

Part 1 – March 3, 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.

God's Ongoing Work in Us

Grace forgives, but it also guides.

If we wait until we have sinned to call upon the grace of God, we've squandered the greater part of grace.

Grace restores, but it also guards.

It instructs us to deny ungodly ways and teaches us how to live godly lives in this present age.

The Good News of Grace

Grace does not just stop once we have been saved. Grace continues to reach into our lives day after day in more ways than we probably understand.

Grace is never attained; it is received.

Romans 14:17, For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The grace of the <u>Holy Spirit</u> wants to lead us into righteousness, peace, and joy in everyday life.

God's Gift of Grace

Titus 2:11-14, For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

GRACE brings <u>salvation</u>.

Ephesians 2:8, *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.*

This is the starting point of our lives in Christ, but the good news is it gets even <u>better</u>!

GRACE teaches us to say "no."

Romans 6:1-2, What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

Grace teaches us how to resist temptation and ungodliness.

When in doubt, call on the grace of God!

GRACE teaches us how to <u>live</u>.

Titus 2:11-12 teaches there is a sanctifying power to the grace of God.

Grace is the favor of an undeserved mercy that comes to us again and again.

Asking God for grace is like dragging yourself back to the <u>cross</u> for another chance to grow in repentance and godliness.

GRACE fills us with hope.

Hebrews 6:19, We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain.

Grace fills us with hope for this life and the <u>next</u>!

Ask for Grace

Hebrews 4:16, So now we come freely and boldly to where love is enthroned, to receive mercy's kiss and discover the grace we urgently need to strengthen us in our time of weakness.

God's grace wants to teach us a new way to live.

Never forget that there is always more grace available for us in each new day and every new situation.