

Part 3 – March 17, 2019 Pastor Shannon Chapman

In this series on grace, we will learn that while God loved us even as we were, He loves us too much to leave us there. His grace saves us and guides us out of the darkness and into the light. No matter where you are in your faith journey, this series will edify and strengthen an understanding of God's design in all our lives, starting from the inside out

Foundational Principle: God's grace is more than forgiveness; He sends His grace to teach us a new way to live.

Full Work of Grace

The full work of grace is:

Christ's payment for our sin

Christ's resurrection empowerment

Grace Filled Effort

Colossians 3:1-17

Comes from a New Heart

Jesus tells Nicodemus in the NT you must be "born again" to have eternal life.

Through being justified to God by Christ, He now regenerates our hearts and gives us eyes and ears to hear and see Him in all things.

Grace filled effort can't be manufactured out of a sinful heart. It is a new heart that grace filled effort is born out of!

Uses Weapons of Grace

Ephesians 2:13 – Blood of Christ

2 Timothy 3:16-17 – Word of God

These weapons help us run to God and not away from God when we stumble and fall.

Seeks a heart transplant, not behavior modification

We think that we are not wicked and in need of repentance and that we just need to modify our behavior.

Until our heart issues are recognized and resolved, trying to tweak our behaviors is like chasing your own tail.

You don't just trim the branches; you pull up the roots.

Where the heart is changed, so is the behavior.

Sees the Bigger Reason

Grace filled effort is not motivated by the fact that when I sin I feel bad; it is birthed out of the understanding that when I sin I make light of the God of the universe.

Paul says: (2 Corinthians 7:10)

Worldly Sorrow – ends in death

Godly Sorrow – ends in repentance

Puts Sin to Death

We need to be dead to sin, not just forsake it.

If we have been raised with Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit, we are no longer bound, and we can say, "NO," and walk away!

Grace for the Humble

James 4:6, But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

There is a link between humility and grace.

Pride harms us deeply; grace heals us deeply.

What describes your heart currently? Humble or prideful?