"Character of God" Part 2: GRACE Sunday, November 22nd, 2020

Exodus 34:6 (NIV)

"And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and **gracious** God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,"

Examples:

-Psalm 45:2 —> "lips of grace" (delightful and favorable) -Proverbs 1:9 —> "ornament of grace" (attracts attention and favor)

-Esther 8:3 -> "a request for grace" (when Esther approaches the King of Persia to ask that she and her people be spared from death)

-Giving a gift of favor is GRACE because it's motivated by delight.

Genesis 33:8 —> "May I find grace in your eyes" (Jacob isn't asking for what's fair, but for favor, and surprisingly, that's what Esau gives him.

GIVING GRACE REQUIRES A GENEROUS SPIRIT

Exodus 33:14 (NIV)

"The Lord replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.""

<u>Isaiah 30:18 (NIV)</u>

"Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!"

God IS RICH IN MERCY and by His GRACE He has rescued us!

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast."

This is the GOOD NEWS: that Jesus' life, death and resurrection have been offered to us as a generous gift of life that is more powerful than death!