



# GRACE LIFE 101

*Participating with Christ in the Life of the Church*

... we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.  
*(Ephesians 4:15-16)*

## WELCOME TO BFCAC (PART 1 – HISTORY)

1521	1554	1683	1810	1856-1858	1879	1883	1900	1959
<p>Protestant Reformation</p> <p>Anabaptism and the Mennonites</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Century Christianity the ideal</li> <li>Too much emphasis on sacraments, priesthood, and dogma</li> <li>true Church is a visible (Baptized) community of disciplined saints</li> <li>Use of force and civil authority in religion – unchristian</li> <li>Christians called to withdraw from the world</li> </ol>		<p>First group of German Anabaptists take refuge in Pennsylvania – Germantown.</p> <p>Mennonites and Dutch Quakers</p> <p>Migrated over time towards the lush farmlands of Lancaster</p> <p>Second wave of Mennonites come over and head towards Canada and the Midwest.</p>	<p>Revival is spreading (3<sup>rd</sup> Great Awakening) and is fueled by evangelistic prayer meetings. These start showing up in Mennonite congregations. They are curtailed and a group of preachers/congregations leave to form the Evangelical Mennonite Society</p>	<p>Join with like minded revivalist Mennonites from Canada and Midwest – <i>Evangelical United Mennonites</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unique <b>Mennonite</b> belief and practice foot washing, nonresistance, no taking oaths, shunning the excommunicated, plain dress, worldly entertainments, behavior rules, etc.</li> <li>- <b>Methodism</b> flavor classes to work out salvation, power from the Holy</li> </ul>	<p>Join with Brethren in Christ group from Ohio – become Mennonite Brethren in Christ (keep Mennonite for political freedoms)</p> <p>Experientialism – born again, baptism of the Holy Spirit, entire sanctification, camp meeting revivals, etc.</p>	<p>From Mennon to Wesley to broader evangelicalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Holiness movement</li> <li>- Dispensationalism</li> <li>- Eternal Security</li> </ul>	<p>Pennsylvania Conference splits and adopts a new name – Bible Fellowship Church.</p> <p>No longer looked Mennonite or Wesleyan. Weren't the radical separatists like the Mennonites. Were starting to abandon the Arminian Holiness Mvmt in favor of more reformed theology. Were becoming more Presbyterian in forms of government.</p>	