



Grace

Rom 3: 20-24

²⁰ For no one is put right in God's sight by doing what the Law requires; what the Law does is to make us know that we have sinned. ²¹ But now God's way of putting people right with himself has been revealed. It has nothing to do with law, even though the Law of Moses and the prophets gave their witness to it. ²² God puts people right through their faith in Jesus Christ. God does this to all who believe in Christ, because there is no difference at all: ²³ everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. ²⁴ But by the free gift of God's grace all are put right with him through Christ Jesus, who sets them free.

2 Sam 12 The confrontation between Nathan and David was a grace-filled moment.

- Grace is about Growth and not just about forgiveness. It's much more.

- Unmerited favour

- 1) God is for us

- 2) Grace only comes from outside

- To Grow and to overcome sin you need skills, resources and knowledge that you don't have and you can't generate within you.

Ephesians 4:16

- ¹⁶ Under his control all the different parts of the body fit together, and the whole body is held together by every joint with which it is provided. So when each separate part works as it should, the whole body grows and builds itself up through love.

- Grace = relationships = spiritual growth

- God uses people to give us what we lack. Sometimes he will use circumstances but most of the time he uses people, because the Body of Christ is where God lives.

- Beware of merely connecting with just the immediate family; it limits your access to the body and to a wealth of experience

- Grace is not always warm and fuzzy

2 Cor 12

- But to keep me from being puffed up with pride because of the many wonderful things I saw, I was given a painful physical ailment, which acts as Satan's messenger to beat me and keep me from being proud. ⁸ **Three times I prayed to the Lord about this and asked him to take it away. ⁹ But his answer was: "My grace is all you need, for my power is greatest when you are weak." I am most happy, then, to be proud of my weaknesses, in order to feel the protection of Christ's power over me.**

- **Maximize your exposure to the Body of Christ**

Small groups, projects, fellowship, conferences, hospitality, visits, talking, sharing.

- **Don't isolate if you have problems**

Everyone has problems - move towards grace

- **Be prepared to accept help and support from all types**