

## **God's Grace at Work**

God is called "*The God of all grace*" (1 Peter 5:10). If this is true — and it is — and grace is an all-important aspect of God's nature, then it is certainly all-important for us to understand what it is. It is certainly *not* what a lot of people think.

- \* Grace is *not* just a prayer we pray over a meal.
- \* Grace is *not* God being very kind so turning a blind eye to sin.

There are two wonderful aspects to the grace of God, both working together:

- \* Grace is God's undeserved favour
- \* Grace is God's enabling power

#### **God's Undeserved Favour**

The Bible says "*it is by grace you have been saved, through faith* — *and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God* — *not by works, so that no one can boast*" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

In other words we did not deserve God's favour, yet because of His matchless love, He extended his mercy toward us and saved us, despite our hopeless condition. Grace is God's mercy at work. Even though we were sinners, deserving of judgment, God forgave us and saved us in Christ.

God saved us "*not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace*" 2 Timothy 1:9. This is the essence of grace. It is not because of anything we ourselves do. It is totally undeserved, totally free and totally extended toward us!

### **God's Enabling Power**

In your salvation, the fullness of God's grace is at work. Through God's unmerited favour you receive forgiveness and restored relationship with Him in spite of the fact that you do not deserve it. But more than that, God's enabling power is also at work. It is only by God's grace that you are transformed, born again and become a new creation.

Grace not only makes us accepted into the family of God; grace also enables us to live the Christian life! Grace simply means that God does what we cannot do ourselves. We could not save ourselves, so God saved us by His grace. Neither can we live the Christian life in our own strength, so God's grace gives us the ability to do what we cannot do ourselves. Both aspects of God's grace — His undeserved favor and His enabling power — come to us because we are in Christ.

# You have an open invitation



"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need" Hebrews 4:16.



## Making the Truth Mine



Write in your own words what this lesson has meant to you and how it will effect your life.

### You can make a difference!

For this study to have its full effect in your life, we encourage you to:

- \* Read and digest the study meditate on the Word of God.
- \* Put into action what you have learnt (James 1:22).
- \* Share the Word of God with others.

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