

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

On behalf of the Sovereign Grace Leadership Team, I want to invite you to read the first edition of the Sovereign Grace Churches Journal. Written by Sovereign Grace pastors around the world, this resource aims to equip our pastors, strengthen the members of our churches, and celebrate the gospel values we share.

The theme of this first issue is “Christ Our Treasure.” We chose this theme because the primary passion and driving influence in our family of churches is the gospel of Jesus Christ. Only Jesus is able to be our all-sufficient Savior. Through his perfect life and substitutionary death on the cross, he has offered a perfect sacrifice that made atonement for our many sins, purchasing our redemption and reconciling us to God. In response to this great salvation, we want to be a people who treasure Christ together. We plan to continue this theme in the journal’s second issue, which will explore the difference that treasuring Christ makes in the church and all of life.

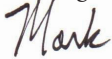
In this first issue, Jeff Purswell expands our view of Christ in a rich reflection on the Gospels entitled “Four Masterpieces: Jesus in the Gospels.” But our view of Christ isn’t limited to the New Testament, which is why Bruce Chick’s article “What a King Should Be: Reading 1 and 2 Kings” shows how the failure of the Old Testament kings revealed our need for the ideal King, Jesus Christ. Shawn Woo’s article, “In My Place: The Good News of

Penal Substitution,” eloquently and gloriously unpacks the penal substitutionary nature of the atonement. Doug Hayes also does a wonderful job of remembering and honoring our friend and fellow pastor, Wilbroad Chanda, who is now in glory.

I want to thank each of the pastors who have contributed articles to this first edition of our journal. I also want to thank our Executive Editor, Jeff Purswell, and our General Editor, Jared Mellinger. Jared has done the bulk of the work in assembling this journal, and I thank God for him and his labors on your behalf.

As you read through this journal, my prayer is that every article would help you treasure Jesus Christ with all of your heart, mind, and soul.

Treasuring Christ with you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark".