

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

May 19, 2019

God's Wonderful Grace

The following is a definition of grace. It is written by Edward Fudge. I hope you will take the time to read this definition two or three times and think about each part of it. I think it is pretty impressive.

“Grace is not just a theory, a concept or a doctrine. It is God-in-Christ-for-sinners. Nothing we do can earn it, create it, or make it happen. We can only receive it with the empty hands of faith, trusting God and relying on His promise that He has forgiven our sins and has accepted us for Jesus’ sake. Until we do that, all our rules, requirements, conditions and obligations only miss the point and waste our time. But when we do trust the gospel promise that God receives sinners, we may happily entrust ourselves to such a God - eager to seek and to know what pleases Him, confident of His goodness and His love.”

Notice how Paul describes God’s grace, “*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace*” (Ephesians 1:7). Again in Ephesians 2:7 Paul writes about “*the immeasurable riches of his grace*.” Paul makes it clear that our God is not stingy with His grace. He doesn’t give out His grace just a little at a time.

God's grace is immeasurable; He is rich in grace. God's grace will never run out.

John writes, "*And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace*" (John 1:16). God sends His grace to us time after time. We receive wave after wave of God's grace.

Brethren, let's remember, God not only wants us to accept His grace, but He then wants us to extend or share His grace with others. God is full of grace toward us; He wants us to be full of grace toward others.

Donald Barnhouse wrote, "Love that goes upward is worship; love that goes outward is affection; love that stoops is grace." Let's thank God for His wonderful grace.

— Jimmy Goins

Of Hogs and Men

Once there was a small town on the edge of a large forest. In the forest lived a large herd of wild pigs. These hogs would ravage the villagers' crops, gardens, and yards. Finally the townsfolk had enough, so they formed a band of men to hunt the hogs. But they found that the wild pigs were smart and wily. So they called on a famous hunter to help them. When he arrived with his supplies and announced his plan of action, they were quite surprised. Here's what he did. First, he put out some corn in a clearing. After several days, he noticed the hogs had finally found the place and eaten all the corn. He then replaced the corn and, of course, the hogs came back. After a few more times of this, he put up fence posts around the corn. In a few days, he then added the wire. A few more days of this and he then added the gate. Finally one morning, while the pigs were greedily eating the corn, he snuck up and simply closed the gate. When the villagers complimented him on his brilliance, he shrugged his shoulders and said, "Those hogs were mine the day they ate their first mouthful of corn."

We need to be warned of Satan's devices (cf. 2 Cor. 2:11), and one of them is getting us accustomed to sinning. We may think when we sin that it doesn't seem harmful, or that we will not get caught, or that we can stop anytime - but what we may

not realize is that while we habitually sin and justify it, Satan is building a fence around us. And if we get caught in the practice of sin long enough, he will even close the gate.

The Hebrew writer warned his readers (and all Christians) of the danger of falling into this trap.

- * Heb. 3:13 says that sin is deceitful.
- * Heb. 11:25 calls sin a passing pleasure.
- * Heb. 12:1 warns that sin can easily ensnare us.

Don't get caught in Satan's trap. Repent and get out of that lifestyle of sin. Let Jesus free you from the bondage of sin. "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." (John 8:36)

— Edd Sterchi

Special Thanks

What a nice treat; flowers and candy for all on Mother's Day. We thank the Johnstons for the beautiful roses and Sherry for the beautiful cards with chocolates. You sure know how to win the hearts of the masses by demonstrating hearts of love. Thank you Sherry, Larry and Carla.

Upcoming Events :

Evangelistic Meeting : On May 28 and 29 at 7:00 p.m. both evenings there will be a two day gospel meeting held at the building of the University of Illinois extension in Taylorville. This is an effort of multiple congregations to get a work started in Taylorville. Adam Cozort (Springfield), Bobby Price (Decatur) and Wayne Polk (Shelbyville) will be the speakers. Please mark these dates and plan to attend this meeting. There is currently no congregation in Taylorville, so we need you to provide the "home audience" and to sing. Please attend

Pride Packages For Soldiers: We rotate the items that we bring in so there will be a variety of things available for Pat to send to our soldiers. For the next two weeks we'll be bringing: Peanut butter, Squeezable jelly (not jars), Cheese and crackers (small packages), Cookies (small packages), Bags of any kind

of individually wrapped hard candy (during the warmer months we don't send chocolate), Gum, bubble gum

Birthday : Beth Niehls ... May 18

Reading : II Samuel 9: 1-13 , I Samuel 20: 12-17

NEXT WEEK : (May 26, 2019)

Song Leader : **Greg**

Scripture Reader : **Jonathan**

Table & Announcements : **Bob**

Prayer List :

Betty Lowe : Betty is having significant heart issues, but is doing therapy to rebuild her strength enough receive a stent.

Doris Bartanen : Ron's (*preacher at Arthur*) wife had a bad fall and is requiring constant care, but Ron is working hard to keep her at home. Ron is recovering well from surgery.

Jack Clark : Sherry's grandson fell and broke his arm in two places. There is no update on him.

Mike Nichols : Mike continues therapy and is working hard to regain his mobility, but it's NOT going well. He needs edifying.

Larry Bales : The 87 year old stepfather of Rosanne, is recovering in the nursing home from complication after surgery.

Brianna Johnston : Is improved but still having chest pains. .

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Ruby, Mary, Doris, Delores, Marge, Betty, Pete & Hazel,

Others with ongoing issues :

Doris Faulkner : Her condition is advancing more rapidly.

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Bruce Miller: Madonna's brother-in-law is holding his own.

Robin Shumard : Due to neurological issues which are secondary to diabetes, Robin is confined to a wheelchair.

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend has severe kidney failure due to diabetes. His condition is slowly deteriorating.

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Ya'll Come !