

PRIVILEGED *“God’s Favor Is for Everyone”* November 18, 2018

Psalm 34:8 Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in Him!

PRAYER - “You are a child of the Most High King. A recipient of His undeserved favor. A partaker in a far better covenant. A candidate for His eternal purposes. A partner in His divine promises.”

**Grace is love acting. Nothing passive. God’s love in action.*

Jeremiah 31:3 ...“I have loved you, My people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing love, I have drawn you to Myself.

**God’s grace & love has no beginning or ending; He will never stop loving us! There’s nothing we can do to make God love us more, & there’s nothing we can do to make God love us less.*

His grace & favor is coming at you right now; accept & receive it by faith

John 1:16 AMP Out of **His** fullness/abundance we’ve all received, had a share in & supplied with one grace after another & spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing & even favor upon favor & gift heaped upon gift.

***God desires for His grace to influence all of your life. In His grace, He’s calling & empowering you to grow in spiritual maturity & Christlikeness.*

1 Peter 2:1 Get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, & all unkind speech. 2 Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you’ll grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, 3 now that you’ve had a taste of the Lord’s **kindness. (graciousness, goodness, grace)**

5 Areas Where His Grace Transforms & Empowers Our Lives

1. Saving Grace: *God's power to forgive us & make us new in Jesus.*

Ephesians 2:8 God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it's a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we've done, so none of us can boast about it. 10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.

**Saving Grace: keeps us from being lost; is the impartation of God's forgiveness; is God's love rescuing us*

2. Sanctifying Grace: *God's power to purify & enable us to live holy lives.*

Titus 2:11 The grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people **12** We're instructed to turn from godless living & sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness & devotion to God.

**Sanctifying Grace: keeps us from being contaminated; is the impartation of God's holiness; is God's love cleansing us*

3. Strengthening Grace: *God's power to energize & inspire us to victoriously reign in life.*

Romans 5:17 ...even greater is God's wonderful grace and His gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

**Strengthening Grace: keeps us from being defeated; is the impartation of God's might; is God's love empowering us*

4. Sharing Grace: *God's power to meet our needs & joyfully give to others.*

2 Corinthians 9:8 God will generously provide all you need. Then you'll always have everything you need & plenty left over to share with others.

**Sharing Grace: keeps us from lack & selfishness; is the impartation of God's generosity; is God's love supplying us*

5. Serving Grace: *God's power to serve Him & others.*

1 Peter 4:10 God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

**Serving Grace: keeps us from being unproductive; is the impartation of God's ability; is God's love assisting us*

8 STATEMENTS OF WHAT GOD'S GRACE IS NOT

1. Grace is not merely a prayer said before a meal. Thanking God always reminds us of His grace, but His grace is much more.
2. Grace is not the ability to miserably tolerate a situation or a person. Sometimes people say, "God just gives me the grace to live in this misery" **No!** God's grace always inspires life, love, hope goodness, kindness, & faith in our talk and our walk and our life!
3. Grace is not a dead, theological concept. We can study & talk about grace all day, but we'll never receive God's transforming power of grace until we open our hearts to Him. He wants us to have more than just "head knowledge" but grasp His grace with our hearts. "Heart knowledge" Be partakers of His grace.
4. Grace is not a license to sin. God's grace will always encourage us & enable us to resist temptation & sin. **Galatians 5:13** You've been called to live in freedom, my brothers & sisters. Don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Use your freedom to

serve one another in love. **Titus 2:11 AMP** God's grace, unmerited favor & blessing, has come forward, for the deliverance from sin & the eternal salvation for all mankind. 12 It's trained us to reject & renounce all ungodliness, irreligion & worldly passionate desires; to live discreet, temperate, self-controlled, upright devout, spiritually whole lives in this present world.

5. Grace is not cheap. Grace is costly. It's sacred, holy, & as precious as the blood of Jesus that was shed for us. His grace should cause us to have reverence, awe, & respect for God, who so freely gave us such an extravagant gift.
6. Grace does not save us because of our performance. God is the giver. God is the initiator. You're not. You can't do anything to make Him love you or accept you more than He always has. **Romans 11:6** ...it's through God's kindness, then it's not by their good works. For in that case, God's grace would not be what it really is – free & undeserved.
7. Grace is not a cop-out from assuming responsibility or an excuse to avoid spiritual disciplines. God's grace will propel us into spiritual disciplines. "God gives us His ability & then we respond; we respond to His ability – hence, 'responsibility'." True grace is God's enablement, empowering us to respond to His ability & to His wonderful, fantastic plan for our lives.
8. Grace does not imply the absence of challenges or effort. Jesus faced intense challenges & pressures. The grace of God is what got Him through it all, without sin or failure. Paul faced severe opposition, yet God's grace was sufficient to sustain him & to see him through every difficulty. We do have to fight, but we "fight the good fight of faith" because God's grace is mightily working in us and producing victory!!