

12/24/25

Series: Glimpses of God at Christmas.

Title: He is Gracious

Scripture: Luke 2:8-14

Speaker: Pastor Ian Bonthron



Would you rather:

1. Get a coffee mug with your name misspelled in glittery letters or a pair of slippers that squeak loudly with every step like a dog toy?
2. Receive a Bluetooth speaker that only plays Christmas carols on repeat or a picture frame pre-loaded with someone else's family vacation photos?
3. Receive a puzzle with 999 pieces (one mysteriously missing) or a snow globe that leaks glitter onto everything it touches?

Luke 2:8-14 ESV

8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

What is God communicating about himself?

Grace is _____ favor

I am "good enough" for God to love me.

The Christmas story says the opposite—and it's amazing.

Luke 2:10-11 ESV *10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you **good news** of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a **Savior**, who is Christ the Lord.*

Roman 3:23 ESV *23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*

For us to be saved...

We need God's grace

Exodus 34:6-7 ESV 6 *The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, 7 keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."*

Psalms 103:8 ESV *The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

Psalms 145:8 ESV *The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

God is gracious _____

Matthew 5:45b ESV *For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.*

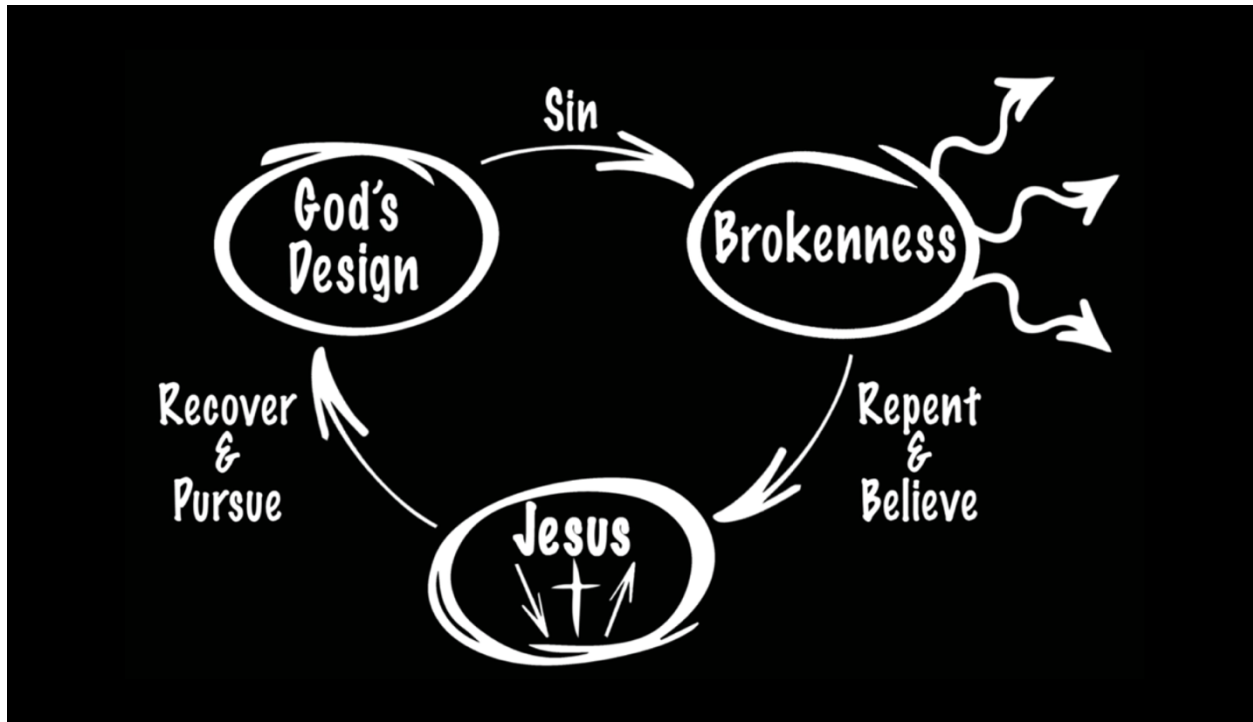
God gives the gift of His _____ grace to humanity

Luke 2:8-10 ESV 8 *And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.*

God gives the gift of his saving grace through _____

Luke 2:11 ESV 11 *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

We receive not only salvation through _____ , but also the gracious gift of _____ as our Savior.



Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Do you believe that Jesus _____ came for you?