

# Welcome

A *meridian* can be defined as "the highest point reached by a heavenly body in its course."<sup>1</sup> Although we are not literally in heaven, we have been placed, as believers in "heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6). As we set our aim of *Lifting Christ Higher*, focusing on Heaven, and seeking to continually draw nearer to Jesus, then we will begin to comprehend those "heavenly places" as more of a reality than just some words on a page.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for choosing Meridian as the place for you to give honor and praise to our wonderful Savior on this Lord's Day. We trust that you will come to know and understand more fully the relationship you can have in Jesus Christ.

<sup>1</sup> Webster's New World Dictionary. ©1971.

## Meridian Online



## Contact

Scott Kliever (Pastor)  
Cell (Phone or Text): 316-727-1390  
Email: pastor@mbcnewton.org

Caleb Wood (Assistant Pastor)  
Cell (Phone or Text): 318-294-6777  
Email: assistant@mbcnewton.org

Jerroll Martens (Pastor Emeritus)  
Cell (Phone or Text): 316-288-3622

## Sermon notes

### Examples of Grace in the Bible Paul's Conversion Acts 9:1-29; Galatians 1:11-24

**God's grace served as a transformative force that changed his life and shaped his impact for God.**

#### 1. The Reason (need) for Grace (Acts 7:58-8:3)

Saul was antagonistic toward the Gospel and to those who believed it.

He held the garments of those who stoned Stephen (7:58)

He approved of Stephen's death (8:1)

He persecuted the believers in Christ (8:3)

**Saul was in need of a miracle of grace.**

#### 2. The Reception of Grace (Acts 9:4-5)

God knew what Saul would be like and yet God still reached out to him in grace.

**A. God's grace humbled Saul**  
"he fell to the earth"

**B. God's grace exposed Saul**  
"Who art thou, Lord?"

#### 3. The Result (impact) of Grace

**A. Leading in a new direction**

Blessed rather than Blaspheming

**B. Laboring in a new manner**

Preaching rather than persecuting

**C. Looked upon in a new light**

The Christians were "confounded"

**D. Living with a new perspective**

Grace ruled his life

Key takeaways:

- **No one is beyond the reach of God's grace.**
- **God graciously reveals Himself to us to reveal our own deficiency and need of His grace.**
- **God's grace changes us.**
- **The Grace Paul received was passed forward to others in his ministry.**



MAY 18, 2025



Scott Kliever  
Pastor

Caleb Wood  
Assistant Pastor

1130 West Broadway  
P.O. Box 321  
Newton, Kansas 67114

316.283.6380

info@mbcnewton.org

~ May 18, 2025 ~

*We extend a warm WELCOME!  
If you are visiting today,  
Connect Cards are available for you  
to register as our special guest.*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL . . . . . 9:30am**

**MORNING WORSHIP . . . . . 10:40am**

Scripture Reading: Luke 12:42-48

Hymns – (Blue) 391, 400, 398

**EVENING SERVICE . . . . . 6:00pm**  
**Pastor Caleb . . . . . 2 Timothy 2: 22-26**

#### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Young people ages 4 - 4th grade are invited to be dismissed before the sermon for age-related teaching.

#### THIS WEEK AT MERIDIAN

**Wed – 6:30PM – Adult Bible Study and Prayer; Kid's Club**  
**Sat – 10am – Visitation Outreach**

#### CHALLENGE CHRISTIAN CAMP

Challenge Christian Camp is **June 16-20**. Brochures and information are on the bulletin board between the offices. Young people entering grade 4 through graduating Seniors are eligible to attend. Brother Joe Willis will be the special speaker. Please return completed information and registration fee to Pastor Caleb by **May 25** to be eligible for the early-bird discount.

#### LOOKING AHEAD AT MERIDIAN

**May 27 (Tue, 11:30AM) – Ladies Lunch Bunch**  
**May 31 (Sat, 9AM) – Meridian Mighty Men**  
**Jun 1 (Sun, AM) – Quarterly Business mtg.**  
**Jun 2-5 (Mon-Thu; 1-3PM) – Vacation Bible School**  
**Jun 5 (Thur, 7PM) – Rescue Mission**  
**Jun 6 (Fri, 5:30-10PM) – New Hope Outreach**  
**Jun 8 (Sun, 5PM) – Sunday School Picnic @ Heritage Park (Hesston)**  
**Jun 10 (Tue, 5:30-10PM) – New Hope Outreach**  
**Jun 16-20 (Mon-Fri) – Challenge Christian Camp**  
**Jun 24 (Tue, PM) – Financial Peace University**

#### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be **June 2-5** – 1:00-3:00pm. This will be a great time of fun & learning for kids ages 4 – 6<sup>th</sup> grade! If you would like to help with this event, please talk to Ashley Hummingbird or Pastor Caleb.

#### FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Take control of your money with *Financial Peace University*! This nine-week class uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you! Talk to Pastor Caleb with questions and to sign up. Class starts **June 24<sup>th</sup>**.

#### BULLETIN BOARD

Please check the bulletin board to see several special invitations and notes.

#### REACHING OUT

The folks listed below are people from our church family who reside in area nursing care facilities. We encourage you to let them know that we care for them as a church family. A card with a short greeting goes a long way in demonstrating our love.

**Schowalter Villa –**  
*Marian Bryan, Boyd Crocker*  
**Kansas Christian Home –**  
*Shirlene Fulton*  
**Paramount –**  
*Karen Wonders, Verna Rowe*

There are others listed on the Prayer Sheet under “Long-term Concerns” who would appreciate encouragement.

#### OUR SYMPATHY

We have been mentioning Ruby Kempf for prayer recently, and her husband Chuck. We have supported them for many years. Ruby went home to be with the Lord this past Wednesday morning. Please pray for Chuck and the extended family. Ruby's funeral will be at 2:00PM this Tuesday, May 20 in Lumberton, NC. There is an address on the bulletin board for the funeral home, as well as one for Brother Chuck if you wish to send a sympathy card.

#### MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The **April** Financial Report is available on the desk in the Church Office.

#### NURSERY SCHEDULE

**May 18 – AM – Daina / Peggy**  
**PM – Kathy / Deidra**  
**May 25 – AM – Crystal / Karen M.**  
**PM – Sarah / Elijah**