

The Whole Church #24 – Grace #12

AT Snacks-- October 6, 2024

Andy Taylor/Trinity Fellowship- Sayre, Oklahoma

Monday:

Roy, Kyle, Steve and others are in North Carolina helping to clean up. This is not only a humanitarian effort to help people down there. It's an apostolic venture. They are kingdom representatives of the Kingdom of God down there, ministering to those people.

Your testimony has the ability to encourage people where they are, so you need to start to get better at telling your story.

Eric's story shows us that no matter what kind of negative place a person might be in, that God can move them from there to a really solid, safe, productive kingdom life.

With any kind of negative situation that happens with a kingdom person, only one of two things can happen. God is going to fix it, or He's going to give you grace to endure it and go through it until it is fixed.

Here's what we do at Trinity. We nurture, we love, we train, we mature people, and we bring correction when necessary, for all the people whom God has given us. We are repairing, nurturing, and equipping them so they can be the best version of themselves, as they cooperate with the Lord in this critical season.

I don't know anybody anywhere who ought to be in better shape to cooperate with God in what He's doing than you are, because we've talked to you about things that are taking place, so you can be a functional contributor- not someone standing on the sidelines, not somewhere caught up back in the pack, but rather, a person who can be right on the front edge of what it is that God is doing. Will you do something with it? Will you???

He's invited us to share in this monumental journey, this adventure, like none other, with Him. We've been given the incredible opportunity to see the greatest display of supernatural signs, wonders, miracles and agape love, which is the purest kind of love, in its purest form.

Tuesday:

There are five spiritual things that kind of outlined Eric's whole life, that he brought out last week in his message:

- Trust Jesus as your Savior
- Relate to God as Father
- Surrender your will over to Him
- Follow His voice and follow His Spirit

- Seek the Kingdom – If you seek the kingdom first, you’re going to encounter and happen onto the King early on. That’s the key.

It’s having the experiential knowledge that God is a Father, interacting with Him, learning to listen to His voice, learning to follow the lead of the Spirit, and learning to relate to God as Father.

Psalms 84:10-11 says, *“For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly”*.

It’s the grace of God that upholds you. It’s the grace of God that keeps you from totally disintegrating, because of the blood of Jesus. Jesus laid down His life on the cross and got what every human being had coming. Grace not only saves and sustains you, but carries you through every situation in your life.

Here’s my definition of grace for today: *God’s supernatural ability to do everything or anything in your life that needs to be done to help you to be like Jesus, and to perfectly live out the life He has purposed for you.*

Paul was taken into the third heaven and heard and saw things that were unlawful for anybody to see or hear. So, he was given a messenger of Satan to buffet him, a thorn in the flesh, so he wouldn’t get prideful about these things that God was doing in him. The people who are at greatest risk of pride are the people whom God’s is moving in and through.

Paul was the one who God had entrusted to carry this message of grace throughout the known world at that time. He was the number one spokesman on the whole planet on the subject of grace.

God loved Paul so much that He couldn’t allow him to fall into the inevitable trap of pride. God loved the message of grace so much that He couldn’t allow it to be contaminated by someone moving, walking, living, or talking in prideful terms.

Wednesday:

Whatever you are going through in your life right now, Jesus said, *“My grace is sufficient”*. You don’t have to be at your very best to be a functional contributor. In fact, in Paul’s case, you could be at your very worst, because it’s not about you. And, God will use you and work through you, if you will allow Him to.

If you mess up, He’ll forgive you and give you grace. Paul wrote, *“No temptation has overtaken you, except such as common to man; but God is faithful, Who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it”*.

But He also gives you the grace, that if you’ll pay attention to His spirit before you mess up, God will fix that before you do mess up. That’s where we want to get to.

You’re going to see grace at a level you’ve never, ever seen before. The controversy always comes from the religious crowd. It always happens like that.

Religious tradition always stands against the new move of God, because they think that what they had was so good, it couldn't ever get any better.

For people who have heard this message for years, we ought to be better at this stuff than most, because we talk about it, and we are learning to live it out.

Grace must be experienced before you can ever start the process of understanding it. You can do all kinds of research, but until you start to experience grace, you don't have a clue.

Thursday:

The detractors of grace feel that we have a lack of transformation and an absence of discipleship. They have a point, if we are not committing ourselves to spiritual growth.

If you are going to be like Jesus, you can't just hang around and wish that it would happen. You have to put your hand to the plow.

It's not rare for someone who starts to receive the words and the message of grace to veer off the road and get in a ditch. But if you will keep your focus on the Lord and keep on relating to God as Father, you will get pulled up out of that ditch.

We can't get lazy or lax in our thought, our speech, or our actions. We don't minimize sin, but the New Testament is not focused on sin; it's focused on life, grace, peace and joy.

Presumptive grace is skating around the edges of righteousness. We are not given grace so that we can skirt the edges of right and wrong. He gives us grace so that we can live the fullest, most victorious, most productive life possible.

Whether we know it or not, all of us have been influenced by a mixture of law and grace, which runs rampant in the Bible Belt.

We learn about grace, and experience grace, as we go through the highs and lows, the mountains and the valleys of life. Galatians 5:4 says, "*You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law. You have fallen from grace*". God says, "*I will never leave you nor forsake you*".

What you do does not dictate righteousness or unrighteousness. It just means that you're out of fellowship with God when you're estranged. He's never going to leave you, nor forsake you, but you can cut yourself off from hearing the voice of God and the favor of God.

You may have fallen from grace, but that doesn't mean that you have lost your salvation. You are not going to lose your salvation. I don't care what somebody told you.

When you have fallen from grace, you have resorted to a much, much lower form of kingdom living. You're not going to live and experience grace if you keep on trying to be justified by the things that you do. It means that you are living in a whole lower form of life.

Don't you want to live the best kind of life that Jesus died for you to live in? Galatians 5:13 says, "*For you, brethren, have been called to liberty, only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another*".

Friday:

Paul said, “*All things are lawful for me, but all things are not profitable*”. Let’s commit ourselves to spiritual growth. Let’s not take the sacrifice of Jesus lightly.

There’s a steady flow of information coming toward you from the throne of God all the time, about you, about your life, and about how you live your life.

It’s the old, fighting against the new. Religious tradition always dies screaming, so let’s examine ourselves, and make sure we are not getting lazy with grace. An accurate understanding of grace always leads to less sin, never more. The more you understand grace through experience, the more righteous your thoughts, your conduct and your behavior will be.

When you think about it, grace almost seems too good to be true. When you think it’s almost too good to be true, you’re almost tapping into what grace really is.

So, people who don’t have a relationship with the Father see God as angry. **God is not mad.** People who are not in an ongoing, deepening relationship with the Father are in a religious mode, rather than a relationship mode.

It’s just stupid to think that what you do makes you righteous. We are righteous by what Jesus has already done. That’s what gave you your righteousness. He has done everything He can do for you to live a glorious life.

Two books that I highly recommend: “*Pure Grace*” by Clark Whitten and “*Unfiltered Grace*” by Joe Langley. These books are both game changers.

The best life you can live is lived in a delicate balance between liberty and responsibility. Galatians 5:1 says, “*Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made you free, and don’t be entangled again in a yoke of bondage*”. What he is talking about is falling back under legalistic, rules-oriented religion, not falling back under sin.

To keep from falling back, watch yourself, and examine yourself and don’t drift out of your relationship with the Father.

Saturday:

Malachi 3:10 says, “*Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try (test) Me now in this*”, says the Lord of hosts, “*if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it*”.

People can begin to give out of condemnation. That’s not grace.

You should go back and listen to the two words that came recently on giving under grace. I guarantee you, these will revolutionize every bit of your finances.

God wants to pour you out such a blessing that you don’t have room enough to receive. He will bless you so that you can be a blessing to other people, those who might have a need.

Most people in the body of Christ, when it comes to their giving, are the tail, and not the head.

You are not under the legalistic requirement to give anything under grace. But, if you get faithful to the Lord and test Him, He always does His part.

When you become a giver, the Lord will rebuke the devourer for your sake, so that your finances are not eaten up. He keeps the devourer from destroying the fruit of your ground. All nations will call you blessed, and you shall be a delightful land. **As a man sows, so shall he reap.**

Are you in debt? You know what you need to do; not save, but give. Because you give, then it's given unto you. You have access to all the blessings, but it's contingent on your willingness to be obedient to the Lord in your giving. That is the key.

What is going on in your life right now? You might even have a thorn in the flesh, one of those things you can't seem to get out from under. The Lord wants me to communicate this to you, *"Invite Jesus into your situation"*.

Take full advantage of this season, which I believe is the greatest season of favor, blessing, signs and wonders, awakening, salvations, healings, supernatural miracles, the greatest season that's ever happened in the context of time.

Are you going through a hard time? Take up your cross and follow Him. Don't let what's happening in your life deter you, or slow you down, or keep you from doing what God wants you to do.