

LEARNING TO REMAIN IN THE GRACE OF GOD

Houses of Light Church • February 18-19, 2023 • Pastor Netz Gómez

I. RESTING IN THE GRACE OF GOD

Gál. 2:20-21 *"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 21 I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness[c] were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose."*

A. **AFFIRM THAT CHRIST LIVES IN YOU:** When we are under pressure we have to say: *'I no longer live, Christ lives in me.'* We must verbalize it, because without realizing it we return to relying on ourselves and trying to earn God's favor.

B. **REST AND LEAN ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF CHRIST.** Do not continue talking about your failures and insufficiencies, start speaking the Word and what you can do in Christ, focus on Him. **For each of our weaknesses there is a grace available.**

Filip. 4:12-13 *"I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me."*

C. **DON'T PUT TRUST IN THE FLESH:** You must not rely on your own ability, strength, experience, or who you are by nature. If you want His grace you must lean only on it.

Fil. 3:3 *"For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God[b] and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh."*

D. **THROW AWAY DISCOURAGEMENT:** The devil uses this weapon a lot. When you feel weak it's time to lean on God's grace, don't get discouraged. You must recognize: *'it is true that I am weak but in Him I am strong.'* It is easier to see the power of God in those areas in which we feel weak; But it's important that you don't get overwhelmed or give up.

2 Cor. 12:9-10 *"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."*

1. **If you fail, do not be discouraged:** Even when you fail remember, the credit of justice that is by grace in Christ covers our deficiency. We must discern between the conviction of the Holy Spirit and the accusation of the devil. Do not accept condemnation, receive conviction and come closer to God.

Jn. 16:13a "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth..."

II. WHAT GRACE TEACHES

Tit 2:11-14 "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works."

A. When grace is operating in the life of a Christian, very identifiable fruits are produced. Let us note that these are results, not the means to obtain grace:

1. "training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions" GRACE TEACHES US TO SAY 'NO' If you are receiving this teaching well, you learn to say 'no' to sin and to renounce worldly passions. There must be a firmness in your 'no'. Let it be known in hell itself that your 'no' is 'no'. You won't get far in life and you won't be successful if you don't learn to say 'NO' to what you should say NO to and really hold onto it, because there are so many things that want to seduce us. **You do not enter the discipline by pleasing yourself but by denying yourself. That you say NO in such a way that everyone knows that you are determined.**
2. "live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age" GRACE TEACHES US TO LIVE SELF CONTROLLED LIVES: Many people think that grace allows you to do what you want but it is exactly the opposite, grace helps us to live a just and righteous life. **It reminds us that Jesus died to redeem us from our sins and that is why we no longer want to sin.** We must be good students of grace. Read the Bible and may grace teach you to be a godly person.
3. "waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ" GRACE CHANGES OUR GOALS IN LIFE AND MAKES US WAIT FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD: When we receive grace, the end-time teaching falls on good ground in our lives. Many people who have not wanted to receive grace prefer to evade the teaching of the second coming of Christ because it is too much for them and they prefer to live in denial but when you receive grace and this teaching then you channel your life. Grace directs us to a goal **LIVE A LIFE OF GOOD WORKS FOCUSED ON THAT GREAT DAY.**

Heb. 12:28-29 "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus LET US OFFER TO GOD ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP, WITH REVERENCE AND AWE, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire"

4. “zealous for good works” NO ONE SHOULD UNDERESTIMATE THIS TEACHING. Good works have an important place in the Christian life; when you receive grace you activate yourself and those works of justice embellish you for your King.

Ap. 19:6-8 *“Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. ⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; ⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure.”*

- a) WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO HAVE WORKS: Having received grace leads us to be grateful and active, not out of pressure but out of gratitude.

Ap. 3:2-4 *“Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God.... ⁴ Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy.”*

Ap. 3:17-18 *“For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.”*

B. GRACE CHANGES THE WAY YOU SPEAK:

Col. 4:6 *“Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person..”*

1. When we receive grace, the first thing that changes is our way of speaking. You cannot have grace without gratitude. You become grateful, because there can be no boasting about something that you could not produce but it came from above. Practice being grateful, don't be whiny.
2. Your gratitude is reflected in the way you speak and puts you in a position to receive God's blessings. . Those who live in grace are always grateful. Grace affects how you speak.
3. One of the reasons why God blessed Jesus was because of the way he spoke about him because grace had been poured out on his lips. LET US RECEIVE GRACE ON OUR WAY OF SPEAKING.

Sal. 45:2 *“You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.”*

C. WARNING NOT TO RECEIVE IN VAIN OR ABUSE GRACE. we must not abuse grace.

2 Cor. 6:1 *“Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.”*

- D. WE MUST LEARN TO LOOK AT OTHERS WITH GRACE.** Just as we have found grace before God, so others must find grace in your eyes. Be careful not to extend the grace we receive, just as it happens to us with forgiveness.

Eph. 4:29 *“Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.”*

III. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Do you think you have learned to rest in grace? Explain your answer
2. Of the things mentioned that grace teaches us, which do you think has impacted your way of life the most?
3. Speak words of grace to the members of the Friendship Group.

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. HOLY58 youth service is this Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m.
2. The preparation class for quinceañeras with the fathers and daughters is this Thursday, February 23 at 7:00 pm. Please register at housesoflight.org
3. Prophecy rooms Wednesday February 22 and healing rooms Thursday February 23 at 7:00 p.m. Please reserve your spot on nhop.la
4. Our membership class will be on Saturday, March 4 at 9:00 a.m. in person. Baptisms will take place March 4 and 5 during our weekend services. It is required to attend the Zoom preparation class on Saturday, February 25 at 9:00 a.m. Please sign up at the table outside or at www.housesoflight.org
5. Our Effective Parenting course begins on Wednesday, March 15. Please register at www.housesoflight.org
6. People who registered to be part of our 'Marketplace Ministry' please scan this QR Code to organize our first meetings.

