

Grace Christian students christen new site with verse

With an "adult" yellow crayon in hand, I was part of something special Saturday morning.

Staff, parents and students of Grace Christian School gathered at their new site off Buck Jones Road in Raleigh, right

ON CAMPUS



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outside the Cary town limits, to anoint their new school with God's word. All 22 classes at Grace picked their favorite memory verse to be written on the steel and concrete walls of their new building.

One by one, children and adults took their time inscribing their memory verse into a place on the school, in places no one will see again soon. Yet they hoped the verses would be felt.

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity," 1 Timothy 4:12 read.

That was the scripture I was

given to inscribe into the building. Of all the memory verses in the Bible, I had never read that one before Saturday. Now it is one I will never forget.

Inside the cold building, with nails and dust all over the floor and construction workers hard at work on the outside frame, 15 people, including me, held hands and prayed for the success of the new school.

When we split up with our scriptures and went to our designated spots to write, I was given a concrete wall right inside the entrance.

I pressed down so hard on the wall that the side of my hand was raw by the time I finished the sentence. However, the irritation on my hand made me smile.

Everyone, at some point in their life, should be allowed to be a scribe. The feeling that inscription gave me was one of hope and faith. Much needed these days, with war weighing more heavily upon us every second.

"We're not promised tomorrow," said Bob Dascombe, a board member at Grace Christian. "But scripture lives forever."

As I walked around the building, watching everyone else finish up their scriptures and reading what had been left behind, I kept what Dascombe said in mind.

"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever," Psalm 73:26, an outside wall read.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me," Philippians 4:13, was left on a steel beam.

"God is good, all the time," someone had written freely.

On Saturday morning, wearing a hardhat and gathered with new friends, I revisited a place I hadn't been in a while. I guess you could say an education reporter got a lesson all her own.

I would suggest to anyone who needs a pick-me-up to visit the same place.

You don't have to go to Grace's new campus. You can simply pick up a Bible and start reading. Your lesson will begin soon.

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