LIVING IN GRACE - #2 THE POWER OF TRANSFORMING GRACE

Romans 6:1 – 8,11-14

1. FORGIVING GRACE IS OUR "STARTING BLOCK" TO MORE GRACE

•Therefore, having been justified [declared righteous] by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction [landing stage, access, approach] by faith into this grace in which we stand; ... Rom. 5:1-2 (NASB)

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?

2. TRANSFORMING GRACE IS THE NEXT STEP TO THE POWER OF GOD IN MY LIFE.

- 1. Transforming grace
 - God's power given to overcome sin as we walk with Him in obedience; Rom 6:4-5
- Why would God forgive me of my sin and not give me His power to put sin behind me?

3. WHY IS GOD'S POWER OF TRANSFORMING GRACE NEEDED?

- 1. God's purposes include us! John 10:10, 1 John 3:8, Col 2:15
- 2. "Surface" grace, "cheap" grace, defeated. Rom 6:1 Deck refurbish); 2 Cor 5:17
- 3. No sin can master a believer obediently trusting God's grace and not self. Rom 6:14

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

"Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline. Communion without confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ." p.47

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

"Costly grace confronts us as a gracious call to follow Jesus, it comes as a word of forgiveness to the broken spirit and the contrite heart. It is costly because it compels a man to submit to the yoke of Christ and follow him; it is grace because Jesus says: 'My yoke is easy and my burden is light."

4. TRANSFORMING GRACE REQUIRES MY PARTICIPATION

- A. I must believe Romans 6:11
 - KJV "reckon"
 - NIV "count"
 - NAS, ESV "consider"
- B. I must hunger. R. 6:17, Matt 6:5, John 7:38
- C. I must obey. R. 6:13

NEXT STEPS

- 1. Ask the Holy spirit to reveal to you where you are not living in the power of grace.
 - A. Confess this to God.*
 - B. Agree with God that His power can change you.*
 - C. Request Him to do just that.*

^{*}Adapted from *Finally Free* by Heath Lambert

NEXT STEPS

- 2. If you are not living in the power of God's grace, find an accountability partner who is willing to help you believe in God's power and help you participate with Christ to bring you freedom.
 - Read this book: Finally Free by Heath Lambert