



## Growing in grace 2gether

I always find it difficult to try to accurately sum up a year of life for 9 different people in a few sentences at the end of the year. 2020 somehow seems more difficult than ever to catch with words. I tried to write a letter to send together with our family photo and the updated address of November, but simply did not meet for me. I thought maybe adding some photos can help the letter come to life. So here he is, improved impeccablely. Dearest, This is not at all a complete vision of the year, but only some remarkable events from our lives as we did in 2020. We started the school jear with 5 children enrolled in the FBCS. Due to the COVID-19 regulations, the last 8 weeks of school found us learning the ropes of the home school. Thanks to the excellent coaching of our 5 scholars and the grace of Jesus, each of our 5 scholars advanced to the next level. Our weeks of stay at home in spring were certainly a set of happiness and stress. We were each on our learning curve that led us to grow. Driving a church during a pandemic has proven to be a continuous stress for Amos. Homeschooling 5 children and helping teens to process their loneliness and delusions of 2020, as well as staying at the top of the daily physical needs of our family continues to push me into an uncovered territory. Our children have been incredibly resilient and creative and mostly cooperative as we have sailed the challenges and joys of 2020. At the beginning of March, during the local real estate navigation, I found a property that almost made me stop my heart because it satisfied so many of the criteria we had previously set when discussing the possibility of a day to get away from our home town. The next day Amos and I tookappointment to see the house and two days later we took the whole family for a tour of the property. After a few days of agonizing prayer, advice, pushing the pencil, dreaming and negotiating we found ourselvesdocuments to become the owners of a property of 15 acres and an old century house. We also married a workload that day. There was nothing of this process, since we signed our contract only days before our country closed all non-essential business for a few weeks. our lawyer did everything possible to keep the process moving long and we ended up signing the final documents in the parking lot near our house. the following weeks were full of remodeling parts our new home, passing through all our accumulations from 17 years of marriage and 7 children, getting our city house ready to put on the market, carrying loads and loads of stuff throughout the city, digging a large garden and only all kinds of general transition from urban to country. selling our house on pine street is finished to be a whole trip of its own, but one that ended magnificently. After our original buyers moved away, we were able to offer our house to family friends who moved from pittsburg to meadville. timing worked perfectly for them and we were so happy to pass our house (which we loved from pittsburg to meadville. timing worked perfectly for them and we were able to offer our house to family friends who moved from pittsburg to meadville. of amos, to surprise her sister linda for her 50th birthday party. Travelling on a charter bus was a first experience for our children. the pleasure has been doubled sharing the ride with a group of cousins. There was a lot of fun, food, games, laughter, good conversation and memories to last a long time in those 3 days spent together. Our children were happy to return to school the end of August after what seemed a long break from the class. while there is still uncertainty about the future, we arefor every day they can have the school in person. Angeline turned 16 this fall. Amos lost a couple more hair and I gained some new grays. Actually, we like to have an extra driver at home and anticipate the day he can drive independently. You arewas excited to join the youth group this fall. It's our lavender, barber, pianist and cerve. nicholas is 14 years old and has quickly surpassed me in stature this past year. He's our senior hunter, the garden manager and the mechanic. in his spare time, he loves to work scroll saw projects, tear engines and read. you are enjoying a robotics lesson at school this fall. this winter intends to renovate its bedroom attic. joshua joined adolescents in our home only yesterday. He was thrilled to finally be old enough to go hunting with the older boys this year. joshua is our quiet but reliable and diligent working horse. won the favor of isaia devoting him a lot of time and energy. christopher is our party animal. is happier surrounded by people and a tornado of books, craft supplies, games, good food and conversation. He loves practically any sport and works hard to compete with his older brothers. enjoys disc golf and has a nice arm for a 10-year-old. cassie is 7 years old and enjoys second grade. Actually, she loves school so much that she often plays at school with ellian in the evening. cassie is full of energy and spirit. She likes to spend time in the woods near our little frog pond. fishing in our pond here on the new property was a pleasure for her. I think it would fall in the category of a "son of heaven". Ellian, on the other hand, is our girl. loves to play with her doll children and calico tweezers and write letters to her friends. spends a lot of time playing with isaia and tells of all its demolition projects. is a great responsibility for a 5-year-old sister to stay on him. It's hard to believe our baby is 2 years old. talk about the hunting results of his family. It has an exciting life being the youngest of 7. He prospers on attention to attention. There are some opportunities for me to join him at certain times in this training and development. While this does not feel like a great time to be adding more to our dish, we are excited about the opportunity to grow as individuals and leaders. Our hope is to become better equipped to serve our church and our community. Of course, much more could you say about the experiences of 2020. We are grateful for the faithfulness of Jesus. We are grateful for the ways that Jesus speaks to us through the faith, love and the works of His children! Immanuel. The following is suitable for the "Growing in the Grace of God" course, a free theology course taught by Pastor Bob Hoekstra available at the Institute of Blue Letters Bible. I was crucified with Christ; I am no longer alive, but Christ lives in me; and the life that I now live in the flesh alive by faith in the Son of God, who has loved me and given himself to me. (Gal 2:20 NKJV) You and I, who know Jesus Christ, have been crucified with Him. That person we were, that man of nothing, but sin and guilt, nothing but alienation and separation, died on the cross with Jesus Christ when we were granted faith to believer: "I am no longer me that I live, the better is Christ who lives in me. This is a mystery; this is a great truth finally revealed by the words of the Apostle. "Christ lives in me." I like to meditate on this. Be more encouraged and come to greater wisdom and greaterlearning the scope of Christ's influence on the believer. The Creator of the universe, theof the souls of men, lives in me." I like to meditate on this. Be more encouraged and come to greater wisdom and greaterlearning the scope of Christ's influence on the believer. in the flesh, I live by faith in the son of God." We rise every morning with confidence in him. we face the things that confront us, trusting in him. God's son, who loved us and gave himself for our lives grows and develops us so that we trust him daily and work justice with our knowledge of him. the intimacy of these truths is shocking, the mental renewal and the construction of faith. Christ lives inside and through us. What richness of grace that is! challenge the imagination that God would come to live in and through a person like any of the children of Adam! words to describe our joy for our position in Christ slip and slip from our grip. There is nothing like our relationship with Christ saved for the commitment of a couple for marriage and love for each other. is not a guarantee of a lasting marriage because and how you pray it matters. prayer can be round and low, but intimate, desperate, heart filled prayers quite very concrete a long bond of life that is not easily broken. me and tammy had ecclesiastes 4:12 engraved on our wedding album, thinking we knew what the implicit verse. "And if a man could prevail against one who is alone, two will resist to him-a triple cable is not quickly broken." It was not difficult to leave our parent because we were older, it was more difficult to deceive because we were quite set up in our disciplines pace. while I take the liberty of interpreting this verse inas husband and wife praying together is consistent with the general inference of the text. Think of prayer as speaking with God. J How it grows J becomes like a dialogue. Pray and then listen. God brings Scripture to mind, comforts you, condemns you, and confirms Her love for you. You get to ease falling on your spouse by taking with the Creator of the universe, the most intimate communication known to man. You also come to accept in the Spirit and share in it. Whether it is your marriage, children, work, life or your walk with God is precious and holy. While you both go to the throne of grace, and because of the blood shed on your behalf you can ascend to God vertically with your prayer and supplication. Think about it as a triangle whose apex is the Lord. Grow closer to Christ while you go to Him for all things and in turn approach each other. Conjugal intimacy increases as you approach God, listen to God and agree together as one in God. So, if it's true why we're all praying together? I have the privilege of being a biblical counselor. So I can ask couples how many times they pray together all the time. What do you think? Well, if you're like most couples, just pray when something worries you. The average couple could pray in church, or at a meal, but rarely pray intimately and in the same space. I think there are some reasons for this. Before explaining how to start this amazing habit let you look at some obstacles that will have to be overcome. Municipality Ostacoli: No true life of prayer alone A lack of honest and open communication with your spouse Fear your prayers will be judged or inadequate There is no margin in your life, so, at the time you might be too tired No role model so you won't even be sure what it looks like Your flesh, Satan and distractionsworld No wonder most couples don't pray together. But God wants us to become one in marriage, He calls us in communion with Him as we doChrist and the church (Eph 5:22-33). He will help us overcome all these obstacles, if you ask Him. I learned a little bit ago that some things are worth hurting at first. I shared in previous blogs the embarrassing stories of trying to do family devotions or having sex talking to our children. The first attempts were so bad... But I knew it was right to try to keep trying until they were effective. You have to start somewhere. I would like to share some tips that could help you how to start. Men ask your wife to forgive you if you have neglected the regular rhythm of asking her how she is doing and praying for her. Women ask you husband to forgive you are examining his spiritual maturity or showing frustration for a perceived lack of attention. Give the other grace so that this new habit can be planted on more fertile soil. Here are some other tips: Start praying alone every day for 5 minutes (use ACTS as a model: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication... So ask for adoration Him, admit your sins to Him and ask for forgiveness, thank Him for everything that is and is doing, and ask Him for what you need) Tell your spouse that you want to pray with them, but you are nervous could be embarrassing Prayer high voice in a private place Start small (a few minutes before you go to work or after children are in bed) In time you can venture into prayer for more sensitive things or go for times of timelonger. We like to go to prayer walks that last 20 minutes 3 times a week. We pray with our children all together before the hour of the youngest bed. It took years to make this a habit. I wish I had beenintentional before. You may also decide to pray with other family friends or couples, but nothing is as intimate as praying with your spouse. In fact, it prepares you for an even deeper emotional and physical intimacy that would not otherwise be possible. This is all the other subject .. I think praying together is the most effective way to preserve your marriage, protect your family and deepen your walk with God. I hope you start today. Blessings, Dr. Garrett Higbee Facebook Instagram Youtube look better together meet our guests to give continue talking shop This verse has caused a lot of confusion. Who walks together? What did they accept? Where are they going? Let us humblely and with prayer consider the complete context to understand this verse. Can two walk together, except I agree? (Amos 3:3 KIV) Do you two walk together unless they have agreed to do so? (Amos 3:3 NIV) Can two people walk together without accepting direction? (Amos 3:3 NLT) Do you two walk together, unless they have a greed to meet? (Amos 3:3 ESV) Two men walk together, except they agreed? (Amos 3:3 IPS Tanakh 1917) Does that mean you have to accept everything to have a communion? At first glance, it may seem that some translations may require that kind of uniformity. But if that is what it means, then it would require absolute uniformity in everything. This requires bending the verse to the far from the common sense that risks doing so in absurdity. If the verse does not mean an absolute unconditional uniform agreement in everything, does it mean that you have to agree on all "religious doctrines" to have communion? On the contrary, there is noany mention of this type of limitation in the verse. And...This verse to add the idea of "only religious doctrines" is adding to the word of God as specifically warned against Revelation 22:18. It is at risk of incurring the wrath of God. Consider the agreed context Most misunderstandings and disagreements with the word of God are easily resolved by reading the context of the message. Hear this message which the Lord spoke against you, O people of Israel and Judah, against all the family I have saved from Egypt: (Amos 3:1) "From all families on earth, I was intimate with you alone. That's why I have to punish you for all your sins. (Amos 3:2) Can two people walk together without accepting [3259 yaad] on the direction? Does a lion roar without finding a victim first? A young lion grows in his den without taking his prey first? A bird is ever caught in a trap that doesn't escape? A trap closes when there's nothing to catch? When the ram horn blows a warning, shouldn't people be alarmed? The disaster comes to a city, unless the Lord has planned it? (Amos 3:3-6) Study the Hebrew word yaadThere are a lot of Hebrew words that could have been used here: 2164 zeman - to agree together; 225 uth - to consent, agree; 7737 shavah - to agree, to be similar; but the Holy Spirit inspired Amos to choose 3259 yaad - to appoint. With this the Prophets. This word is also translated into other verses such as: agreed to meet (1), appointed (3), assembled (1), designated (1), reunited (1), reunited (2), reunited (2), reunited (1), reunited (1), reunited (2), reunited (2), reunited (3), assembled together (1), set (1), convocation (3). Therefore, it seems dangerously wrong to force him to mean an agreementUnconditional. continue to co context of Amos 3:3 For the Sovereign Lord does nothing until he reveals to his servants his plans. (Amos 3:7) The lion roared, so who can refuse to announce this to the leaders of Philistine and the great men of Egypt: "Take your seats now on the hills around Samaria and witness the chaos and oppression in Israel." (Amos 3:8-9) "My people have forgotten how to do good," says the Lord. "Their fortresses are full of wealth taken from theft and violence. Therefore, says the Sovereign Lord, "an enemy is coming! He will surround them and crush their defenses. Then he will plunder all their fortresses." (Amos 3:10-11) The lion has broken again Jesus spoke through his prophets and apostles, he warned against the sin of sectarianism. Are you guilty of this sin? I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, for the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. There are no divisions in the church. Rather, be of a mind, united in thought and purpose. (1 Corinthians 1:10) Live in harmony with each other. Don't be proud, but be willing to associate with low-level people. Don't be conceived. (Romans 12:16)You are still mundane. Why, since there is jealousy and quarrel among you, aren't you mondani? Aren't you acting like a simple human being? (1 Corinthians 3:3) First, I heard that when you gather as a church, there are divisions between you, and to some extent I believe. (1 Corinthians 11:18) Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Be strong for full restoration, encourage each other, be of a mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:11) Whatever happens, lead yourselves worthy of the gospel of Christ. So, if I come to see you or just hear about you in my absence, I'll know that youIt stops in the only spirit, which strives together as one for the faith of the gospel. (philippians 1:27)The miracle of Christian brotherhoodbrethren can walk together in God's love even when they disagree. Please read the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luca and Young) to see how Jesus treated sinners. Then read the letters of the Pauline Apostle to the Christians of Corinth (1 chords and 2 chords) to see how Paul wanted them to be one another. and finally, remember that every man, woman and child in all the land he believed in the Lord Jesus Christ is a member of the same body as Christ as you. considered as Jesus Christ wants you to treat each other. if you walk together only with the people with whom you accept. What is it? even the wicked do. the miracle of Christian communion is when you voluntarily submit each other to love and walk together regardless of your disagreements. hate provokes quarrels, but love is compensated for all offenses. (proverbs 10:12) love is patient, love is kind. He doesn't envy, he doesn't envy and culmination of all things is near. Therefore, be of sound mind and self-controlled for the purpose of prayer [to be balanced and focused on the things is near. Therefore, be of sound mind and self-controlled for the purpose of prayer [to be balanced and focused on the things is near. above all, they have fervid and infallible love for each other, because love covers a multitude of sins [it neglects understanding and seeks disinterested the best for others]. be hospitable to each other without complaining. (1 pietro 4:7-9 AMP)For a deeper study: 101 verses on walking with another older Christian man challenged me to look at the verses "another" of the bible. He said it was amazing! I accepted his challenge and I'm amazed! here I have collected only the verses do notYou're neutral. The perfect unity of love Jesus Christ has said the whole law and all the demands of the prophets are based on the perfect unity of love. This is an amazing statement. With some estimates, there are 613 commandments, laws and statutes are based on love. If we had that love, we would have fulfilled all the law and all the demands of the prophets. What about "closed" or "separatista" fundamentalism? Throughout history, there have been many different groups of Christians, from different origins, working in different origins, working in different environments, and struggle, groups began to be described as "founders". This term began as a depreciation label by strangers and was adopted as a badge of honor by the workers. Turning the other cheek vs. belt on the sword Jesus Christ gave 2 different teachings to 2 different circumstances. How can we know what to do? When should we "go back the other cheek?" When should we "enge on the sword?" If you are struggling with this concept, or you know someone who is, please share this, write to us, or join the conversation below. below.

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