**RISE UP** in 2021

September 12, 2021

Brian Hummel, *Executive Pastor*

**The Grind**

Sweet Grind



Life is a grind!

Marriage is a grind.

Work is a grind.

Children are a grind .

Working on yourself is a grind.

Serving is a grind.

We want to escape the grind. We want to run from suffering. The world teaches us that the grind has no purpose; it is not beneficial. Instead we pursue a life of comfort, ease, happiness, etc.

Do you believe the promise found in Romans 8:28?

*We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*

*Romans 8:28*

What Romans 8:28 does not say ...

Everything will be good.

Everything will feel good.

Everyone will experience it.

God is exclusive – only through Jesus Christ are we saved.

*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

*John 14:6*

God is inclusive – all have sinned.

*For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

*Romans 3:22b-23*

God is inclusive - Jesus Christ died for all.

*but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

*Romans 5:8*

God is inviting.

*if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

*Romans 10:9*

Do you believe the promise found in Romans 8:28?

You might want to believe Romans 8:28 but life is so tough, so hard right now that you just can’t get there. You don’t have to grind alone!

An eternal perspective of the grind.

The grind is short lived; eternity is forever.

*The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.*

*Isaiah 40:7-8*

The grind has a purpose.

*Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope*

*Romans 5:3-5*

Ultimately, the grind brings the good.

*I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.*

*Romans 8:18*

An eternal perspective is essential.

Keeps you joyful.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

*Romans 15:13*

Gives this life, however short, meaning.

*So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind.*

*Ecclesiastes 2:17*

Paints the right picture to the world.

Grind it out!

Focus on the good over the grind.

*This is the comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life. Psalm 119:50*

*For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*Romans 8:38-39*

Refuse the shortcuts.

*The insolent utterly deride me, but I do not turn away from your law.*

*Psalm 119:51*

Carry a fork!

When our Savior is with us, even our grind is sweet!