

GRACE CLOSES THE GAP

LUKE 15 THE LOST SHEEP, THE LOST COIN, AND THE LOST SON:

Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. ²This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people—even eating with them! So Jesus told them this story...

If Brothers loved like Fathers.... The *older brother* would have _____.
The *younger brother* would have _____.

PSALM 84:10, 1 PETER 2:4–5, ACTS 20:28–31

"Not in Our House" A DECLARATION OF OWNERSHIP, OF ALERTNESS, AND INTENTION.
– and an understanding that **WE ARE SHAPING SOMETHING.**

NOT IN OUR HOUSE: NO ISOLATED KIDS

*"If everyone showed Grace **like I do**,
would this church look **more or less like the Father's House?**"*

OBSERVATIONS OF GRACE:

1. Grace makes it _____ **for** _____ to be in the room.
2. Grace is **willing to be** _____. MATT 11:19, LUKE 7:34
3. Grace is willing to **let God be the Judge.** LUKE 15:1, GALATIANS 5:22-23
4. Grace _____ **there is more** to the story. LUKE 15:13-17
5. Grace **allows others to** _____.
6. Grace **assumes others don't know the** _____ **story.** Then shares it.

*Find the right rooms and the right ways to share your story –
and be patient with those who are learning to trust it. Show grace!*

When we look for a reason to widen the gap **we can probably find it.**

When we look for a reason to close the gap **we can probably find it.**

7. **Grace produces grace** – so we need a revelation of the grace we've received.

ROMANS 5:1–2,5 NLT

...since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, **we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us...**we know how dearly God loves us, because **he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.**

SEE ALSO: 1 JOHN 4:19, MATTHEW 10:8, MATTHEW 12:34

The House of God is THE House of Grace.

If this isn't a House of Grace then it isn't the House of God.

“God sets the solitary into families”

EVERY PERSON HAS THESE **3 LEGITIMATE NEEDS**.
IS THIS A FAMILY THAT MEETS THESE NEEDS?

1. **Safety** is the recognition that I can be at peace – I can really be me without looking over my shoulder and wondering if others are snickering or criticizing or plotting against me. I am secure.
2. **Significance** is the recognition that I have purpose and value. I have something to contribute. There’s a specific mission that I’m made for and I have the skills and partnership to make it. My life matters.
3. **Affection** is the recognition that someone is concerned with my presence and well-being in a personal way. I can expect comfort when I hurt and celebration when I excel because they see me with eyes of love. I belong.

IF THIS ENTIRE TOPIC IS A
CHALLENGE FOR YOU BUT
YOU’RE WILLING TO GROW,
CHECK OUT THESE TWO
OTHER MESSAGES THAT
ADDRESS IT:



“DEVOTED TO DINNER”
FINDING MOTIVATION
IN *HARD RELATIONSHIPS*



“LIFE IN THE FAMILY”
JESUS INVITES US INTO
NEW LIFE OF HIS KINGDOM

From the beginning, the Church was charged with the need for vigilance and determination. Just a few of the many scriptures making this clear:

2 TIMOTHY 1:13–14 NIV

What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴**Guard the good deposit** that was entrusted to you—**guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit** who lives in us.

COLOSSIANS 2:8 NLT

Don’t let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ.

1 PETER 5:8–9 NIV

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion **looking for someone to devour**. ⁹**Resist him, standing firm in the faith...**

1 CORINTHIANS 16:13 NLT

Be on guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong.

PRAY ABOUT GOING ALL IN AT NEW CITY FOR ONE YEAR. SEE WHAT GOD COULD DO!



“I’m going all in today”

I am going to join and attend **a small group**
I am going to complete all steps of **Discover Track**
I am going to begin **serving on a team**
I am going to take a **GrowU class**
I am going to **pray about** giving to the **Year-End Offering**