



And Also With You

MID-SEPTEMBER 2015

Grace Anglican Church 817 Estella Drive Fairhope, Alabama 36532
251-929-1606 www.visitgrace.net Facebook.com/GraceAnglican

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAYS

10:00 am
Worship
(nursery provided)
6:30 pm
The Union's
Worship

MONDAYS

10:45 am
Intercessors
6:30pm
Graham Cooke
Small Group-455-5940

WEDNESDAYS

10:30 am
Women's Bible
Study-990-2973

THURSDAYS

6: pm Prayer in the
Church

FRIDAYS

8:15 am
Men's Group-422-
3169

CHALICE BEARERS

Sept 6

Bob and Jane
Grafe

Sept 13

Jan Bogue
Becky Johnson

Sept 20

Susan Jones
Maggie Rockett

Sept 27

Janic Terry
Kitty Barksdale

Staying vs. Living



The Rev. M. Scott Davis

Genesis 37:1 says, "Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed..." This verse refers to two of the patriarchs, Jacob and his father, Isaac.

God originally promised land to Abraham

and his descendants, ergo the name, *Promised Land*. Both Abraham and Isaac *stayed* in the land as foreigners. By the third generation, however, Jacob *lived* where the others had only *stayed*.

The key words in the verse are the verbs: Jacob *lived* where Isaac had *stayed*. This is what I call a *sleeper verse*. It appears to be a dull, transitional verse, yet the Word causes a simple, banal statement to become alive and electric.

During college I spent a summer working at a large hotel in Memphis, setting up and tearing down tables and chairs for large gatherings and conventions. I was part of an all black set up crew. As the summer progressed I experienced some of the cultural differences evident in the South. Since the hotel was where two states connected, the crew members would ask where I *stayed* (meaning Arkansas or Tennessee)? I replied that I *lived* in Tennessee.

I then asked them where they *lived*, and they replied that they *stayed* in Arkansas.

There is a difference between *living* and *staying*. I might *stay* at a friend's

house, but I do not *live* there. When a person goes on vacation their friends ask where they are going to *stay*. To *stay* is temporary, to *live* is permanent.

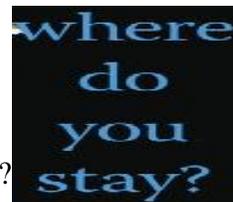
Jacob *lived* where his father only *stayed*. This is a spiritual truth. The verse means that Jacob resides in the land where his father only sojourned. Isaac *stayed* where Jacob *lived*. One is temporary, the other permanent.

Spiritually, we are encouraged to *live* where our fore parents *stayed*. Abraham's obedience to God allows Isaac to *stay* in the land where Abraham is only a temporary dweller. Even though the land is promised to Abraham, he still has to purchase a burial sight (in his own land) for his wife, Sarah. Isaac's obedience to

God's promise opens the door for Jacob to *live* in the land where his grandfather and father had only *stayed*. Jacob and his numerous sons *live* in the land. What is temporary to one generation becomes permanent for another.

What promises did God make to your grandparents or parents that allow you to gain entry into the promises of God? God's plan is that where they *stayed*, you can *live*.

My paternal grandmother was fascinated with the Second Coming of Christ. She studied the Scriptures carefully, reading many books and articles about it. Because of the years of her lifetime (1898-1972), she was only able to see in part. Some strategic building blocks to end time prophecies were only in the making



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during her life time while key pieces were still to come. This is where she stayed. I have often wondered if that is why I have been especially drawn



to the study of this sort? During Christmas

break my senior year in high school I attended a week long seminar concerning the events that would precede Christ's return. In college, I both read and listened to Hal Lindsey (author of *The Late Great Planet Earth*) lecture at my university on the Second Coming of Christ. Throughout my thirty four years of ministry I have taught *Revelation* and *Daniel* numerous times in numerous churches. My hope is that I am living where my grandmother only stayed.

Another example has to do with our relationship to the Holy Spirit. Where one generation stays in its understanding of the Holy Spirit can be where the next generation lives, experiencing miracles and encountering God's miraculous power that goes beyond the previous generation's thinking.

Genesis 37:1 also works in reverse. Where one generation is unrepentant of infidelity, for example, the next generation can live in perversion. Where one generation self medicates with alcohol the next generation can struggle with more serious addictions. When there is no repentance then the next generation usually lives where the ones before only stayed.

Where did those before you stay? Are you living where they only stayed? On a positive note, are you making the most of what has been

given to you? What was temporary for Isaac becomes permanent for Jacob.

I invite you to listen to the Holy Spirit and ask Him to speak to you about where you are living as well as where you are staying. The truth is that where we stay, the next generation will live.



✝ Our love and prayers go out to the family of Betty Schussler who died in Christ on August 19, 2015. We give thanks for Betty's life and witness of Him.




Author, Joe Hilley, was a founding Steward of Grace Church. Joe now lives in Houston and has been diagnosed with a serious form of cancer. Please keep Joe, Joy, Laura Catherine, and Jack in your prayers as Joe explores treatment options.



The Stewards and Father Scott have begun discussion in preparation for Scott's 2017 Sabbatical. A Sabbatical Committee will be appointed later this fall.

Stewards

Each October new Stewards are chosen to replace out going Stewards and to serve a two year term. The Stewards are the church's board that governs the corporation. There are five Stewards with the rector being the fifth Steward.

From Sunday, September 27 to October 11, names may be submitted by members of the congregation to fill the two positions. Criteria for nominating a person is to first have their permission; secondly that they be an active participant in Grace Church; thirdly that they be part of a small group or ministry group within the church; and lastly are tithing to the church (since they will determine how the money given by other tithers is spent). Nominations may be placed in the offering plate during these three weeks or submitted to the church's office. Our thanks to Cynthia Tunnell and Sandy Sinclair for their years of ser-



vice as outgoing Stewards.



The cost of the mission trip to Nigeria has been raised. Thanks to each of you who participated in this. It is my fervent belief that you have invested in an important work of God in this next April 2016. Blessings and again, thanks. Scott +