

Be Grateful for the *SOVEREIGN GRACE OF GOD*

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Gratitude is an attitude for what others have done for us. It is learning to appreciate all things in life, and it brings satisfaction and restedness. What are three important truths we see about God's sovereignty that we can be grateful for?

GOD'S ELECTION (ROMANS 11:1-6)

Paul pointed out two examples to prove that God has not rejected Israel. The first is himself: Paul was Jewish, of the tribe of Benjamin. The second example was Elijah, who faced the height of paganism and the worship of Baal (1 Kings 18-19). It was the lowest point of Israel's history when it comes to religious purity. Yet by God's sovereign grace, He has kept 7,000 men who have not bowed down to any foreign god – He protected them physically and spiritually!

God's sovereign grace is not justice, which is getting what we deserve. Rather, it is getting more than we deserve. It is an unmerited favor. It is not based on works, but solely on the generous goodness of God as Jesus illustrated in a parable of the workers in Matthew 20:1-16. In other verses (Peter 1:1-2 and 2:9-10) the word election is translated as CHOSEN – depicting that the choice and sanctification was done by God, in handing over mercy. Even Jesus said that the elect may have to go through tribulation and hardships, and yet they will be saved (Matthew 24:21-22,31). We should be grateful for this assurance!

GOD'S WISDOM (ROMANS 11:7-14)

We face various problems in life, but if we remember that God, in His wisdom, is allowing this to happen, we can continue to TRUST that God is in control. Paul brings this to focus in Romans 11:7-10. The Jewish people's prosperity became traps for them and caused them to fall greatly. Paul asked if that was the end of Israel, and he also answered it with a resounding "no". In God's wisdom, He used the Jews' stumbling, so that by it, grace and salvation were extended to the Gentiles (Acts 13:46, 18:6). It is for this reason that Paul's reaches out to Gentiles as commanded by God (vv. 13-15). Yet if the Jews would come to acknowledge Jesus, the new age will come!

GOD'S KINDNESS AND SEVERITY (ROMANS 11:15-26)

The kindness of God reflects benevolence in action, and while God is patient, His patience has limitations too – one day there will be judgment! The warning for God's people is obvious: a true Christian will not take the grace of God for granted! Paul warns the believers in 2 Corinthians 6:1 to "not receive the grace of God in vain". A grateful person will never dishonor the person who gave him grace! Titus 2:11-12 also tells us that this grace empowers us to deny ungodliness too. If such is the grace of God, what should we do?

Hebrews 10:31 warns us that "it is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God" – to fall out of His hands is terrifying! But more and more Jews are becoming followers of Jesus, and there will be grace unto them as well (Zechariah 10:10 and Revelation 1:7).

Are we sharing the gospel truth to others as a way of life? Bring forth Jesus the Messiah – the Savior of the world!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What are you thankful for about God's sovereign grace?
What situations in your life are you encouraged to trust God's wisdom more?
How will you apply the truth of God's kindness and severity in your life?

LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.

ROMANS 11:6

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STEP INTO THE community!

Fellowship and learn together with believers at the same life stage as you!

WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN

Grace Upon Grace

October 20, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

-  ccfwomen2women
-  CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

B1G MINISTRY SINGLES

New Series: A Character Study on David

October 21, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

-   B1GMinistry
-  beonewithgod

ELEVATE HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

G.O.A.T.

October 22, Saturday, 3:00 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

-  ElevateMain
-  ElevateMainTV

NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Kids' Church

The Big Shake: An Adventure through the Book of Romans

Sundays, 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing, CCF Center

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

-   ccfnxngen for ages 4-12
-  zoom for ages 7-12

Join an online small group for kids!

Contact the NXTGEN team:

-    ccfnxngen

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ABOUT THE FAITH!

Grow deeper in your spiritual walk and join Bible study classes by GLC.

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GLC Level 1 Face-to-Face

Sundays at 1:00 PM

- Book 1: One by One at Room 2A
- Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines at Room 3A

GLC Level 1 – Zoom Cycle 2

October 19, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

- Book 1: One by One
- Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines
- *Book 3: The Holy Spirit starts November 2*
- *Book 4: CCF DNA starts November 30*

GLC Level 2 – Zoom Cycle

Book 5: Starting Point for Small Groups

October 19, Thursday, 7:30 PM

GLC Level 3 Lead – Zoom Cycle

Module 1: The Multiplier

October 19, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Go to bit.ly/GLCTraining2022 to register

STEP UP AND volunteer!

There's no better way to serve God than to serve His people!

NXTGEN  ccfnxngen

B1G  beonewithgod

ACROSS  ccfacrossministries



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Visit ccf.org.ph/discipleship-journey

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments –Deuteronomy 7:9*

2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23

3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. – Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6

4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:11-13

ccf join us on Sundays

AT CCF CENTER
10:00 AM (English),
3:00 PM (Filipino)

ONLINE

10:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM
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