

**GRACE FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME****Dr. Larry Lamb – March 1, 2020**

Our pride telling us we're good people is further evidence that we are all born shackled in sin. **It's a delusionary exercise in futility to ignore our sin by lying to ourselves and then gloat over our self-imposed goodness.**

**ROMANS 6.1,2** *Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of His wonderful grace? 2 Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it?*

Performance means: **DO**

Grace means: **DONE**

*"The realization that my daily relationship with God is based on the infinite merit of Christ instead of my own performance is a freeing and joyous experience. But it's not to be a one-time experience; the truth needs to be reaffirmed daily."* JERRY BRIDGES

**EPHESIANS 2.8,9** *God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.*

Grace is God's free favor shown to guilty sinners who deserve only **JUDGEMENT** .

**Titus 1.12** *Even one of their own men, a prophet from Crete, has said about them, "The people of Crete are all liars, cruel animals, and lazy gluttons."*

**1 CORINTHIANS 6.9-11** *Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, 10 or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God. 11 Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

No one gets a free pass of glossing over any sin even though various sins have become acceptable and celebrated in our culture. With a Biblical worldview, the Truth of God always overrides the mandate, voices, preferences, and trends of any culture.

Knowing Jesus doesn't make our lives better. Knowing Jesus *transforms* our lives. **We don't add Jesus to our life; Jesus is our life.**

- It's not about living better but being made new.
- It's not about religious thinking but thinking differently because of the transformative nature of the gospel.
- It's not about striving to be suitable for God not to be mad at us; it's living each day with the grace of covered sin.

## **GRACE > GOD'S RICHES AT CHRIST'S EXPENSE**

### **BECAUSE GRACE IS FREE**

1. Stop living in **CONDEMNATION** over the past.
2. Learn to trust God for the **DAILY** provision of His unconditional love.

*"Make sure of that one fact, that my everlasting Father takes care of the hairs of my head; that my heavenly Father watches over me with a love that never falters and with a patience that is never exhausted."*

JOHN CUMMINGS

3. Drop the rocks of accusation for everyone **DIFFERENT** than you.
4. We should not want to sin, but when we do, we have an Advocate.
5. Why not extend grace to yourself and others?

### **CVC – MEASURES OF MATURITY #3**

Thankful for grace...Am I giving, forgiving, and grateful?

Jesus,

As I examine my life next to Yours, I am aware of how sinful I am. The light of Your Truth is a glaring reality that I'm entirely corrupt, lost, and hopeless on my own. Because of Your unconditional grace, I submit myself before Your authority and call out for You to save me from my sin and cleanse my heart. I am asking to be forgiven. I am sorrowful over the way I have lived. Thank You for grace for someone like me. Your death on the cross has given me life.