



The Grace of God—A Powerful Force

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Grace, the unmerited favor of God, is a powerful force in the life of a believer. Frequently overlooked or underestimated, believers often think the working of grace is over once we come to Christ. Not so. The grace of God is a continuous flow of favor and empowerment in the life of the believer. The key word here is "believer." Like all the blessings of God, we receive the grace of God by faith.

So then, why is grace so important? Jesus was able to endure the Cross by grace. We are saved by grace. Grace builds us up. Grace gives us consolation and hope. God's grace is sufficient to carry us through all the difficulties in life. God's grace will show us how to do a job we were never trained to do. When we learn to rest in the grace of God, obeying His will seems almost effortless. The grace of God will pick us up and carry us through. In turn, we can minister the grace of God to others – giving them comfort and hope in troubled times.

The Bible tells us that God's grace is a gift freely given to those who will humble themselves by acknowledging God as their Helper in every area of life. When we give our hearts and lives to Christ – grace immediately begins to work on our behalf. And yet, there are greater degrees of grace available to us. For example, the word of God tells us that **grace is multiplied** through the **knowledge of God**.

2 Peter 1:2-4

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. NKJV

The more we know God, the more we learn about His character and His promises, the more our faith is in-



creased. The more our faith is increased, the more grace we can receive because we receive grace by faith. By this we know we can increase the working of grace in our lives. We can grow in the grace of God. We can be strong in the grace of God. We can also experience an abundance of grace, great grace, exceeding grace and the riches of His grace.

In the Gospel of John, he tells us that we receive increasing grace – one grace after another, favor upon favor and gift heaped upon gift!

John 1:16

*For out of His fullness (abundance) we have all received [all had a share and we were all supplied with] **one grace after another** and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing and **even favor upon favor and gift [heaped] upon gift.** AMP*

We can also ask for more grace!

Hebrews 4:15-16

For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One

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*who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore **let us draw near with confidence** to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and **find grace to help in time of need.** NASU*

Grace increases towards those who humble themselves before God by acknowledging they need God's help in their lives. The humble person submits to God's will and His ways of doing things. This is the opposite of a prideful person who rejects God and thinks they can handle things their own way. We see this in James 4:6; "**God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.**"

How do we know God's grace is working in our lives? One way we know we are flowing in the grace of God is when we are easily able to do something that previously would be very difficult for us. The grace of God will help us to be loving and kind not only to those who love us, but also to our enemies. The grace of God can give us physical strength to complete a seemingly impossible task. The grace of God can strengthen us emotionally to help us overcome negative emotions such as fear, resentment, self pity, unforgiveness and the like. Single adults can live a celibate life by the grace of God. With His grace what would ordinarily be extremely difficult, even impossible, becomes almost effortless.

God's grace is of utmost importance in the believer's life. So important, that the Apostles Paul, Peter and Jude – began and sometimes ended their New Testament letters to the church with a prayer for grace for those in the church. They knew firsthand the powerful benefit of God's grace.

A prayer for grace. . .

Father, in the Name of Jesus, I thank you for your abounding grace (2 Cor 9:8), your enabling power. Jesus, I acknowledge you now as the Lord and Savior of my life. I can do nothing without you – but, through You – I can do all things! (Phil 4:13) I accept your free gift of grace to help me in every area of my life. (2 Peter 1:2-3) I can't earn Your grace – I simply receive it by faith. (Rom 5:15) Your word tells me that I can come boldly before your throne of grace and ask for help in time of need. (Heb 4:16) I ask for that help now. Strengthen me; empower me to be all I can be for You. By Your grace, I can and will be successful in my family, my work, my ministry, my life. Thank you for great grace. I pray you will also help me to spread Your grace to others. Be glorified in and through my life, I pray in Jesus Name.

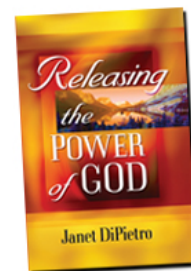


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Dr. Janet has a noted prayer and healing ministry and has seen God move powerfully to heal the sick and bring the lost to

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Dr. Janet's book, "Releasing the Power of God" has blessed many, teaching them how to release the power of God in and through their life and ministry. Her latest book, "The Healing Power of God" is based on her dynamic course "Christ the Healer" where she has seen many healings take place over the years right in the classroom.



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