

Living in the Much More of Grace

“Grant me never to lose sight of the exceeding wonder of grace.” (Valley of Vision)

Introduction:

John 1:16-17, “For from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

1. It is from the “much more” in Jesus that:

2. We need grace for grace:

3. What came through Moses was what God required:

There are five areas living in the much more of grace enables us to give up our right to ourselves (which is an illusion anyway!)

They are:

1. Identity
2. Freedom
3. Discipline
4. Ministry
5. Suffering

Identity

1 Corinthians 15:10, “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain.”

1. Living in the much more of grace:

2. Living in the much more of grace:

3. Living in the much more of grace:

Freedom

Romans 5:17, “For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

1. Where death ruled our lives because of Adam:

Romans 6:14, "For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace."

1. Where sin ruled in our hearts because of our inability to keep the law:

Romans 5:20, "...where sin increased, grace abounded all the more."

1. The freeing abundance of grace:

Discipline

(To train, teach, coach, correct, regulate)

Titus 2:11-12, "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age..."

1. Living in the much more of grace means that:

2. Living in the much more of grace means that:

Ministry

Acts 4:33, "And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all."

1. It is the power of our testimony of Jesus and His resurrection that:

2. Living in the much more of grace:

Acts 11:23-24, "When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, 24 for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord."

1. When we see grace at work in the lives of others:

2. When we see grace at work in the lives of others:

3. Living in the much more of grace:

Acts 20:32, "And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

1. When we leave others in God's hands:

2. Living in the much more of grace:

Colossians 4:6, "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

1. Living in the much more of grace:

Hebrews 12:15, "See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled..."

1. Living in the much more of grace:

Suffering

2 Corinthians 12:9, "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

1. Living in the much more of grace:

2. Living in the much more of grace:

Conclusion: