



# **Non-Negotiables of Grace Church Williamsburg**

*Selected Scriptures*

## Ephesians 3:16-19

*“...that [God] would grant you,  
according to the riches of His glory,  
to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,  
so that  
Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;*

## Ephesians 3:16-19

*“and that you,  
being rooted and grounded in [His] love,  
may be able to comprehend with all the saints  
what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of love],  
and to know the love of Christ  
which surpasses [human] knowledge,  
that you may be filled up to all the fulness of God.”*

## Psalm 31

*“But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, You are my God. My times are in Your hand.... Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you, in the sight of the children of mankind.... Love the Lord, all you His saints! The Lord preserves the faithful, but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride. Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who hope in the Lord!”*

Doing all to the greater glory of God is our primary mandate as we follow Jesus together. Fulfilling this consists of several parts:

1. We must do this from love for the Lord.
2. We must do this in obedience to God's Word.
3. We must do this in loving service to one another.

## Three biblical mandates:

1. To exalt Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of His people.
2. To edify and equip each other for service.
3. To evangelize the unsaved and plant churches.

**How will we act faithfully to fulfill this mandate of love?**



## I. High View of God (Christ/Holy Spirit = Triune God)

*“... for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him.” (1 Cor. 8:6)*

## I. High View of God (Christ/Holy Spirit = Triune God)

We have the choice of being man-centered in our approach to our individual lives and to church life, or we can choose to make God and Christ central, so that we *“walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects...”* (Col. 1:10)

## II. High View of Scripture

*“... For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”*  
(Romans 15:4)

## II. High View of Scripture

### Expository Preaching

An expositor diligently labors to:

1. Tell people what the Bible says.
2. Help people understand what it means by what it says.
3. Help people obey what it says.

## II. High View of Scripture

### Old Testament

Nehemiah 8

Ezra 7:10

### New Testament

2 Timothy 4:1-2, 5

## II. High View of Scripture

### Discipleship in depth

We design our time together around God's word to emphasize the centrality and sufficiency of His Word to define what we believe and how we live.

Scripture's sufficiency is vital to our life.

## II. High View of Scripture

### Worship

- Measured by the Bible.
- Focuses our attention and affections on the majesty of God in Christ.

## II. High View of Scripture

### Worship

“Worship is not something we ‘work up’, it is something that ‘comes down’ to us, from the character of God.... It is God who gives us the spirit of worship, and it is *what we know of God* that produces this spirit of worship.” *(Sinclair Ferguson)*

*Christian Discipleship: The Means and Ends of Great Commission Ministry ([link](#))*



## II. High View of Scripture

### Worship

“A Christian’s real development in spiritual life will always be revealed by how he or she thinks about God—how much he thinks about Him, and how highly he thinks about Him. For worship is, essentially, the reverse of sin.” *(Sinclair Ferguson, emphasis added)*

It is helpful to keep in mind that ministry, or service, is life-to-life.

This is why each Christian is called to minister, and our service to one another should be defined by who we are in Christ.

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