



NEWSLETTER#10: MAY 3, 2025

We are happy to welcome you to the GRACE Abounds Newsletter.
Here, you can read about our latest news and resources.
Thank you for walking along with us on this journey!

Our Mission:

GRACE Ministries of Alabama exists to provide resources for female victims of sexual trauma and promote opportunities for survivors to experience the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

Meet The Staff

Michelle

Founder & Director



Erica

Assistant Director



Jinny

Photographer &
Social Media Coordinator



Andrea

Speaker



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To our family

Dear GMOA family, 

As we consider where the Lord will lead us in our next steps as a ministry, it is not lost on us the profound positive impact that your continued support has given us. Whether it's through the women that we get to meet and lead through our small groups or the meaningful partnerships that strengthen the goals of the mission that the Lord has given GMOA, the generosity of your time, prayers, and commitment help to make it possible.

Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 NLT

Thank you for standing with us. We can't wait to see what God will do this year!

With Gratitude,
Erica Russell
Assistant Director, GRACE Ministries of Alabama





GRACE Testimony

Jessica Henderson, GMOA Board of Directors



Minimizing means reducing something unwanted to the smallest degree. From a young age, I learned to minimize my voice and my hurts. Growing up, I feared speaking up, knowing it could lead to punishment. My father was emotionally and verbally abusive, often subjecting me to tests I didn't know I was taking—until I failed. His love was conditional; failure meant rejection. At times, he told me I was dead to him.

His influence shaped my understanding of love and power. His hypersexual nature only deepened my confusion. Lewd conversations were normal at our dinner table, and pornography was scattered throughout our home. This foundation left me distrustful of men—especially those meant to protect me.

The harm extended beyond my home. My grandmother touched me inappropriately, and when I spoke up, I was dismissed. She later stripped me down in a department store as punishment. It even extended to a friend's father who forced me and his daughter to rub sunscreen on him, and again, an adult told me, "Just do it; this is normal." These violations repeated, reinforcing that my body wasn't my own.

By middle school, the damage was evident. A boy pressured me into sexual acts. My gut twisted in resistance, but by then, I had silenced myself so completely that I just gave in. He told me I had acted like I wanted it. Maybe I did. I had learned to yield.

For years, I questioned if God was real. If He existed, why did He allow this to happen to me? Silence was my only answer. I longed for love, but the people who should have loved me only hurt me. I shut everyone out, believing it was safer that way.

Then, in high school, a friend convinced me to attend a retreat. I went for the outdoor activities but found myself in a room listening to a speaker talk about God's love. I grew angry, feeling exposed. As I stood to leave, I heard a voice: "You have been asking Me to show up. Here I am."

That voice changed everything. The speaker described the love of a perfect Father, and for the first time, I dared to believe it was real. My best friend and a staff member explained who Jesus was, and I accepted Him. The darkness lifted, but my healing journey had just begun.

Later, as a missionary, I faced new challenges in a culture where women were oppressed. Men touched me in the streets, but this time, I fought back. For years, I felt like a failure because of my anger, but God showed me it was justified.

Returning home after eight years overseas, I was raw and broken. But God met me. He surrounded me with healthy examples of love. Then, I met my husband. At first, I was terrified. Could I let him in? Would I ever feel safe? He was patient, steady, and unshaken by my fear.

Three years into marriage, I still battle old wounds, but God is making all things new. Isaiah 61 is my anchor: He binds up the brokenhearted and gives beauty instead of ashes. My hope remains in the One who has always seen me, cherished my voice, and will never leave me.

Kingdom Impact and Partner Spotlight

YouVersion VISITS GRACE Ministries of Alabama

On March 15, we had the privilege of hosting the incredible team from YouVersion, creators of the Bible App, for a full day of filming and interviews. YouVersion travels across the country to document powerful stories of how access to God's Word — through Bible reading plans, devotionals, and other Christ-centered resources — is changing lives. We were deeply honored that they chose to highlight the story of GRACE Ministries of Alabama.



Throughout the day, the YouVersion team interviewed our founder, staff, and board members, capturing the heart behind our work. One of the most moving moments was the testimony shared by GRACE Group Leader Sabrina Schexnyder, who bravely told her story of surviving sexual abuse, struggling with addiction, and ultimately experiencing God's redemptive power and healing.

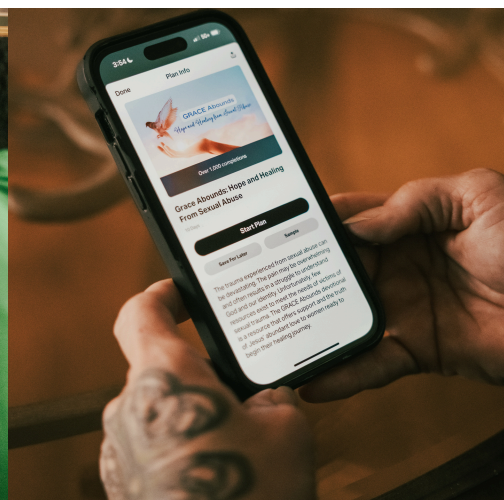
The YouVersion team brought such kindness, compassion, and sensitivity to every conversation. It was clear that this wasn't just a filming day — it was a sacred opportunity for God's light to shine through the work He is doing in and through this ministry.



As part of our partnership with YouVersion, we have been given the opportunity to create a devotional series that reflects the key topics from our GRACE Group small group curriculum — including Shame, Forgiveness, Purity, Boundaries, Our Healer, and more. That devotional is now being offered around the world, reaching hearts from the Philippines to California, Texas, Alabama, and beyond.

Today, we are celebrating over 108,349 subscribers to this devotional — a powerful reminder of how God is using technology, truth, and testimony to bring hope and healing to survivors everywhere.

Thank you, YouVersion, for believing in the mission of GRACE Ministries and helping us share the message that God has the power to heal.



If you'd like to learn more about YouVersion or support the important work they are doing in the pursuit of bringing the Gospel to the world, please visit: <https://www.youversion.com/mission/>

Praise Reports!

Celebrating God's Faithfulness at the Highlands College Seal Ceremony



We're so excited to celebrate our founder, Michelle, as she is honored at the Highlands College Seal Ceremony — a recognition of graduates who have been placed in ministry after completing their training.

This moment is a beautiful reflection of how God called Michelle to launch GRACE Ministries of Alabama out of a deep love and passion for women who are survivors of sexual abuse and sexual violence. Through her journey at Highlands College, Michelle was equipped, refined, and empowered to step boldly into this calling.

Now, as GRACE Ministries steps into its early years as a nonprofit, we thank God for how He's using Michelle to bring His love, truth, healing, and hope to women all over the world. We can't wait to see how He continues to move through her obedience and faithfulness.

To God be the glory — this is just the beginning. 💜

Praise Reports!

GRACE Groups



We celebrated graduations in:

- The Lovelady Center = 10 participants
- The Foundry = 4 participant
- Virtual Small Group = 3 participants (with graduation in early May)
- Fayette County Correctional Facility = 10 participants

We have had 78 participants to date that have graduated

We have sold 120 curriculum



GRACE Ministries Speaks with Hoover City Schools

Recently, one of GRACE Ministries of Alabama's appointed speakers, Andrea Fannin, had the opportunity to share with the counselors of Hoover City Schools about the mission of our nonprofit and the resources we offer to survivors of sexual abuse.

Andrea shared her personal testimony, bringing a powerful reminder of how deeply sexual abuse can impact a survivor's life. She emphasized the critical need for awareness, honest conversations, and proactive prevention measures. Andrea also spoke about the importance of providing victims with the help, support, and patience they need to experience healing and true freedom from the pain of their past.

We are so grateful for open doors like this, where we can equip communities to be part of God's healing work.



A Dream Come True

I was used to dreaming about the spiritual, though my normal was standing up against demonic attack.

Most nights, I was exploring an unknown house when the heaviness struck my spirit. Seconds later, I was lifted off the ground and no longer in control of my body. My go-to counterattack was always the same. **“Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! (Luke 10:17, Philippians 2:10).”** And then I pulled out my sword of the spirit (Ephesians 6:17).

These dreams were always unsettling, and for years I prayed for dreams and visions of the heavenly realm.

On the night of 3/25/25, my surroundings were a blur but the feeling was familiar-I was isolated and lonely, desperate for companionship. I prayed for relief and then **He** was there-**The Son of God**. The One whose name I had spoken for so many nights in battle. It was merely His presence that *changed me* and that was enough for me. But, He held out His left arm to me, and I embraced it fiercely-holding it in the nape of my neck and cradling it with my face. I never intended to let go.

He didn't speak, though, He didn't need to.

His touch was enough to satisfy me forever. His peace flooded my spirit and enveloped me like a cloud. Time stood still and nothing else mattered. It seemed as though I was no longer in control of my body, but this time I wasn't afraid. Because I was in the arm of my Savior, and my *dream had finally come true.*

-Michelle Price



Upcoming Events & Ways To Get Involved

Join us as a Volunteer!

GRACE Ministries of Alabama is growing, and we are excited to invite volunteers to join us in the mission of bringing hope, healing, and support to survivors of sexual abuse. We have a [Volunteer Packet](#) available that shares more about upcoming events and ongoing opportunities where you can get involved.

Staff Team or Board

If you're looking to make an even deeper impact, we also invite you to consider joining our Staff Team or applying for a role on our Board of Directors. Together, we can be the hands and feet of Christ, bringing His love and truth to women across the world.

We would love to serve alongside you!

To contact us about becoming a volunteer or joining our Staff Team or Board, please contact Michelle Price at michelle@graceministries.life.



Continue To Tune in for...



It has been so amazing to see how God is working through our YouVersion Bible Plan! So far, we have over 108,349 subscribers — what a blessing to know that more women around the world are encountering the redemptive work of Christ as they journey through healing. We couldn't be more encouraged by the bravery of these women and the way God is meeting them right where they are. We would love for you to join us or even share the plan with someone you know who might need encouragement.

To join: CLICK THE LINK BELOW, visit Bible.com, or download the YouVersion Bible App. Then, search for our plan, "Grace Abounds."

As God continues to open doors, our heart is also to reach even more people by translating "Grace Abounds" into Spanish — so that even more women can experience healing through Christ in their own language. If you or someone you know would be interested in helping us find a translator for this important project, we would love to hear from you!

And exciting news — we're currently developing a new devotional for YouVersion, focused on how spouses can best support their partners who are survivors of sexual abuse and violence. Stay tuned — it's coming soon!

Thank you for being part of the beautiful work God is doing through GRACE Ministries of Alabama.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!