplement our in-person teachers)

**Date:** Friday mornings, March 7 - May 9, 2025

**Time:** 9:30 - 11am

**Location:** North Liberty Campus

**Childcare:** newborn to Pre-K

**Cost:** \$30\* for book and hospitality

*\*We do not want cost to be a hindrance to anyone participating.*

*Please contact the office.*



A 3D maze of pink rectangular blocks, viewed from an elevated perspective. The maze is composed of interconnected rectangular paths and dead ends, creating a complex network of openings and barriers. The lighting is soft, casting gentle shadows that emphasize the three-dimensional nature of the blocks.

**NAVIGATING**

**PARENTING**

**TOGETHER**

**join our  
Parenting  
Roundtable**



*By Next Gen Director Cindy Sulwer*

**Parenting is one of life's most rewarding yet challenging journeys. It can often feel overwhelming and, at times, frightening. Every stage brings unique struggles, whether you're a first-time parent, navigating the teenage years, or even stepping into the role of a grandparent.**

Recognizing these challenges, we are excited to invite you to our Parenting Roundtable! Held four times a year, we aim to encourage and equip parents of children of all ages, as well as grandparents and other caregivers.

At each Parenting Roundtable, small groups of parents and caregivers gather to **engage in meaningful discussions rooted in wisdom from God's Word.**

Our approach empowers us to act as ambassadors of Christ in our parenting, emphasizing that we are stewards rather than owners of the children God entrusted to us. This mindset shift fosters **an environment of grace and support**, where we can learn from each other's experiences while seeking guidance from Scripture.



Each session features a variety of scenarios that parents commonly face — everything from managing daily routines to addressing significant emotional or behavioral challenges. By walking through these situations as a community, we **gain practical tools** to tackle the struggles that arise in parenthood. You'll find that you are not alone; many in the group are journeying through similar experiences and can provide insights and encouragement.

We invite you to join us, meet parents at your stage of life, and connect with those who have walked through similar difficulties in the past. Together, we will explore how, despite the fear and uncertainty that can accompany parenting, we can lean on the power and strength of the Lord. In seeking him together, we transform our anxieties into opportunities for growth, both for ourselves and our children.

Parenting is indeed challenging, but you don't have to face it alone. Join our Parenting Roundtable, where wisdom, community, and faith converge to help parents disciple their kids. Get encouraged and equipped to make disciples of the next generation in your household! We are in this together! 🌿





# WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY REVELATION BY JEN WILKIN

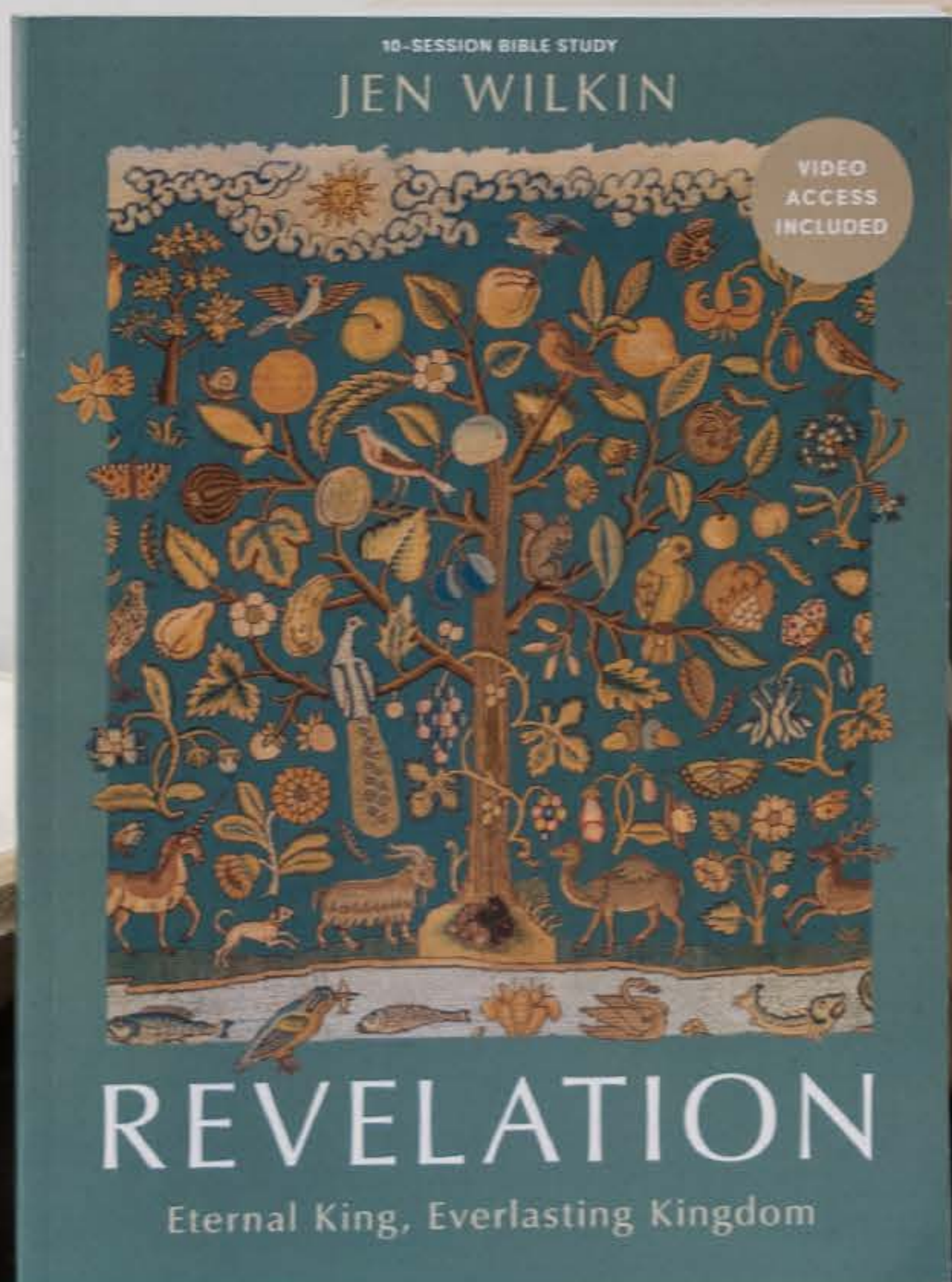
Tuesdays • 7-8:45pm • 3/4–5/6 • Cost: \$30\*

*Need childcare? Reach out to Kat at  
kathryng@graceb3.org*

**SIGN UP AT [GRACEB3.ORG/EVENTS](https://graceb3.org/events)**

## YOU CAN UNDERSTAND REVELATION

Revelation shouldn't leave us fearful or confused, but its imagery and concepts often confound our modern ears. If all Scripture is God-breathed and profitable, though, we should assume Revelation is as accessible and helpful as any other book of the Bible. Study Revelation verse-by-verse in this 10-week study to discover how the last book of the Bible is accessible, helpful, and speaks a steadying word of assurance and endurance to the church in every age.



*\*We do not want cost to be a hindrance to anyone participating. Please contact the office.*