

Being a Disciple: The Power of ing

Responding

A Note From Pastor Julia

I hope this note finds you well and blessed and seeing God's mercies. During these next few weeks the sermon series will shift from a theme of *Rejoicing* to *Responding*. The church will be looking at what it means to respond to the many blessings the Lord has given each of us. For a reflection, please use the enclosed prayer as daily inspiration to consider the many ways God is working through the people of Grace church and His kingdom. For ministry and financial numbers, please visit the "Responding" link on the gpch.org home page.

I look forward to seeing how God encourages you to respond on Commitment Sunday, November 20.

In His Grip,

Julia

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

D E A R L O R D

We come to you in this season of intentional giving. We are in a time of financial planning for Your kingdom and for our church. You have given and shared so much. How should we respond?

For first-time givers or fifty-year givers.

Nudge us to respond.

For the fresh coat of paint on the campus walls to coats for children at our partner schools; and for the campus water bill to Living Water wells being drilled.

Show us how to respond.

For blankets for babies in the nursery to prayer shawls for those in need of comfort; and for the security of the campus officers to the security of eternal life.

Guide us to respond.

For called missionaries around the world to the called staff in the Grace offices; and for flowers in the courtyard to flowers on the chancel each Sunday morning.

Trust us to respond.

For meals we enjoy inside our walls and for meals we provide outside our walls to teachers at partner schools, to firefighters across the Beltway, through the WHAM food pantry, and so many more.

Urge us to respond.

For day trips and student trips, global trips and local trips, goodwill trips and disaster recovery trips, office supply trips and grocery store trips. So many trips. To go out to bring in. Serving inside our walls and outside our walls.

Send us to respond.

For the prayer walks in schools, on campus, and around Westchase; walking with each other through difficult times.

Move us to respond.

For worship singers and musicians who bring joyful sounds to worship and those behind the scenes managing the equipment to help them to be heard.

Instruct us to respond.

*From news on the Grace webpage to boldly sharing
Your good news with the world.*

Empower us to respond.

*For classrooms where we learn and classrooms where we
go to love and mentor; and for the classes that help us grow
and those that wipe our tears away.*

Teach us to respond.

*For deacons and elders and leaders seeking God's wisdom;
and for babies, children, students, and adults learning
about faith in God.*

Lead us to respond.

*For people who do not yet know You nor have walked
through the church doors, and for those who have
worshiped in our pews for so long.*

Direct us to respond.

*For VBS and WOG and FOW and GKM and all the ministries
we love and know so well that we only use initials;
and new initiatives like Alpha, Disciple Groups,
and Recovery Ministries we are discovering to equip us
to be better disciples.*

Encourage us to respond.

*For the walls and doorways we've built for others;
to doors we exit through to go and make disciples.*

Challenge us to respond.

*For those who graciously give so abundantly
and for those who struggle to do their part.*

Steer us to respond.

*For all that you have given us as individuals,
as a congregation, and as Your kingdom,
we are overwhelmingly grateful.*

Allow us to respond.

*We pray for abundant participation in this and every
endeavor on your behalf. All to advance Your kingdom so
that more may know You and Your goodness.*

For Your glory, Lord Jesus.

Amen.