



GRACE CHURCH



**PASTORAL RESIDENCY
BOOKLET**

What is the pastoral residency?

The Pastoral Residency at Grace Church exists to make Jesus known by equipping men who have experienced the call to pastoral ministry to faithfully minister the gospel through the planting and strengthening of churches.

The Pastoral Residency consists of one year of part-time pastoral training and theological development. Our pastoral residency training is focused intently on theological and character development that is aimed at preparing residents for a future as vocational pastors, lay pastors, church planters, or church revitalizers.

The pastoral residency is a part-time program that begins each January and last for 14 months. The first 12 months will be spent in reading, writing, ministry and discipleship roles, and personal mentorship by the pastoral team. Residents will not be required to set aside specific hours and may maintain their current vocations, but will be required to participate in various assignments every month. Besides formal training, pastoral residents will be required to take part in certain church leadership roles and develop their pastoral heart by shadowing pastors in specific tasks and ministry during their time as a resident. Pastoral residents can expect to commit 4-6 hours weekly to the task of training, with downtime in the summer. The last 2 months of the pastoral residency will be reserved for assessment, as the pastoral team will assess the resident and help provide a plan for their future.

The end goal of the residency is the glory of God. We hope to see graduates of our residency help to plant churches, help to replant dying churches, strengthen existing churches, and be sent out abroad to reach unreached people with the gospel. We believe that the end of all of these endeavors must be the glory of God. So then, when residents are reading, writing, preaching, praying, leading, ministering, organizing: they are not just doing so to become better Christians or pastors; they are doing so to ultimately bring glory to God.

The means of obtaining this end is to raise up gospel-saturated pastor-theologians who care well for the sheep. The residency is designed to help each resident understand, rest in, rejoice in, and apply the gospel and to ensure that they are equipped to lead others to do the same.

Gospel-Saturated Training

*The Residency is about the gospel. It is a grave danger for the universal Church to have leaders and ministers who are not well versed in and not thinking clearly about historical redemption and the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The desire of the Elders of Grace Church is to train future pastors who have the gospel on the forefront of everything they do. We express this by having gospel-fluency in the **head, heart, and hands**.*

What we mean by gospel-fluency is that each Resident should have the ability to see how the gospel impacts every situation they will find themselves in ministry. This starts with the gospel in the **head** of the Resident. Each Resident must first think clearly about the gospel. They must have a foundational understanding of the propositional realities and arguments surrounding the finished work of Jesus Christ. By the end of the first year, each Resident should be able to dive deep into the depths of discussion in theological topics such as bibliology, apologetics, hermeneutics, missiology, soteriology, and ecclesiology. The gospel in the head of each Resident does not only mean that they understand theological truths regarding the gospel. It also means that they are thinking about the gospel rightly personally. The goal of theological training in the head is that it would not stay there.

This is why gospel-fluency must also extend to the **heart** of each Resident. The gospel in the heart of each Resident will play itself out through intentional development in spiritual disciplines, discipleship relationships, and pastoral mentorship. At the end of the Residency, participants should be expected to exhibit not only a deeper knowledge of gospel doctrine, but a heart that has been softened and molded by the gospel.

Finally, gospel-fluency must reach the **hands** of each resident. The gospel in the head and gospel in the heart of the resident are crucially important, yet it is essential that they pour themselves out for the good of others. The gospel in the hands of the residents speaks to each individual Resident's ability to advance the gospel. Throughout the Residency each resident will be equipped to preach the gospel, evangelize with the gospel, and the gospel. Practical ministry plays a major part in the development of residents as they show the gospel reaches their hands through regular service to the church and regular engaging in the ministry of the church.

How We Train Residents

Residents will accomplish their gospel-saturated training by taking part in particular ministry rhythms. These rhythms are **reading, writing, preaching, library building,** and **practice/discipleship.**

At the end of the Residency, those who have completed the program faithfully will receive a ministry suggestion. The Elders who have walked with the residents through the program will, put together a presentation of what they see the best ministerial fit for each resident and a plan for their future. This could include recommendation for further training, seminary education, ordination, transition into pastoral ministry, or help in finding a vocational ministry position.

Reading

Leaders must be readers, and pastors of the church of Christ must be lifelong readers who are committed to continual development through outside sources and wisdom. Every month, different reading assignments will be required related to that month's topic. You can find the breakdown of reading assignments in your month by month assignment breakdown.

Writing

God communicates his glory in many ways, but his divine idea was to communicate the apex of his glory in the gospel through words! Writing clearly and expressing convictions is a necessary part of effective ministry. For some months, a writing assignment will be given to help residents think through that month's particular topic. Writing assignments will generally be a few pages in length and either theological or practical in nature. Where your reading is primarily theological, your writing assignment will force you to show how that particular theological concept applies practically in ministry, and where your reading is primarily practical, your writing assignment will force you to demonstrate how theology shapes that particular practice.

Preaching

Throughout the year, residents will also be required to prepare and deliver two different sermons as outlined in the monthly schedule. Residents will receive coaching on how to structure and deliver sermons early on in their residency and work throughout the year to develop their Biblical preaching and teaching.

Library Building

Each month, residents will be given a suggestions of books that will help them build their theological library, a necessary resource for any pastor. The church will provide a small stipend each month for the resident to spend on library building, but it is also recommended that residents set aside enough money each month to buy at least one book, if possible.

Practice/Discipleship

Throughout the year, residents will be asked to partake in various rhythms of pastoral practice such as evangelism, discipleship, and pastoral care. Residents will also attend elder meetings throughout the year and will partake in monthly resident meetings for instruction and discussion on the topic of the month.

Each resident will be assigned a discipleship coach with whom they will meet monthly to foster accountability and relationship. To receive training and learning is useless without Godward character. Each resident will be required to download **covenant eyes** internet accountability software, provided by the church, and reports will be sent regularly to their discipleship coach.

Every resident is likewise expected to take part in our **daily liturgy** to the best of their ability. For those whose schedules allow, they will help lead our daily prayer at least once a week. Every resident will also be expected to take part in CG and equipping hour for the duration of their residency.

Finally, every resident is expected to take on regular leadership in church ministry. This can be deacon ministry, teaching, leading in CG, or another role defined by the pastors. For the year of their residency, this ministry will help them apply principles they are learning.

January

The Pastor and His Gospel

Reading

Jared Wilson, *The Pastor's Justification*

Michael Reeves, *Delighting in the Trinity*

Bob Thune, *Gospel Eldership* (complete with assigned partner over the course of 2 months)

Library Building

John Piper, *Brothers, We Are Not Professionals*

Ray Ortlund, *The Gospel*

Zach Eswine, *The Imperfect Pastor*

Eugene Peterson, *The Pastor*

Eugene Peterson, *The Contemplative Pastor*

Paul Tripp, *Dangerous Calling*

Timothy S. Laniak, *Shepherds After My Own Heart*

Jared Wilson, *Gospel Wakefulness*

Writing

"The Pastor and His Gospel"

At least 4 pages, double spaced. At least 3 sources, Turabian formatting.

Define your Biblical understanding of the pastorate in relation to the gospel of Jesus Christ. How does the simple truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ shape your understanding of the pastorate? What aspects of the gospel message and of gospel doctrine act as the foundation of pastoral ministry? Pick one principle of the gospel (justification, imputation, union w/ Christ, propitiation, sanctification, adoption, etc.) and spend time thinking about how it applies directly to pastors. Give at least three specific ways your gospel doctrine benefits the pastor.

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend the residency meeting with your paper, ready to defend what you have learned from your reading.
- Attend an elders meeting.
- Assist a pastor on a pastoral visit.
- Begin a discipleship relationship with a younger man.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.

February

Foundations for Biblical Preaching

Reading

Bryan Chappel, *Christ-Centered Preaching*

Gerald Bray, *Preaching the Word with John Chrysostom* and select homilies of Chrysostom (provided)

Francis Grimke, *Meditations on Preaching*

Library Building

Martyn Lloyd Jones, *Preaching and Preachers*

John Piper, *Expository Exultation*

Tim Keller, *Preaching: Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism*

Yancey Arrington, *Preaching That Moves People*

Jonathan Leeman, *The Word-Centered Church*

H.B. Charles, *On Preaching*

John Stott, *Between Two Worlds*

Jason Meyer, *Preaching: A Biblical Theology*

Preaching

Prepare a sermon on a Biblical text and deliver at a preaching symposium for feedback. Keep under thirty minutes, and make sure to submit your text and outline/notes beforehand (at least a few days).

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend residency meeting to discuss Biblical preaching. Be ready to workshop your text.
- Attend an elders meeting.
- Continue your discipleship relationship with a younger man, ideally meeting weekly.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.
- Meet once with preaching pastor to discuss his sermon before Sunday. It is your responsibility to reach out to the pastor and pick his brain about how he prepares his sermon and what time in the study looks like.

March

Personal Holiness and Prayer

Reading

John Owen, *The Mortification of Sin*
Sinclair Ferguson, *The Whole Christ*
J.C. Ryle, *Holiness*
Robert Browning, "Johannes Agricola in Meditation"

Library Building

Tim Keller, *Prayer*
Kevin DeYoung, *The Hole in Our Holiness*
Saint Augustine, *Confessions*
Jackie Hill Perry, *Gay Girl, Good God*
William Gurnall, *The Christian in Complete Armour*
J.I. Packer, *A Quest for Godliness*
John Piper, *Future Grace*
Mark Jones, *Antinomianism*
Jerry Bridges, *Respectable Sins*

Writing

"Sanctification"

4-8 pages, double spaced. At least 4 sources, Turabian formatting.

Define your Biblical understanding of sanctification. How are Christians made to look more like Christ? What role does God play? What role do Christians play? Also apply your doctrine of sanctification to the Christian ministry. Why is it important that the pastor has a theology of holiness, and why is it important that he lives a holy life? Give at least three examples of pitfalls a pastor may encounter when applying the doctrine of sanctification to his people.

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend residency meeting. Be ready to defend your doctrine of sanctification and
- Attend an elders meeting.
- Continue your discipleship relationship with a younger man, ideally meeting weekly.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.
- Spend one day each week of the month in intentional prayer and fasting (breaking at dinner with your family/community) and record your prayers in a journal.

April

Christian Marriage and Complementarianism

Reading

Ray Ortlund, *Marriage and the Mystery of the Gospel*

Don Whitney, *Family Worship*

Library Building

Paul David Tripp, *What Did You Expect: Redeeming the Realities of Marriage*

Jim Newheiser, *Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage: Critical Questions and Answers*

Andreas J. Köstenberger and David W. Jones, *God, Marriage, and Family*

Dave Harvey, *When Sinners Say "I Do": Discovering the Power of the Gospel for Marriage*

Elyse Fitzpatrick, *Give Them Grace: Dazzling Your Kids With the Love of Jesus*

R. Kent and Barbara Hughes, *Disciplines of a Godly Family*

Andreas J. Köstenberger, *Women in the Church*

Russell Moore, *The Storm-Tossed Family: How the Cross Reshapes the Home*

Writing

"Divorce and Remarriage"

1-3 pages, double spaced.

Briefly define your Biblical understanding of marriage and divorce. Use exegetical arguments, but make it brief. What is Christian marriage? Is divorce permissible? Come prepared at the residency meeting to have Biblical answers for counseling scenarios regarding marriage and divorce.

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend residency meeting.
- Attend an elders meeting.
- Assist a pastor on a pastoral visit.
- Continue your discipleship relationship with a younger man, ideally meeting weekly.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.
- Spend at least two well-planned date nights with your wife. If single, spend at least two nights fellowshiping with a willing family in the church. If you have kids, plan an intentional day to spend with them. Come to the residency meeting ready to share what you did.
- Attend the night hangout of the elder retreat.

May

Pastoral Care and Counseling

Reading

Harold Senkbeil, *The Care of Souls*

Richard Baxter, *The Reformed Pastor*

Library Building

Deepak Reju, *The Pastor and Counseling: The Basics of Shepherding Members in Need*

Eric Johnson, *God and Soul Care*

Ed Welch, *When People Are Big and God Is Small*

Heath Lambert, *A Theology of Biblical Counseling*

Paul David Tripp, *How People Change*

David Powlinson, *Seeing Through New Eyes*

Timothy Witmer, *The Shepherd Leader*

Paul Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands*

Kent Hughes, *The Pastors Book*

Writing

"Pastoral Care Scenarios"

Answer sufficiently and without brevity the pastoral care scenarios provided by the pastors.

Also, prepare an order of service and a short sermon manuscript or outline for both a wedding and a funeral.

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend residency meeting.
- Continue your discipleship relationship with a younger man, ideally meeting weekly.
- Assist a pastor on a specific pastoral care scenario.
- Reach out to a member in your CG or that you know is in need of spiritual care and meet with them just to encourage them. Don't be weird about it.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.
- Spend time weekly in intentional prayer over the member list.
- Reach out to a member who is in transition or who is having trouble fulfilling the church covenant (talk to a pastor beforehand).

June-July

Church History

Reading

Pick two of the following:

Tony Reinke, *Newton on the Christian Life*

Michael Horton, *Calvin on the Christian Life*

Joe Rigney, *Lewis on the Christian Life*

Tom Nettles, *Living By Revealed Truth*

James K. A. Smith, *On The Road With Saint Augustine*

Peter Brown, *Augustine of Hippo: A Biography*

Leyland Ryken, *J.I. Packer*

Michael Reeves, *The Unquenchable Flame*

God Has Spoken, *Gerald Bray*

George Marsden, *Jonathan Edwards: A Life*

Roland Bainton, *Here I Stand: The Life of Martin Luther*

Peter Brown, *Augustine of Hippo*

Alister McGrath, *C. S. Lewis—A Life: Eccentric Genius, Reluctant Prophet*

Courtney Anderson, *To the Golden Shore: The Life of Adoniram Judson*

If you'd like, you can choose another biography or exposition of church history to read, cleared by the pastors beforehand.

Writing

"Historical Reflection"

1-2 pages, Turabian formatting.

Write a very brief reflection on the importance of church history for the life and practice of the pastor-theologian. Give at least three points of importance and be ready to share at the next residency meeting.

Practice and Discipleship

- Take a vacation of some sort with your family or friends!
- Meet with your assigned elder at least three times for accountability and encouragement.

August

Ecclesiology

Reading

Gregg Allison, *Sojourners and Strangers*

Library Building

Jared Wilson, *The Gospel-Driven Church*

Mark Dever, *9 Marks of A Healthy Church*

Jared Wilson, *The Prodigal Church*

Guy Prentiss Waters, *How Jesus Runs the Church*

Jonathan Leeman, *The Surprising Offense of God's Love*

Jonathan Leeman, *Don't Fire Your Church Members*

Alexander Strauch, *Biblical Eldership*

Mark Dever, *Deliberate Church*

Shawn Wright and Thomas Schreiner, *Believers Baptism*

Shawn Wright and Thomas Schreiner, *The Lord's Supper*

J. Todd Billings, *Remembrance, Communion, and Hope*

Writing

"Church Position Papers"

1 page for each position, double spaced. At least 2 sources per position. Turabian formatting.

Write a brief Biblical position on the following ecclesiological points: Church Membership, Church Polity, Baptism, The Lord's Supper.

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend residency meeting. Be prepared to defend your understanding of your ecclesiological positions.
- Attend an elders meeting.
- Meet with pastor Drake and discuss church position papers and bylaws.
- Attend or teach a new members class.
- Continue discipleship relationship with a younger man.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.

September

Hermeneutics

Reading

Augustine, *On Christian Teaching*

J. Todd Billings, *The Word of God for the People of God*

Selections from Stephen Wellum on Progressive Covenantalism (provided)

Library Building

D.A. Carson, *Exegetical Fallacies*

Craig Carter, *Interpreting Scripture With The Great Tradition*

Paul Gentry and Stephen Wellum, *Kingdom Through Covenant*

Stephen Wellum and Brent Parker, *Progressive Covenantalism*

Kevin Vanhoozer, *Is There a Meaning in This Text?*

Edmund Clowney, *Preaching Christ in All of Scripture*

Graham Goldsworthy, *The Goldsworthy Trilogy*

John Piper, *The Supremacy of God in Preaching*

Dennis Johnson, *Him We Proclaim*

Writing

Prepare a sermon on a Biblical text and deliver at preaching symposium for feedback. Keep under thirty minutes, and make sure to submit your text and manuscript/notes before hand.

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend residency meeting.
- Continue discipleship relationship with a younger man.
- Assist a pastor on a pastoral visit.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.

October

Missiology, Culture, and Apologetics

Reading

Kevin Deyoung and Greg Gilbert, *What Is The Mission Of The Church?*

Christian Smith and Michael Emerson, *Divided by Faith*

Library Building

Russell Moore, *Onward*

John Piper, *Let The Nations Be Glad!*

Andreas J. Kostenberger and Peter T. O'Brien, *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth*

M. David Sills, *Reaching and Teaching*

P.T. O'Brien, *Gospel and Mission in the Writings of Paul*

D.A. Carson, *Christ and Culture Revisited*

Owen Strachan, *Reenchanting Humanity*

Christopher Yuan, *Holy Sexuality and the Gospel*

K. Scott Oliphant, *Covenantal Apologetics*

Coreilius Van Til, *The Defense of The Faith*

Francis Schaeffer, *How Then Shall We Live?*

Daniel Strange, *Their Rock Is Not Our Rock*

Randy Newman, *Questioning Evangelism*

Mark Dever, *The Gospel and Personal Evangelism*

J. I. Packer, *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*

J. Gresham Machen, *Christianity and Liberalism*

Writing

"Community Exegesis"

You will be assigned an area of greater Waco where you will conduct a community survey. From that survey, you will craft a mission statement and values for a hypothetical church plant to that area.

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend residency meeting, ready to share your findings.
- Continue discipleship relationship with a younger man.
- Attend an elders meeting.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.
- Take your discipleship mentee or someone from your community group to practice evangelism once this month. If you need help, ask a pastor.

November

Worship and Liturgy

Reading

Sam Parkison, *Revelation and Response*

James K. A. Smith, *You Are What You Love*

Library Building

Bryan Chappel, *Christ-Centered Worship*

Bob Kauflin, *Worship Matters*

Owen Strachan and Kevin Vanhoozer, *The Pastor as Public Theologian*

Matt Boswell, *Doxology and Theology: How the Gospel Forms the Worship Leader*

Mike Cospers, *Rhythms of Grace*

D.A. Carson, *Worship by the Book*

Jonathan Gibson, *Reformation Worship*

Writing

“Liturgy Crafting”

Craft three full liturgies for a Sunday morning service. Have at least one of them match the liturgy we practice normally at Grace. Include in the liturgy that matches our own full written prayers.

Practice and Discipleship

- Attend residency meeting.
- Come early at 7:30am on Sunday to see the band practice. Pray with them before their set and encourage them afterwards.
- Continue discipleship relationship with a younger man.
- Assist a pastor on a pastoral visit.
- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.

December

The Pastor as Theologian

Reading

Kevin Vanhoozer, *Hearers and Doers*

Library Building

For this month, see if you can cash in Christmas gifting and buy at least one book from each category.

Systematics

Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*

Joel Beeke, *Reformed Systematic Theology*

John Frame, *Systematic Theology*

Frances Turretin, *Institutes of Elenctic Theology*

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

Petrus van Mastricht, *Theoretical-Practical Theology*

Bibliology

Carl F. H. Henry, *God, Revelation, and Authority*

B.B. Warfield, *The Inspiration and Authority of The Scripture*

Kevin Deyoung, *Taking God at His Word*

John Piper, *A Peculiar Glory*

D. A. Carson and John Woodbridge, *Scripture and Truth*

Christology

Bruce Ware, *The Man Jesus Christ*

Stephen Wellum, *God the Son Incarnate*

Mark Jones, *Knowing Christ*

Matthew Barrett, *Canon, Covenant, and Christology*

John Owen, *The Glory of Christ*

Pneumatology

Sinclair Ferguson, *The Holy Spirit*

Thomas Schreiner, *Spiritual Gifts*

Sam Storms, *Practicing The Power*

Graham Cole, *He Who Gives Life*

Theology Proper

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

Matthew Barrett, *None Greater: The Undomesticated Attributes of God*

Bruce Ware and John Starke, *One God in Three Persons*

James Dolezal, *All That Is In God*

Anselm of Canterbury, *Proslogion*

Augustine, *On The Trinity*

John Feinberg, *No One Like Like HIm*

Stephen Charnock, *The Existence and Attributes of God*

Paul Helm, *Eternal God*

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae: Questions on God*

Soteriology

John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*

Thomas Schreiner and Bruce Ware, *Still Sovereign*

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*

Matthew Barrett, *Justification: The Doctrine on Which the Church Stands or Falls*

Bruce Demarest, *The Cross and Salvation*

Jonathan Gibson, *From Heaven He Came and Sought Her*

Eschatology

Sam Storms, *Kingdom Come: The Amillennial Alternative*

Anthony A. Hoekema, *The Bible and the Future*

George Eldon Ladd, *The Presence of the Future*

Keith A. Mathison, *Postmillennialism*

Donald K. Campbell and Jeffrey Townsend, *The Coming Millennial Kingdom*

Writing

“Theological/Practical Thesis”

10-12 pages, double spaced. At least 10 sources, Turabian formatting.

Armed with your library you’ve built so far, pick one the theological topics above and get to work picking a specific area of ministry to apply it to. Ask the question: “how does this area of theology impact the pastorate and this local church ministry?” For example, your paper may be about how eschatology informs corporate worship, or how Christology informs family discipleship. Ask a pastor for help in formulating your thesis and gathering sources. Don’t worry, this paper won’t be due until your assessment process is finished, so you will have several months to write it.

Practice and Discipleship

- Meet with your assigned elder at least twice for accountability and encouragement.
- Set up a meeting with a pastor to discuss your thesis and assessment timeline.

January-March

Assessment

The last two months of the residency will consist of an assessment process by which the pastoral residents will have one to two scheduled interviews with the pastors and fill out a detailed theological and personal questionnaire. The pastors will then provide the resident with a recommendation and next steps as to their future in pastoral ministry. Completion of the pastoral residency does not guarantee ordination or a pastoral position at Grace Church.

The residents theological/practical thesis will be due at the end of the month of February, the last month of the residency program.