

Evangelism Tip

In response to all he has done for us, let us outdo each other in being helpful and kind to each other and in doing good.

Hebrews 10:24 (TLB)

Connect Group Notes

17 Jan 2010

Ps Mark Kelsey - Grace

Acts 4:33.

With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all.

Grace is:

- Favour or good will.
- Elegance or beauty of form, manner, motion, or action.
- The freely given, unmerited favor and love of God.
- The influence or spirit of God operating in humans to regenerate or strengthen them.
- A virtue or excellence of divine origin: *the Christian graces*.
- Also called state of grace, it is the condition of being in God's favour or one of the elect.

Jesus brings truth and grace, plus the power to live it! **John 1:14-17.**

Jesus had the spirit of grace (**Luke 2:40**). We can attract that spirit to ourselves (**Zech 12:10**). The spirit of grace is available to us as we let God touch our lives.

Five Graces

1) **Grace to Get In**

- **Rom 3:23-25.** Jesus is our 'backstage pass' to the eternal throne of God. We have grace to get in. It is by grace that we have been saved (**Eph 2:4**).
- Grace causes you to continue, as well as to get in.
- This year let the grace of God cause you to finish the race as well as cause you to start it.

2) **Grace to Grow.**

- **2 Peter 3:18.** "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen."
- A grace happens in the midst of weakness. Grace is on you because of the challenge. If you allow your weaknesses to be graced by God, they will turn into strengths.

3) **Grace to Go.**

- There is a place for the grace that you have been given. There is a power for that grace in a particular context.
- The Apostle Paul's grace was for the Gentiles. He had a grace to accomplish great things among those people (see **Eph 3:7-9**).

4) **Grace of Gifting.**

- There is a grace on your gifting. **Rom 12:6-8.**
- Don't compare your gifts. There is a grace on your gift. Function in your grace.
- The grace on your gifting is not just about ministry. The grace on your gifting is for your life.

5) **Grace to be Good.**

- **2 Cor 9:8.**"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."
- Good work is not an arduous thing. When the grace of God abounds to you, the grace of God abounds out of you.

The key to grace is to clothe yourself with humility towards one another. God empowers humility with grace (**1 Peter 5:5**).

TALK ABOUT

- Have you stopped experiencing His grace to grow? Have you got stuck?
- Where are you graced to go?
- What are you graced to do?
- How does grace abound out of you?

REPORTING <http://myc3church.net/cgi-bin/exform.pl>

Connect Leaders, you are the best people to identify those people who would benefit from a year at C3 College. Please let them know that 2010 is going to be an amazing year, we have planned incredible updated courses with full time and part time options in Leadership and Ministry (Previously SOM), Creative Ministry (Previously SCA) and a new Friday major in Pastoral Care. Contact Lauren.Taylor@myc3church for more information – or see the training channel on the myc3Church.net web site.

Pam Borrow

Assistant Principal C3 College

Dear Leader,

We are always looking for great stories about things happening in your Connect Group. If you have had some exciting breakthroughs, any inspirational stories, or just tell us what you love about your group, please email connect@myc3church.net

Many thanks, The Connect Team