Grace Bible Theological Seminary

GRACE GAZETTE

July 2026

Full Speed Ahead!

Life at GBTS is as busy as ever! Students are working hard to finish their summer courses, faculty and staff are busy preparing for the fall semester, and plans are in full swing to host the annual meeting of the Association of Reformed Theological Seminaries (ARTS), our accrediting organization, this October.

All this just after a successful inaugural Head & Heart Conference and summer intensive.

We are grateful for your prayerful and financial support as we continue to train pastors, missionaries, and church planters to serve the Lord throughout the world and participate in advancing His kingdom for His glory.

Staff Spotlight

Meet Teddy (T.J.) James, GBTS's new Media Director. T.J. spent 10 years with American Family Radio, writing their newsletter and co-hosting a weekly radio program focused on worldview issues. He then began working with Media Gratia as a videographer and editor on projects such as *The Church: Pillar and Ground of the Truth*. T.J. and his wife, Allison, have six children. He has quickly become a vital and cherished member of our staff.

How Can You Support GBTS?

Pray

- For our students to grow in their love for Christ as they pursue their academic studies.
- For our faculty and staff to exalt Christ and seek God's glory in all that we do.
- For our donor base to increase. God provides all we need to accomplish what He's called us to do, and He often does so through generous supporters.
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Visit

- We love when GBTS supporters visit our campus.
- Let us know when your next trip brings you through central Arkansas, and it will be our joy to meet you and give you a tour.

Give

- Become a regular donor to our General Fund. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us continue our mission to train future and current pastors.
- Donate to our residential scholarship fund
- Would you like to support one student for a class? A semseter? An entire degree? Contact us!

Contact Us

info@gbtseminary.org

Core Value #5

Equipping Pastors

T***hesis Statement***

GBTS educates and equips the next generation of pastors, church planters, and missionaries to see churches established and strengthened across the globe.

Affirmations

The New Testament clearly shows that first-century churches were led by men referred to as pastors (Eph 4:11), elders (Titus 1:5), overseers (Phil 1:1), or stewards (Titus 1:7).
(Cont. on p. 3)

Core Values (cont)

These designations are used together in several passages to refer to the same office (Acts 20:17, 28; Titus 1:5–9; 1 Peter 5:1–5) with the same character qualifications required for men that serve in that office (1 Tim 3:1–7; Titus 1:5–9). Men who will serve as pastors of local churches and missionaries across the globe must be trained for the purpose of godliness (1 Tim 4:7), so they demonstrate their calling as pastors by living lives in accordance with the biblical qualifications for pastors/elders. They must be equipped to shepherd the flock of God (Acts 20:28), devote themselves to prayer and ministry of the word (Acts 6:4), and entrust other faithful men with what they have been taught (2 Tim 2:2). Pastors must labor to preach and teach well (1 Tim 5:17) and Scripture alone is sufficient for training and equipping men for the good work (2 Tim 3:16–17) of shepherding God's flock through the ministry of the word (2 Tim 3:16–17).

Denials

At GBTS, we firmly deny the need for psychological models of spiritual soul care, corporate models of leadership, or worldly models of wisdom in equipping pastors for the work of ministry. While we affirm the worth, value, and roles of women in our families and churches, we deny that women may serve in the office of pastor. (Cont. next column)

We deny that students should reduce their involvement in their local church to pursue pastoral ministry training.

Purpose & Implementation

At GBTS, pastors train pastors. All of our professors have pastoral experience and help students apply each academic discipline to pastoral ministry in the local church. Because we are committed to training pastors, we only admit male students who are pursuing or currently engaged in pastoral ministry and have been affirmed in this pursuit by their local church. Scripture requires that pastors meet character standards, so our faculty and staff actively pursue the spiritual formation of each student through classroom instruction, personal relationships, our advising program, and modeling Christ-like character.

Church-based.
Pastor-focused.
Missions-minded.