

**LIVING IN GRACE - #1**  
**THE EVIDENCE FOR GRACE**

**Ephesians 2:4 - 9**

# LIVING IN GRACE THE BASICS

## A. Grace –

- Greek word “*charis*” – God’s unconditional acts of kindness, favor, or pleasure towards humanity. **Unmerited favor, undeserved generosity of God**, toward humankind.

## B. Self-salvation vs God-salvation

## C. Your load?

# HOW “RICH” IS YOUR GRACE?

- Eph 1:7, the “riches” of Christ’s grace has been lavished upon us.
- 2 Cor 8:9, “riches of Christ” poured out – makes Him poor but me rich.
- John 1:16, We have received the fullness of Christ; and “grace upon grace” is realized in Jesus
- 1 Peter 4:10, we are “stewards of the manifold grace of God”

GRACE IS LIKE A BANK OF “RICHES” GOD HAS GIVEN YOU TO SPEND FOR HIS GLORY.

1 Peter 4:10, “...**manifold** grace of God”

1. Forgiving grace.

2. Sustaining grace.

3. Transforming grace.

4. Empowering grace.

• **Faith is how you “write a check.”**



## Hope Diamond

- 45 carats
- \$250 million value
- Dark blue
- Smithsonian Diamond:
- Hardest mineral
- Carbon

# HOW MIGHT WE INCREASE THE RICHES OF GRACE?

1. Establish as fact the evidence God has given us for grace. 1 Cor 15:1-3 – “Hold fast the gospel which I preached:
  1. Christ **died according to Scriptures**
  2. Christ was **raised on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day**
  3. Christ **appeared** to many after His resurrection.
  4. Whoever **calls upon Him will be saved**. Rom 10:13
- “Scholars are virtually unanimous; the death of Jesus on the cross is among the surest facts in history.” Seeking Allah, Finding Christ, p. 153.

# HOW MIGHT WE INCREASE THE RICHES OF GRACE?

2. Establish the fact of grace according to reason.
  - A. Why would God take on human flesh if not needed to establish grace? Phil 2:5-8
  - B. Why would God call Christ to die on a cross if personal goodness could render grace unnecessary? Gal 2:21, 1 Cor 15:10

# HOW MIGHT WE INCREASE THE RICHES OF GRACE?

C. God is love. The nature of love is generosity. Grace is the act of God giving to humanity. If grace is not true, why does it make us glad when we give it to others? The gladness is God in us by His grace.

- When you were **dead in your transgressions** and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, **having forgiven us all our transgressions**, 14 having canceled out the **certificate of debt** consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; **and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.** (Col. 2:13-14 NAU)

# NEXT STEPS

## 1. Memorize:

- Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. (Rom. 5:1-2 NAU)

## NEXT STEPS

2. Live in grace this week by giving grace away [unmerited act of kindness]. Go on a personal “kindness patrol” and do a random act of kindness for someone.