

BAPTISM

2025 has been an incredible year of growth at Grace Church. We are seeing this in nearly all areas of the church and in every ministry. There are the obvious numbers when it comes to our attendance growth. We're seeing higher numbers than ever before and that means more people experiencing the hope of Jesus. The best part is, it's NOT just about attendance. There's fruit of this growth that is being manifested in people taking bold next steps in their relationship with Jesus. Perhaps nowhere is this more on display than in baptism!

By the end of this month, we'll have baptized well over 150 people at Grace Church in 2025 with 15 of those being at our Medina campus! That's over 150 lives that have been changed forever. That's over 150 people who have boldly proclaimed their faith in Jesus publicly! This is not "normal" almost anywhere else, but at Grace Church, it's happening all the time. But we can't ever just get used to this. Every story of life change matters to God and is worth celebrating. Here are several highlights to celebrate right now:

"Knowing Jesus has made me realize that there is ALWAYS hope and always someone there with me in good times and rough times, too. Seeing others getting baptized at Youth or church has helped me see the transformation God can make in people's lives." - Levi K., baptized Jan. 19



"I gave my life to him! I finally felt the beauty of being forgiven! I have been redeemed, brought back to original value as if I never sinned! I have a renewed mind and I am transformed! A new creation!" - Amber R., baptized Feb. 2

"After coming for about 3 weeks to Youth, I decided that I wanted to give my life to Jesus and accept Him into my heart. After I decided to devote my life to him, I have seen a significant change in my overall character. I have felt more honest, forgiving, appreciated, and joyful." - Josie T., baptized Feb. 9 (Medina campus)



"Following Jesus has helped me see life through a different lens. I can wake up every day knowing that all the feelings that once consumed me hold no place in my heart as my life is in God's hands." - Jacob B., baptized May 25

"Last year I realized I needed Jesus and asked Him to be my Savior. He now means a lot to me. I understand that Jesus means life and peace and He wants me to follow His way of life. He wants to lead me to great things. This has made a huge difference in my life because I started seeing the Bible more in everyday life and paying more attention to the way that Jesus wants me to live."
- Weston M., baptized Aug. 17 (Medina campus)



"I grew up always going to church, so I always knew who God was but this winter at the Kalahari retreat was when I fully decided to trust Christ. Jesus came to forgive my sins, and I made the decision to give my life to Him. Jesus means so much more to me now, He is my rock, and I will forever lean on him." - Sydney F., baptized Aug. 31

"About 3 years ago after going through the motions every Sunday, I decided enough was enough and I was tired of living a lukewarm life. I needed a change and surrendered myself fully to Jesus. Now, I am much calmer which helps me to be a better father and husband." - Patrick F., baptized Oct. 5



"I realized that the only way to find fulfillment in my life was to relinquish control and give it to Jesus. Since making the decision to follow Jesus, doors in my professional life have reopened that I didn't believe would ever open again. My relationship with my wife is stronger than it has ever and every day I see my kids get a little bit closer to Jesus themselves."
- Corey H., baptized Nov. 2

May these stories continue to inspire us in our mission as we move into another year of ministry where we are trusting that the Lord will do even more in our midst!

GROUPS MINISTRY FALL REPORT

This fall has been a season of growth and innovation across our Groups Ministry. We've seen new life in Grace Groups, GriefShare, Re:gen, and DivorceCare - each offering space for healing, connection, and spiritual formation. One especially moving story came from a group leader who met a couple at Food Truck Sunday. Despite a language barrier, the leader had been learning their language and was able to extend a personal invitation, helping the couple find belonging in a group. These kinds of relational moments of personal invitation to group are the dream goal for grace groups.

We also piloted Short-Term Commitment groups to create a more accessible on-ramp to group. These groups are showing promise as a potential replacement for our Jump Start class, with encouraging early feedback. One group even launched in an online format, meeting the needs of individuals with non-traditional work schedules and health challenges, making our ministry more inclusive and flexible. Our electives continue to serve as pathways for healing and growth. Re:gen has made strides in helping participants take clear next steps, whether into Grace Groups, continuing into more steps in Re:gen, or even the opportunity to repeat a section. Leadership transitions are underway, and we are continuing to work to ensure Re:gen remains aligned with our ministry goals.

Ministry Snapshot: Fall 2025

Grace Groups

- 8 new groups launched in September
- 75+ people placed in groups
- At least 50 personal invitations extended by group leaders

Short-Term Commitment Groups

- Pilot launched with encouraging feedback and are expected to conclude before Thanksgiving (although, our goal is that most will want to stay and form a Grace Group)
- Includes new online format supporting flexible access

Electives

Re:gen

- 14 participants completed all 12 steps in October
- New step groups start second week of November
- Our entry section, called Groundwork completed in October, next offering in February

GriefShare & DivorceCare

- Both currently in session to complete before Christmas

Loss of a Spouse was offered right before the start of GriefShare

Surviving the Holidays will be offered on November 11th.

The best is yet to come,

Pastor Nick