

“OUTRAGEOUS GRACE”
The Extraordinary Gift of Grace #5
December 27, 2020

“Know, therefore, that the LORD your God is NOT giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people. Deuteronomy 9:6

The Power of God’s Outrageous Grace:

Grace = God’s wonderful acceptance of us not because we have earned it or deserve it but because, out of His great love for us and mercy towards us, he freely adopts us as His children at Christ’s expense.

1. The Good News: God doesn’t NEED you – *For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are,²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.*
1 Corinthians 1:26-29

2. The Painful Price of Living up to the Law – *Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.* Galatians 2:21-23

3. The Freedom that Flows from Outrageous Grace – *And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,⁶ just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:⁷ “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;⁸ blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”* Romans 4:5-8

4. The Scandalous Joy of Outrageous Grace! *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* Ephesians 2:8-9

THE JOURNEY DEVOTIONAL
December 27th, 2020 Week
Discussion Questions from the Sermon

1. What was something you read in the weekly Scripture readings or heard in the sermon that made an impact on you? Explain.
2. In the sermon we told three powerful stories about God's grace (John Newton, Jeffrey Dahmer, and the story about Disney World). For you, which of these stories was particularly powerful? Why?
3. Read Deuteronomy 9:6. What does this verse teach you about God? About grace?
4. In the sermon we talked about how difficult it is for us to accept the concept of grace. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
5. In the sermon we talked about "the painful price of living up to the law." In light of the sermon and Galatians 2:21-23, why is this the case? Can you share from your own experience?
6. In the sermon we talked about "the freedom that flows from outrageous grace." How would you explain this concept? How has God's grace brought freedom to your life?
7. How will you respond to this sermon and/or the Scripture passages?

Weekly Bible Memory Verse: *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.* Ephesians 2:8-9

Bible Readings: Reading these passages of Scripture will help you become like Jesus in how you think and what you do, in addition to preparing you for next week's sermon. Remember to read these passages slowly, allowing the Lord to speak to your heart and mind:

Monday – Ezekiel 36:22-38

Tuesday – Romans 5:12-21

Wednesday – 1 John 5:6-21

Thursday – John 16:16-33

Friday – 2 Corinthians 2:12-17

Saturday – Hosea 11:1-11

Sunday – Ephesians 2:1-10