

Sermon: Saved By Grace

May 16, 2021

Scripture: Ephesians 2:8-10

I. The _____ we could be saved was by grace. Ephesians 2:8-9

1. Faith is how God activates grace in our lives. We cannot work for it. Romans 4:1-4

2. Religion will not bring us grace. Romans 4:13-16

3. The activation faith is given by God. Romans 10:17; John 16:8-11; Romans 4:24-25

II. Salvation by grace _____ to work for God. Ephesians 2:10

1. At salvation we are a new creature. 2 Corinthians 5:17

2. The Holy Spirit works within us to accomplish God's purpose. Philippians 2:13; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Col. 1:20; Rom. 5:10.

3. Beware of dead works. Hebrews 9:14

III. Grace allows me to complete _____ for my life. 2 Timothy 1:6-9; 1 Corinthians 15:9-10

Thought for the Day What is grace? The biblical answer is it's God's unmerited favor. It is more than that; grace is how God is relating to people. When we evaluate our lives in the light of God's holiness, we find ourselves unworthy of a relationship with Him. We deserve judgment but God has another plan. Adam's sin separates; Jesus' blood, sacrifice and resurrection reconciles sinful man to God. The operating system is grace. God supplies the means of reconciliation and adds eternal life and abundant life on top of that. We ask why would anybody refuse that offer. **John 3:18-19** ¹⁸ He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. Man loves his sin too much and doesn't want to give up his sovereignty even for grace. It's as if they believe that if they deny the existence of God, it means he is not real and therefore there is no need for a Savior to reconcile them to someone who doesn't exist. There is no one to pray to so whatever happens in this world is entirely up to man who also is the source of all wisdom. What man believes about God does not change the truth about who he is. But God is real, Jesus is real, the Holy Spirit is real and the Bible is the inspired truth teaching us how God wants us to live. By grace we know that; by grace we are saved, by grace we have an open communication with God and by grace we even are given the faith to believe the truth. God heaps grace upon grace in our lives when we are obedient to His word. Oh, and by the way the obedience is made possible by grace. Grace really is amazing. **Pastor Bruce**

What's happening with our Youth Ministry today?

Junior Disciples: AM Church Service

Today we are continuing curriculum called "The Core". Over the next year we'll be learning about the 8 "roots" of discipleship, Apologetics, Community, Identity, Kingdom, Knowledge, Outreach, Rescue and Worship. This week we'll continue our "Kingdom" root. The way of Jesus is not the way of the world. While the world values flashy people concerned with their own platform and celebrity, Christ wants his followers to be meek. But as Rick Warren reminds us, "Meek doesn't mean weak."1 The story that Jesus tells of a Pharisee and a tax collector shows how outward appearances of strength or success don't matter at all compared to an inner life of humility before God. And the life of William Seymour demonstrates how God can use a meek person to do great things. There is also a parent's guide that goes along with these lessons that includes activities your families can do to continue learning during the week. Please let me know if you are not receiving my emails.

Senior High Youth Group: Thursday Nights at 7 PM

On Thursday nights our senior high youth group will be meeting in the youth building. This week we are starting a brand new study called, "This is the Day" with lessons from former NFL QB Tim Tebow. Sometimes life feels rigid – as if nothing could ever really change. Maybe we're afraid of taking a step of faith. Or maybe we're too injured from the past to move forward. Or maybe life threw us a curveball and we still don't know how to react. No matter where you find yourself, you can make the most of today. In this inspirational series, Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow shares stories from his life to illustrate what it means to seize each day for God's glory. He challenges us to step out in courage because this is the day to act.

Camp Pecometh - May 21-23

Living Hope

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb

In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
(REPEAT)

Jesus Yours is the victory

Chorus

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope