



Grace

In Church we often talk about Gods grace, how it is "The unmerited favor of God."

I love the idea of grace, that we have it and that it is unmerited - because I sure don't deserve it.

But grace is not free.

Grace can only be grace if someone pays for it. In my case Jesus paid the price for God to forgive my sin.

I was recently talking to a director of an after school program and he wanted to know if he should overlook the boundaries that some of his kids were breaking in order to have their little brothers come to the Center. Because, he thought, "If I kick the older siblings out the younger ones will not come either, and if they do not come to the Center they are not hearing about God." So, he concluded, "Should I give grace to the older kids in order to connect with their younger siblings?"

Since he was not going to kick them out for three weeks (the normal punishment for their infraction of the rules), I asked him, "Will you pay the price and not be at the Center for those three weeks?"

He had a challenge understanding what I was talking about.

Grace is just forgiving someone of what they are doing, right?

No, that is forgiveness. Grace is when someone pays the price so I can be pure, like I never sinned.

This Thanksgiving, as we are sitting around the dinner table with family, thinking of what we can be thankful for - I will be thankful for God's grace - that He so freely gives to me.

It is free to me, but it cost God His Son.

In His grip,

John
John

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Answered Prayer

The class we are leading "Raising Responsible Adults" is going well.

We are making a video of each class and have them available within four days so people who have missed that class can watch it and stay current. Based on the number of DVD's that are being checked out this is working well!

Prayer Requests

Pray that the participants of this current class will continue meeting in a small group and that they will lead another class next fall!

Sheryl and I will go to the Seattle area to help her father and step mother close out their home there and permanently move to Michigan. Pray that this transition will be a smooth one for them.

Continue to pray for the politicians and everyone in our country. That we would seek Gods answer to the issues that face our country.

The Rest of the Story

This year we have been presented with an opportunity.

One of our supporters has given us the ability to have a matching fund.

This donor is specifically saying that this donation is so Life Is Full Of Choices can grow beyond our normal donor base. How wonderful for them to think like that!

To be able to talk to others about a donation where one dollar can turn into two is a special opportunity that I enjoy having - and enjoy talking about.

During November and December please talk to your Church, Sunday School Class, small group, people at work and tell them of this opportunity. Even people who don't go to Church can be looking for good organizations to donate to this time of year.

This will be like last year and those who give extra during the month of November and December, the extra part of their donation will be matched.

Any donation that does not fit into a pattern (monthly, annual, etc.) will be matched.

So, if you give \$50 a month and this month you give \$60 that additional \$10 will be matched. If you normally give an annual donation if you increase the dollar amount, that increase will be matched. If your Sunday School Class decided to take an offering for Life Is Full Of Choices the whole amount will be matched. The person who sits next to you at work can see his \$25 grow to \$50.

There are three ways this matching gift opportunity can be successful.

- 1- If you who give regularly will make the choice to give a little extra these next two months we will be able to match those gifts.
- 2- If those of you who do not donate on a regular basis will choose to give a gift this year we will be able to match those gifts.
- 3- We (and by that I mean all of us) need to spread the word that this opportunity is available to everyone who hears about it! Spread the word! We have included some additional response cards with this letter to make it easier for you to connect us with the people around you.

We appreciate your interest, your support and your help in spreading the word. Our desire is to reach into unchurched homes with the gospel through after school programs and through parenting classes that help parents raise responsible adults.