

Galatians 2

Jesus

1-2 **Paul's Personal Experience with Grace:** Declared/Depicted/Defended

3-4 Paul's Doctrinal Instruction about Grace

5-6 Paul's Practical Application of Grace

- Paul defends his calling as a **True Apostle**
- **Saved/Called** while in the midst of sin
 1. **Equipped by Jesus** w/message directly from Jesus
 2. **Gospel of Grace**; free gift of Salvation. Repent/Believe/Forgiven/Free
- **Immediately after Paul's dramatic conversion...**
 1. Paul spent 3 yrs. alone w/Jesus
 2. Goes to Jerusalem stays w/Peter 15 days
 3. Leaves Israel to minister to Gentiles for **more than a decade**
- **Great success** in spite of Judaizers/Legalists constant interference...
 1. **Persuading true believers** ...to go back under bondage to law
 2. **Preventing unbelievers** ...from coming to Jesus by Grace alone

Paul has now had enough...

I. Defending the Gospel

1 Then **after fourteen years** I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. 2 And I went up by [lit. because of] revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means **I might run, or had run, in vain.**

- **Legalists follow Paul from city to city:** Sin-sniffers

Matthew 23:15 [Jesus] Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

- **But they are so sincere?** Sincerely motivated by the devil to steal souls...

No small dissension...No small dispute [Acts 15]

- Paul wanted to know if his work would be in vain?

[Paul was concerned...] that an unnecessary conflict with the leaders of the church in Jerusalem leaders might damage his reputation and ministry in some way. Also, the danger was that false teachers – if encouraged in some way by the leaders in Jerusalem – might **undo Paul's work** in planting churches and raising disciples for Jesus, and therefore would make Paul's work in vain. [Guzik]

- Paul, Barnabas and Titus go to Jerusalem to settle confirm the answer to the question...

Q. Do Gentiles need to become Jews in order to be saved? **A. No**

3 Yet **not even Titus** who was with me, **being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised.**

- Paul brings a Gentile [Titus] to Jerusalem
- **Legalists:** Try to compel Titus to be circumcised?

Q. Why all this circumcision talk? **A.** Circumcision represents human effort for Salvation
Legalistic False-Teachers swooped in/creeped in...**You must be circumcised to be saved**

Acts 15:1 ... certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, **you cannot be saved.**"

Telling Gentiles...You must become Jews to be saved

- **Circumcision:**
 1. **Sign for Israel:** Sign/Seal given to show a person separated unto God
 2. **To Church:** Meaningless

Galatians 6:15 ... in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a **new creation.**

- **Sabbath Keeping:**
 1. **Command to Israel:** Given in 10 Commandments to remember God's rest
 2. **To Church:** Not meaningless but Ceremonial Law fulfilled in our rest in Jesus

Colossians 2:16 ... let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon **or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.**

- Sabbath keeping is the new circumcision: Never found in Book or Acts after Jesus

As true churches are established throughout the world false-teachers flood in laying trips on people as they are rejoicing in the Grace of God... "You must keep the Sabbath/become like us to be saved" Problem. **There're not saved themselves.** It too late in the game not to speak the whole truth in love. **[NJC]**

- **Acts 15 Jerusalem Council.** Do Gentiles need to become Jews to be saved?

4 And this occurred because of **false brethren** secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to **spy out our liberty** which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage), 5 to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

Reason for going to see the big wig Apostles?

Some religious guys [false-brethren] are sayin' my Gentile converts need to become Jews!

- **Spying out our Liberty in Christ:** Exist to twist?

1. **Freedom to Walk** in the Spirit
2. **Freedom to Please** God by faith
3. **Freedom to Act** out of love not fear

**Spying out our freedom in order to bring us into bondage
These sin-sniffers badgered Paul his entire Christian Life!**

2 Corinthians 11:13 ... false apostles, deceitful workers...

2 Corinthians 11:26 [of trials] ... in **perils among false brethren...**

- Paul fought to the death to uphold **our Christian liberty through Grace**

Galatians 5:1 [Christian Liberty] Stand fast therefore in the **liberty by which Christ** has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

Galatians 5:13 For you, brethren, have been **called to liberty...**

Q. Why do people knock on your door at 8:30am? **A.** Not to give but to take...To steal your freedom in Christ/bring you into the same satanic religious bondage they're suffering...and take your family hostage and from a **life-giving Him** named Jesus to the dungeon of an IT called Organized Religion while at the same time using all the same terminology. [NJC]

- We went to Jerusalem to make sure the Apostles were sending same message...

6 But from those who **seemed to be something**—whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God shows personal favoritism to no man—for those who seemed to be something **added nothing to me.**

- **Apostles:** No better than me just because they were called before me

1 Corinthians 15:8b... one born out of due time.

Romans 2:11 ... **there is no partiality with God.**

- God does not love Billy Graham more than you
- God does not love the Pastor more than the mysterious morning Cookie bringer
- God does not love the person next to you more than you and...
- God did not love/consider other Apostles more important than Paul

The Apostles added nothing to what I had already learned from Jesus
Grace...Grace...Grace

7 But on the contrary, when they saw that the **gospel for the uncircumcised** had been committed to me, as the **gospel for the circumcised was to Peter** 8 (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles), 9 and when James, Cephas, and John, **who seemed to be pillars**, perceived the **grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas** the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the

Gentiles and they to the circumcised. 10 They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.

- **Paul found out his work would not be in vain**
- **On the contrary...**

1. The Apostles in Jerusalem added nothing to my message
2. I actually added to them: **More complete understanding of Grace**

**Salvation by Grace alone through Faith alone in Jesus Alone. Period.
Jesus plus nothing equals Salvation**

- **Result of Paul's** 7396.1-mile trip to Jerusalem with Barnabas?
 1. **Right hand of fellowship** w/leaders in Jerusalem
 2. **Letter of recommendation** from them to go to Gentiles [Paul/Barnabas]
- **Paul's base of operations to Gentiles:** Antioch; i.e., South/Central Turkey
- **Peter later follows Paul to Antioch** to welcome new Gentile believers...

SUMMARY Defending the Gospel take home...

**Don't let unsaved religious intimidators/bullies lay heavy trips on you.
Life is heavy enough and Jesus knows it...that's why He finished the job.**

Matthew 11:28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

- Believe/Repent/Receive New Life in Jesus. It is that simple.

Yet... Believers are not immune from being tempted by Legalism

II. Our Relationship with God Legal or Loving?

11 Now **when Peter had come to Antioch**, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed 12 for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. 13 And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

- Peter comes to Antioch rejoicing w/new Gentile believers
- Jews show up Peter goes Kosher
 1. Pushes away the Bacon/Biscuits and Gravy
 2. Excuses himself from table of the "dogs"
 3. Puts on Yakima/Sits with the Jews just come from Jerusalem

Peter knew better...

- **Peter napping before lunch:** Vision of sheet w/unclean animals/ God says kill/eat
- Peter says "no" lord [oxymoron] they are unclean

Acts 10:15 And a voice spoke to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common."

- **Peter finally gets it.** God is telling me something. **He will save the Gentiles!**
- **Same time:** God-fearing Centurion Gentile sees/hears angel in vision. Find Peter

Acts 10:28 [Peter arrives and says...] "You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I should not call **any man common or unclean.**

- **Peter preaches the Gospel:** Jesus lived/died and rose again for your sins...

Acts 10:43 ... whoever believes in Him will receive remission [forgiveness] of sins.

- Gentiles believe/Holy Spirit falls/Speak in tongues glorifying God

Acts 10:34 Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God **shows no partiality.** 35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. 36 The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—**He is Lord of all**

Gospel of Grace offers Peace through Jesus Christ for He is Lord of all!

- So, what happened Peter. Pete. Papa. Pope. Infallible one. The last word.
- **NOTE:** Narrative is *descriptive* not *prescriptive*.
- **IOW:** Peters Letters 1st/2nd are perfect. **Peter's conduct in narrative no so much...**
 1. Peter keeps the dietary laws with the Jews
 2. Barnabas follows his hypocrisy...this is a Big Deal

Gentile believers are astonished/confused? What just happened?

- **Paul:** I rebuked Peter publicly to his face because he was wrong
- **Peter was being used by the devil...again**
 1. **First to keep Jesus from the Cross:** Get behind me Satan
 2. Now as a leader in the church to Steal, Kill/Destroy new believers?
- **This is serious/Paul is serious...**

14 But when I saw that they were not **straightforward about the truth** of the gospel, **I said to Peter before them all,** "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, **why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?**

- **Rebuke scathing, targeted, intense and loving ...**
 1. You were NOT living the truth of the Gospel
 2. Compelling new believers to fall from love to legalistic relationship

Today? Why are you telling me I have to keep the Sabbath when you don't?

You continually break the 1st and 2nd Commandments

Your Religion is your god and self-righteousness your idol!

- **Peter knew better...**He knew he couldn't keep the Law

Acts 15:10 [Peter rebuked those who did what he did...] Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

- **Why did Peter do it?** Allowed the fear of man to win over Fear of God in mind/heart

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.

We can all fall into legalism/pride. Wanting to seem righteous before others

- **E.g.,** I do this therefore God loves me more/I don't do this so God loves me more

We are miserable sinners in desperate need of a Savior
At Salvation we become thankful Saints...**still in desperate need of a Savior**

- **Paul continues rebuking Peter...**

15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, 16 knowing that a **man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ**, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be **justified by faith in Christ** and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

Three Big Life Changing Statements: Same thing different Words

1. Man is not justified by the works of the Law...**but by faith in Jesus Christ**
2. Man is justified by faith and **not by the works of the Law**
3. By the works of the Law **no flesh shall be justified**

Romans 3:20 ... by the deeds of the law **no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.**

- Have you ever stolen anything? What does that make you?
- Have you ever told a lie? What does that make you?

James 2:10 ... whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is **guilty of all.**

- **The Law does not save...**does not cleanse us from sin
- **The Law is a mirror** showing us our need to be saved/cleansed/washed

1. Jesus kept the entire Law in our place
2. Jesus paid for our sin on the Cross in our place...we all sin/all guilty

If we are honest, we know we have done far more than steal and lie. We have treated God and man with undiluted apathy and sought to please ourselves in every way possible. [NJC]

- The Stone-Cold Law only reveals our sin but is powerless to do nothing about it
- Kind enough to lead us by the hand to a loving Savior w/ the power to save/cleanse

I'm a sinner. What do I do? Fall on you face/Give Him your sin/Believe/Be free...

- **For the sinner** whose eyes were just opened by the Word of God
- **For the legalist** realizing you are not saved but enslaved to Religion/Tradition
- **For the believer** free-falling from grace/striving to convince God to love them more

Stop trying harder. Stop. Simply come to Jesus today.

Matthew 11:28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

No one has/ever will go to Heaven because of what they've done

Only by faith in Jesus and what He did/Applying His perfect sacrifice to our sin

- **Justification/Declared Righteous:** By faith alone in Christ alone

This is the primary truth to be proclaimed by the Christian ministry. It is the foundation-stone of all gospel preaching; and yet, somehow or other, such is the hardness of the human heart, that it is the **most difficult thing to induce our hearers** to build on this foundation. Many of them are always trying to **lean upon their own works**, and so struggling to get back under the old legal dispensation, instead of rejoicing in the liberty of the dispensation of grace. One objection to the doctrine of grace rather than the doctrine of law is this, that **some think it will lead to sin**. [Spurgeon]

- What will keep people in line if not the Law?

17 "But if, while we seek to be justified [declared righteous] by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a **minister of sin**? Certainly not!

Paraphrase: If we are declared righteous by God **why do we still sin?**
Is that the fault of Jesus? Certainly not!

- **Positionally** We are righteous in the Father's eyes. Seated with Christ
- **Practically** We still sin. We now have two natures; **Flesh vs Spirit**

What changed when we were saved? We now hate the sin that dwells within us

Romans 7:6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the **newness of the Spirit** and not in the oldness of the letter. 7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet." 8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me **all manner of evil desire**. For apart from the law sin was dead...

- **Paul the Apostle:**

1. The Law Lit up my sin up **like a pinball machine**
2. I didn't think about being greedy till God said...Don't be greedy

Rom. 7:13 But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good [the law], so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

- Law caused me to see how utterly sinful I am and **we ask as Paul...**

Rom. 7:24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? 25 **I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

- **Jesus delivered us from the...**
 1. Penalty of Sin
 2. Bondage of Sin... so again we ask...

Why do we still sin after being justified by faith?

Is that the fault of Jesus? Certainly not! So, what do we do? **Remember...**

- **Positionally** We are righteous in the Father's eyes. Seated with Christ
- **Practically** We still have our Old Sin Nature. Yet...

We now have the ability to overcome sin by God's Spirit Who came into our lives when we placed our faith in the finished work of Jesus on the Cross

Romans 8:10 ... if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

The Spirit brings our practical righteousness closer in-line to our positional righteousness Not just right in spiritual eternal realm...but actually doing right to our neighbor

- **Resurrection power over sin! I want more of that!**
 1. **STOP** Trying to keep the law leading to failure. AA Calendar
 2. **START** Walking in God's Spirit which leads to practical righteousness

E.g., The difference between waking up and saying "Lord I'm going to do this/this for You" or saying "Lord work through me today...I'm on your agenda whether it fits my plans or not"

Who gets the glory? ... God does! Who deserves the Glory...God does!

18 For if I build again those things which I destroyed [back to keeping law], I make myself a transgressor.

Trusting in your ability to keep the Law is not only futile it is a transgression and sin against a God who said you can't, demonstrating it by sending His Son to what you could not.

- **Trusting our ability to keep the Law is sin:** Results in pride/dissent/competition

Galatians 5:15 ...if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another! 16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Q. Why were they eating one another alive? **A.** Legalist convinced them it was a competition

- Exact opposite of the mind of Christ...

Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

- **I must die before I can live...**The law brings death as I realize I can't keep it/doomed

19 For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

- The Law brought death/Jesus brings life
- Moses could not bring the people into the Promised Land only Joshua could
- John the Baptist could only condemn with the Law but pointed to Jesus...

John 1:29 "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

John 1:16 [of Jesus] And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Through my sight of the law, which I have seen to be so stern that all it can do is to condemn me for my shortcomings, I am driven away from it, and led to come and live in Christ Jesus, under the rule of grace, and not under the law of Moses. [Spurgeon]

I died to the Law SO I COULD live to God

When did I die? 2000 Years ago...and the day I believed

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

I do not know a better [embodiment] of Christian experience than this. This is the daily walk of a true child of God, if he lives after any other sort, then he lives not a Christian's life at all. Christ living in us, ourselves living upon Christ, and our union to Christ being visibly maintained by an act of simple faith in him, this is the true Christian's life. [Spurgeon]

Colossians 3:2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ **For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.** ⁴ When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

- Spirit of Jesus living within me
- Love of Jesus compelling me
- Life of Jesus expressed through me in Actions/Thoughts/Words

Sinful Nature Crucified w/Christ. I now love what He loves/Hate what He hates

Old Nature wants to jump off that Cross and git some sinnin' done...

Romans 7:17 But now [that I am saved...] it is no longer I who do it [i.e., sin], but sin that dwells in me...**20** Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, **but sin that dwells in me.**

- Our Old Sinful Nature rears ugly head every chance it gets
- God's grace not only for Salvation... **but every minute/every day**

21 I do not set aside the grace of God

Paul still dealing with Peter's hypocrisy of going Kosher

I refuse to set-aside Despise, reject, think of as nothing **the grace God showed me**

21b... for if righteousness comes through the law, then **Christ died in vain.**"

My Savior died for Me and you're telling me that was not enough?

If I can be righteous by trying my best...Jesus Christ died for nothing

If a man can be saved by his own works, and will, and doings, then Christ's death was an unnecessary piece of torture; and, instead of being the most glorious manifestation of divine love, it was a shameful waste, putting upon Christ a terrible burden of suffering which was totally unnecessary. [Spurgeon]

- **Only self-righteousness** comes from attempting to keep the Law
- **God's Righteousness is just that...**God's righteousness given/gifted to us

Romans 3:20 ... by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God **apart from the law** is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even **the righteousness of God**, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.

- **Jesus applies His perfect righteousness** like a warm sweater moment I believe

I will not set aside the Grace of God

We are saved by Grace alone through Faith alone by Jesus alone

Ephesians 2:8 ... by **grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. **10** We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

We are saved by Grace **to do** Good Works...What Good Works?

Psalms 15:1 Lord, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? 2 He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his heart; 3 He who does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend; 4 In whose eyes a vile person is despised, But he honors those who fear the Lord; He who swears to his own hurt and does not change; 5 He who does not put out his money at usury, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved. [But how do we get there? Not by trying harder]

Matthew 24:12 ...because lawlessness will abound, the **love of many will grow cold.**

Natural response to current events? Our love for people growing cold

- **Church of Philadelphia:** Did not deny Name of Jesus/Held fast to His Word
- **Church of Ephesus:** Jesus also praised...

1. Tested false apostles
2. Persevered/Long suffering
3. Labored for My sake...

Revelation 2:4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have **left your first love.** 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works

**Careful. Natural response to current events is allowing our love to grow cold
We need a supernatural response to what is happening**

- **Supernatural response:** Not by trying harder but **walking in the Spirit**
- Jesus condenses all 613+ laws/commandments down to two...

Matthew 22: 36 [Expert in the Law to Jesus] "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" 37 Jesus said to him, "'You shall **love the Lord** your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall **love your neighbor as yourself.**' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

- Love God/Love People

Paul by God's Holy Spirit condensed these two commandments into one

Galatians 5:13 ... you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but **through love serve one another.** 14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**" 15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

- **We love an invisible God by loving people created in His image**

People would rather try to keep the 613+ rules rather than...

Sacrifice their lives/time/stuff in real/creative ways to love one another

- God's Grace is what compels us/sustains us/allows us to supernaturally Love

2 Corinthians 5:14 For the **love of Christ compels us,** because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, **that those who live should live no longer for themselves,** but for Him who died for them and rose again.

Paul said that he was gripped by the love of God and that is why he acted as he did... There was only one thing he lived for— to persuade people of the coming judgment of God and to tell them of "the love of Christ." This total surrender to "the love of Christ" is the only thing that will bear fruit in your life. And it will always leave the mark of God's holiness and His power, **never drawing attention to your personal holiness.** [Chambers]

- How do we live for the One who died for us? Die for others by His Resurrection Power

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

Ephesians 5:2 ... **walk in love,** as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

- If we falsely believe we earned our Salvation we make God a debtor. NO
- If we know Salvation was a free gift, **we owe a debt to others...**

Romans 13:8 Owe no one anything **except to love one another,** for he who loves another has **fulfilled the law.**

- Where does circumcision fit in?
- Where does keeping rituals fit in?

Leviticus 19:17 'You shall not hate your brother in your heart... **18** You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall **love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.**

John 13:34 [Jesus] A **new commandment** I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

- **New?** We can now actually do it indwelt w/Spirit of God. Act of Mind/Heart

What you would like done to you, said to you...do that for someone else. Now.

1. I want to be forgiven/encouraged/shown mercy/respected/loved unconditionally
2. I could use a leg up/a surprise gift/phone call/hand on shoulder/unexpected coffee
3. I love when people take time with me/pay attention/show real concern...**then do it**

- **To earn Salvation?** NO. To please the One who loved me enough to die for me

If we love God...we will naturally/supernaturally be able to love unlovable people
If we've experienced His grace... we will naturally/supernaturally reflect His Grace