JOHN K.JENKINS SR.

Foreword by T.D. Jakes

Afterword by Reverend Dr. William D. Watley

Grace to Grow

Creating a Healthy Church
in Unhealthy Times



A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

ZONDERVAN REFLECTIVE

Grace to Grow

Copyright © 2023 by John K. Jenkins Sr.

Requests for information should be addressed to:

Zondervan, 3900 Sparks Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546

Zondervan titles may be purchased in bulk for educational, business, fundraising, or sales promotional use. For information, please email SpecialMarkets@Zondervan.com.

ISBN 978-0-310-15149-4 (audio)

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Jenkins, John K., author.

Title: Grace to grow: creating a healthy church in unhealthy times / John K. Jenkins, Sr. Description: Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2023.

Identifiers: LCCN 2023012999 (print) | LCCN 2023013000 (ebook) | ISBN 9780310151180 (paperback) | ISBN 9780310151203 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Church growth. | Evangelistic work. | Church development, New. | BISAC: RELIGION / Christian Living / Leadership & Mentoring | RELIGION / Christian Ministry / General

Classification: LCC BV652.25 .J45 2023 (print) | LCC BV652.25 (ebook) | DDC 254/.5—dc23/eng/20230526

LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2023012999

LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2023013000

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the New King James Version $^{\$}$. Copyright $^{\$}$ 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright ©1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked CEB are taken from the Common English Bible. Copyright @ 2011 Common English Bible.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version $^{\&}$, NIV $^{\&}$. Copyright $^{\&}$ 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. $^{\&}$ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.Zondervan.com. The "NIV" and "New International Version" are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc. $^{\&}$

Scripture quotations marked NCV are taken from the New Century Version[®]. Copyright © 2005 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Any internet addresses (websites, blogs, etc.) and telephone numbers in this book are offered as a resource. They are not intended in any way to be or imply an endorsement by Zondervan, nor does Zondervan vouch for the content of these sites and numbers for the life of this book.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other—except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the publisher.

The author is represented by Tom Dean, literary agent with A Drop of Ink LLC, www.adropofink.pub.

Cover design: LUCAS Art & Design Cover photo: © Delphotos / Alamy Stock Photo Interior design: Sara Colley

Leadership Questionnaire Form

Every leader must be a member in good standing:

Regularly attends worship and prayer services Faithfully attends monthly Communion services Committed to and involved in at least one ministry of the church Active in a teaching ministry Financially supporting the church through tithes and offerings

"Leadership only functions on the basis of trust" - John Maxwell Ministry Name: **Ministry Position:** Nominee's Name: Address: State: Zip Code: City: Phone Numbers: Home Work Cell Email address: DOB: How long have you been a member of FBCG? Your tithing/offering # Are you employed? Yes No Are you tithing? Yes No Are you certified as an FBCG Altar Counselor? Yes No List the ministries you are actively involved in: What teaching ministries are you involved in on a regular basis? Tuesday Bible Study Wednesday Bible Study The Institute Discipleship Ministry (identify which ministry)_____ Sunday School Other Leadership Training: Foundational Leadership Class Other: (any leadership training you have taken in or outside of First Baptist Church of Glenarden.) I certify that I am a member in good standings according to the above requirements and am eligible to be considered for a leadership position.

Signature

Date

Appendix

Sample Code of Conduct

Pirst Baptist Church of Glenarden (FBCG) believes it is important that it be clear with its staff about its expectation that they uphold the highest standards of Biblical conduct, personally and professionally.

FBCG is a Christian organization, committed to the advancement of Christian principles, and establishes a Code of Conduct reflective of its belief.

I agree that, as part of the qualifications for this position, I am a "born-again" Christian who knows the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior (John 3:3, 1 Peter 1:23). I accept without verbal or mental reservations First Baptist Church of Glenarden's Code of Conduct, and am committed to upholding it.

I agree to manifest by daily example the highest Christian virtue serving as a Christian role model (1 Timothy 4:12) both

in and out of my employment with the First Baptist Church of Glenarden to all persons I come into contact with (Luke 6:40), and fellow employees. I agree to be a role model in judgment, dignity, respect, and Christian living. I acknowledge that this includes, but is not limited to, the refraining from such activities as the use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, illicit drugs, and the use of vulgar and profane language (Col. 3:17; Titus 2:7–8; 1 Thess. 2:10; 1 Thess. 5:18, 22–23; and James 3:17–18).

FBCG believes that God's design for the gift of sexuality is that it is to be exercised and enjoyed only within the covenant relationship of marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that it is God's intention that those who enter marriage shall seek, in mutual, love and respect. To live as one man and one woman, in Christian fidelity as long as both shall live.

FBCG believes that God has specifically and expressly condemned sexual intercourse outside of the marriage covenant. This prohibition applies to married persons committing adultery, to sexual relationships between unmarried men and women, and because God intends that the sexual relationship to be between male and female, to homosexual practice. We believe that it is God's expectation that the unmarried shall live pure and celibate lives refraining from sexual intimacy.

I agree to accept First Baptist Church of Glenarden's interpretation of Biblical standards for my sexual behavior. That any sexual misconduct—including, but not limited to—premarital, extramarital, or homosexual activity; sexual harassment; use or viewing of pornographic material or websites; and sexual abuse of children is forbidden and violates the employment requirement of being a Christian role model. I agree that such behaviors are grounds for immediate dismissal from my position.

I also agree that the unique roles of the male and female are clearly defined in Scripture, and that Romans 1:24–32 condemns the homosexual lifestyle (Rom. 12:1–2; 1 Cor. 6:9–20; Eph. 4:1–11, 5:3–5; 1 Thess. 4:3–8; 1 Tim. 4:12; 2 Tim. 2:19–22; 1 Peter 1:15–16; 2:15–17; 1 John 3:1–3).

Although employment with the First Baptist Church of Glenarden is based on mutual consent and both the employee and the First Baptist Church of Glenarden have the right to terminate employment at will, with or without cause or advance notice. We have the right to decide on the appropriate action. We may consider: 1) the seriousness of your conduct, 2) your employment record, 3) your ability to correct the conduct, 4) actions we have taken for similar conduct by others, and 5) how your action affects the ministry and other circumstances. The First Baptist Church of Glenarden reserves the right to terminate any employee for reasons not stated in this handbook or for no reason at all.

IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OR ACTION

An employee may be discharged immediately for violating Church policies. Examples of reasons considered justification for immediate action include, but are not limited to:

1. Revealing confidential information concerning the Church members, employees, or guests.

- 2. Stealing Church property, co-workers property, or any other person's property.
- 3. Refusing or deliberately failing to carry out a reasonable instruction of your supervisor.
- 4. Intentional falsification of an employment application, timesheet, expense claim, or other Church documents.
- 5. Using Church equipment, personnel, or facilities to falsify documents or information.
- 6. Failure to get along with co-workers to the point that morale and productivity suffer.
- 7. Failure to follow the work rules.
- 8. Violation or disregard of an established security policy or practice of the ministry's security guidelines.
- 9. Professional or personal misconduct detrimental to the rights or safety of co-workers or members.
- 10. Failure to report for work without calling or without an excused absence.
- 11. Behavior indicating abuse of alcohol or controlled substances, either illegal or prescribed.
- 12. Personal conduct of a verbally or physically abusive nature.
- 13. Expiration/revocation or inability to demonstrate required licensure/registration/certification.
- 14. Indictment or conviction of a felony.
- 15. Excessive tardiness or unauthorized absences.
- 16. Arguing and/or fighting with co-workers, members, or guests.
- 17. Using or possessing alcohol or illegal drugs at work.

- 18. Using abusive language at work.
- 19. Coming to work under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- 20. Failing to carry out reasonable job assignments.
- 21. Violating Church rules and/or Biblical Principles adopted by the Church.
- 22. Unlawful discrimination or harassment.
- 23. Possessing any unlawful weapon on the work sites.

 An unlawful weapon includes gun, knife or any device prohibited by the ministry to be brought on the premises.
- 24. Using Church property or equipment for the employee's personal use without the prior consent of the Church.
- 25. Sexual misconduct in violation of Biblical principles described in the Handbook, this Code, or those that are in violation of federal, state, and local law.

It should be stressed that the above items are examples of serious misconduct, and the list is not intended to be all inclusive. In these cases the First Baptist Church of Glenarden's Church Administrator must be contacted before any action is taken.

I agree to attempt to resolve differences with others (fellow-workers, administration) by following the Biblical pattern of Matthew 18:15–17. Should the employee have unresolved issues with the employer after utilizing the Matthew 18 principle, I and the employer agree to be bound by the First Baptist Church of Glenarden Dispute Resolution Agreement in an attempt to resolve issues and bring reconciliation.

Persons hired with the First Baptist Church of Glenarden must acknowledge their agreement with this statement and commitment to abide by it.

I affirm that I have read and will abide by the Code of Conduct Statement.