

Grace Changes Everything

What is grace?

- ❖ God's unmerited favor, not earned or deserved – Eph. 2:8-9
- ❖ God's grace is understood through His divine power and provision –
 - His Power: Eph. 3:7; 2 Cor. 12:9
 - His Provision: Heb. 4:16;

Question to ponder: Is favor with man more important than the grace of God?

How do grace and favor work together?

- ❖ Grace is what brings us into relationship with God while favor in many cases is the tangible evidence
 - Favor flows because of God's grace – Psalm 16:11
- ❖ God's grace is unconditional while favor can often be the result of obedience and relationship

Grace is God's Prerogative

- ❖ Grace did not originate with man but God
- ❖ God is not obligated to explain why He extends grace –
- ❖ Grace demonstrates the mercy and love of God towards us – Romans 5:1-8

A lack of grace could indicate the opposition of God

James 4:6

God's Grace has made me who I am

- ❖ His grace saved me – Eph. 2:4-5, 8
- ❖ His grace forgives and redeems me – Eph. 1:7
- ❖ His grace frees me – Rom. 6:12-14
- ❖ His grace focuses me – Gal. 2:19-21
- ❖ His grace redefines me – 1 Cor. 15:9-10
- ❖ His grace repurposed me – Acts 20:24
- ❖ His grace sustains me – 2 Cor. 12:9
- ❖ His grace sanctifies me – Rom. 12:1-2
- ❖ His grace justifies me – Rom. 3:24
- ❖ His grace builds me – Acts 20:32

Grace Changes Everything

Lesson 2: Sustaining Grace

Key Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:9

What is sustaining Grace?

- ❖ God's power that keeps us in the midst of challenges and situations and propels us forward in spite of them.
- ❖ Saving grace brings us to relationship with God while sustaining grace keeps us in relationship when things get tough

What does it mean to be sustained? Psalm 91

- ❖ Means you have been established
- ❖ Means something has or is attempting to cause me to leave where I have been established
- ❖ Means the power of the circumstances is not greater than the power of the One keeping you in the midst of it
- ❖ Means He keeps you in spite of the situation
 - Paul kept the thorn but the thorn couldn't keep Paul – 2 Cor. 12:9
- ❖ Means I have His Peace in the midst of it all – Phil. 4:6-7
- ❖ Means I have hope and expectation – Rom. 8:18; Eph. 3:20

Question to ponder: Is it possible to have more and yet not be sustained?

Phil. 4:11-13

How do I walk in sustaining grace?

- ❖ Walk with the Sustainer – Psa. 55:22; Heb. 4:16
- ❖ Walk in faith and refuse to fear – Isa. 41:10
- ❖ Pray – 1 Thes. 5:17
- ❖ Confess God's ability in your weakness – Psa. 73:26; Isa. 40:29
- ❖ Get in The Word – d
- ❖ Praise God in spite of it all – 1 Thes. 5:18
- ❖ Worship God based upon your relationship and not your situation – Col. 3:2
- ❖ Realize that God is growing me while He is sustaining me – James 1:2-4

Closing Scripture: Jude 24-25

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