

## Amazing Grace

### Ephesians 2:8

Grace is used in a lot of ways. It's been used to describe the way a person moves.

It has been used by many parents to name their daughter, but none of these catch the true meaning of Grace. I want to bring you to a deeper understanding of what grace is today.

Example: Tony and Rebecca Realy have a projector screen the size of an entire wall. My boys like to play video games on it. Racing games to be exact. He even has a racing seat that you sit in and a steering wheel and brake and gas pedal. I crashed so many times on that game that I lost count. The coolest part about the game was. Every time I crashed I was restored immediately. Ne dents, no broken bones. You can start all over again. When you crash and burn the games puts you back together again and it places me back on the track for another go at it.

That's the way it is with the Lord. He forgives us and restores us when we mess up and puts us back in action, hopefully a little wiser after our failures and bad decisions.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is a gift of God. Ephesians 2:8” Peter writes, “And the God of all Grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 1Peter 5:10”

- So what is GRACE? It's Gods Riches At Christ's Expense.
- So, what is so amazing about Grace? Lets look at some stories in the Bible for our answer.

1. Grace is contrary to human logic:

- How can one man, one death, on one afternoon be so powerful as to change the course of history and humanity? How a great Savior can save a lousy sinner is a mystery best solved by putting away human logic.
- Grace is not about finishing first or last, or totaling up all our good or bad. Grace is not about uncertain accounting before God, but our unconditional acceptance in Christ.
- Jesus teaches that the 99 sheep are not the issue, but the one lost sheep that counts to God! Go figure! Which leads me to my next point..

## 2. Grace seeks us out!!

- 2 Samuel 9. When he finds out about Mephibosheth, David demonstrated God's grace in how he treated this crippled young man. This is a perfect picture of God's grace to us.
- Mephibosheth doesn't seek out the king. The king took the initiative and sought him out. Does that sound familiar? 1 John 4:10 "Not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." God took the initiative in seeking us out.
- David saw that Mephibosheth was crippled and living Lo Debar. Lo Debar is a place of poverty and desolation.
- What a picture of the sinner outside of Christ. We are crippled by sin. We live spiritual poverty. There is absolutely nothing in us that should make a king seek us out, but he Did!!!

- Example: I read about a man that started an orphanage filled with kids who had no parents, but very special children. Not those who were cute and adorable, but those who were disfigured, mangled, or crippled, the kids no one else wanted.
- One day he heard about a little girl that had lost her family in a fire and she was badly burned herself. He went to ask her if she would like to live in his orphanage and she said, you don't want me. I'm ugly. Nobody wants me. He picked her up and kissed her face and said you are exactly the little girl I want to be in my family.
- That is what grace does. When we are crippled and scarred, grace seeks us out and says you are just the kind of person that I want to pour my love and favor on!!!!

### 3. Grace gives us the blessings of another.

- God's grace means that we are blessed and honored for the sake of another, his name is Jesus!!
- Everything that Jesus earned by His death, burial and resurrection, I get to share in, as if I had earned it. Grace doesn't give me the blessings that I deserve. Grace gives me the blessings Jesus deserves!!

### 4. Grace makes family out of enemies.

- When a king ascends to the throne it is customary to kill all of the old kings descendants. But when King David sent for Mephibosheth, he thought that

he was going to be put to death. Instead, David said, I'm going to treat you like family. You are going to eat at my table.

- That's what grace does. The Bible says we are enemies of God, but because of His grace we are forgiven and adopted into His family!!!

5. Grace gives us courage to face our past and be free from it.

- How many of you know who John Newton is? Read the story.

6. Lastly, Grace gives us cause for celebration!!!

- Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sin, in accordance with the riches of grace.”
- Why is this a cause for celebration? Forgiveness of sin, abundant life now, and eternal life.
- There is an old song that say, “What a day that will be when my Savior I shall see. When I look upon His face, the one who saved me by His grace. When he takes me by the hand and leads me through the Promised Land. What a day, glorious day that will be!!!”