

OVERFLOWING GRACE

For the next few weeks I am to speak about overflow and into your lives.

Overflow is wonderful word and it is used in the scripture and alluded to in many passages.

Overflow - to flow over the brim. In ancient Hebrew it literally means a river breaking over its banks and flooding the surrounding lands.

When we consider overflow there is one fundamental question we must answer.

We can't move forward till we answer this question

Is God's desire lack, insufficiency, scarcity or is His will abundance, bountifulness and plenty?

In the OT lack, famine and scarcity were always a result of disobedience and a lack of faith.

The Blessing was always a means to abundance and plenty.

So if God's will is abundance, plenty and overflow what do we need do to get into the flow of the overflow?

There are a great many things God wants to reach overflow level in our life.

1. Grace
2. Love
3. Thanksgiving
4. Resources

This month is dedicated to the Overflow

Today I hope to convey some understanding of Overflowing Grace.

Grace is as overwhelming, abundant and available as is the love of God.

2Co 9:8 (NASB)

8 And **God is able to make all grace overflow to you**, so that, always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;

every moment and in every way. He will make you overflow with abundance in every good thing you do.

2Co 9:8 (AMPC)

8 And God is able **[more than willing]** to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation].

Really all we need do is remove the hindrances to grace.

When it comes to grace we can do 1 of 2 things

1. Nullify
2. Magnify

Gal 2:21 (AMPC) 21 [Therefore, I do not treat God's gracious gift as something of minor importance and defeat its very purpose]; I do not set aside and invalidate and frustrate and nullify the grace (unmerited favor) of God. For if justification (righteousness, acquittal from guilt) comes through [observing the ritual of] the Law, then Christ (the Messiah) died groundlessly and to no purpose and in vain. [His death was then wholly superfluous.]

So then the question is how do we nullify the grace of God?

1Pe 5:5 (AMPC) 5 Likewise, you who are younger and of lesser rank, be subject to the elders (the ministers and spiritual guides of the church)-- [giving them due respect and yielding to their counsel]. Clothe (apron) yourselves, all of you, with humility [as the garb of a servant, so that its covering cannot possibly be stripped from you, **with freedom from pride and arrogance**] toward one another. For God sets Himself against the proud (the insolent, the overbearing, the disdainful, the presumptuous, the boastful)--[and He opposes, frustrates, and defeats them], but gives grace (favor, blessing) to the humble.

We miss out on the full outpouring of God's grace and favor by being prideful. Many people lack an understanding of pride and its devastating effects on our lives.

Pride is not just exalting yourself; it is also NOT agreeing with what God says about you.

Downplaying what God has done in your life for fear of how people will respond is pride.

When you honor God and give Him the glory, He'll honor you. If you truly humble yourself and are thankful for all God has done, you'll open the door to receiving more grace and more favor.

Luk 18:9-14 (TPT) 9 Jesus taught this parable to **those who were convinced they were morally upright and those who trusted in their own virtue yet looked down on others with disgust:**

10 "Once there were two men who went into the temple to pray. One was a proud religious leader, the other a despised tax collector.

11 (11-12) The religious leader stood apart from the others and prayed, 'How I thank you, O God, that I'm not wicked like everyone else. They're cheaters, swindlers, and crooks—like that tax collector over there. God, you know that I never cheat or commit adultery; I fast from food twice a week and I give you a tenth of all I make.'

13 "The tax collector stood off alone in the corner, away from the Holy Place, and covered his face in his hands, feeling that he was unworthy to even look up to God. Beating his breast, he sobbed with brokenness and tears saying, 'God, please, in your mercy and because of the blood sacrifice, forgive me, for I am nothing but the most miserable of all sinners!'

14 "Which one of them left for home that day made right with God? It was the humble tax collector and not the religious leader! For everyone who praises himself will one day be humiliated before all, and everyone who humbles himself will one day be lifted up and honored before all."

I'm about to make a statement that will rock some and anger others. **[Sin will not stop the operation of grace in your life, but pride will.](#)**

Rom 5:20 (NAS95) ...where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

Pride hinders, voids out grace in our life.

Humility and gratitude put us in the overflow

More Grace More Favor!

Grace must be more than just a word.

For some grace is just a word But grace, in the New Testament, is force: it is a heavenly strength put on men

The Gospel of Grace is the most basic, foundational message of the New Testament, yet it's the most misunderstood.

Today's religious system is not preaching the same Gospel that Paul did. They mix it with the Law, and that isn't the Gospel at all.

The book of Romans was written to explain the Gospel of Grace so that anybody could understand it.

Paul, the writer, made it so simple that you'd have to have somebody help you to misunderstand it. And, unfortunately, we've had a *lot* of help!

Paul started off with this statement in **Rom 1:16 (NASB) 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.**

That is a radical statement. This word "gospel" in the original Greek is a word that was seldom used at the time this was written. Nobody talked this way, because the word literally means nearly-too-good-to-be-true news. It referred to news that was so awesome, nothing really justified using it. Nothing was nearly too good to be true.

But Paul said he was *not* ashamed of the Gospel. Why? ***"For it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."***

The Gospel is the power of God, and that's talking about grace.

Acts 20:24 and Galatians 1:6 both use the terms "gospel" and "grace" interchangeably. It's saying that **when you understand the Gospel, or the grace of God, it'll release the power of God into your life.** That's huge!

The next verse in Romans 1 says,

Rom 1:17 (NASB) 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written: "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS ONE WILL LIVE BY FAITH."

Notice that righteousness is not revealed from Law to Law, from good deed to good deed—it's revealed from faith to faith.

Here's a good piece of information to consider: **Sin won't stop the power of God for salvation in your life but trusting in your own good works will.** That's what "*the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith*" means. You receive the righteousness of God by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8)! God won't withdraw His power because of sin in your life. **That's why it's nearly-too-good-to-be-true news.**

2Co 12:8-10 (NASB) Concerning this I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might leave me. [9] And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. [10] Therefore I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in distresses, in persecutions, in difficulties, in behalf of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

Three is the number of completion. So many scholars believe that what Paul was saying was that this completely occupied his prayer life.

Every time he prayed he prayed about freedom from this demonic messenger.

He has said - in the Greek language its imperative which means God gave Paul His final, ultimate answer

My grace is sufficient [enough, adequate, plenty of, ample, abundant.] for you....

No matter what you encounter or hard life gets...My final answer is MY GRACE IS ENOUGH, MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR YOU.

Say: OVERFLOW!

Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses,

Never again will you find Paul praying about his problems. Rather than complain about his problems he would rather boast about his weakness.

so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. [10] Therefore I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in distresses, in persecutions, in difficulties, in behalf of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

So as we commence to closing - how do we step into the overflow of Grace.

By boasting about God's grace in our lives.

Remember its revealed from faith to faith.

Step into the overflow by faith.

Talk about Grace

Boast about Grace

Make place for grace in your life by faith.

1Pe 4:10 (TPT) 10 Every believer has received grace gifts, so use them to serve one another as faithful stewards of the many-colored tapestry of God's grace.