



Saved By Grace, Living By Performance

Amazed by God's Grace

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

The Gathering

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Ray of Hope Christian Church | Decatur, GA

Ephesians 2:1-10

For it is by grace you have
been saved, through faith—
and this not of yourselves,
it is the gift of God –
not by works, so that
no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Saved by Grace, Living By Performance

**Amazing Grace,
how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like
me. I once was lost but
now I'm found.
Was blind but now I see.**

John Newton

**We read, we hear,
we believe a good deal
about grace. But that's not
the way we live.**

**The Good News of the
gospel has not penetrated
the level of our emotions.**

David Seaman

**There is now no
condemnation to those
who are in Christ Jesus.**

Romans 8:1

**I do not understand
what I do, for what I
want to do I do not do,
but what I hate I do.**

Romans 7:15

Discussion or Reflection

1. What is it that you struggle with that causes you to feel guilty, ashamed or inadequate?
2. In what ways are you living by performance or works rather than grace?

The background is a dark teal color. In the top left corner, there is a small triangle with horizontal lines. In the top right corner, there are several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of teal, creating a layered effect.

Who needs grace?

The Bible makes it
clear that everyone,
every man, every
woman, every child,
needs grace.

There is no one righteous, not even one; There is not one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Romans 3:10-12

**Most of us believe
that we are basically
good people.**

Discussion

**Before you came to know Christ,
what did you think of yourself?**

**The Bible says all
people are bad because
of our alienation from
God and rebellion
against him.**

**We all, like sheep, have gone
astray, each of us has turned
to our own way...**

Isaiah 53:6

For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

Genesis 3:5

Romans 8:32

**We have a corrupt
nature that goes its
own way because we
were born with it.**

Surely, I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my
mother conceived me.

Psalm 51:5

Sin is not only a series of actions, but also an attitude that ignores the law of God.

Sin is also a state of the heart, a condition of our inmost being.

Guard your heart.

**Proverbs 4:23 -
Above all else,
guard your heart, for it is
the wellspring of life.**

Search me, God, and know
my heart; test me and
know my anxious
thoughts. See if there is any
wicked way in me and lead
me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23

Sin, in the final analysis, is rebellion against the Sovereign Creator, ruler and judge of the universe. It resists the rightful prerogative of a Sovereign ruler to command obedience from us. It says to an absolutely holy God that his moral laws which reflect his own nature, are not worthy of our wholehearted obedience.

Philip Yancy

So, too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

Romans 11:5-6

**Grace is distinguished
from the law and
from works.**

Nothing in my hand
I bring, simply to the
cross I cling!

**We are saved by grace,
but we are living by
performance.**

Discussion

Are you living by grace or performance?

Do you think that God's blessings in your life are contingent on how you live for him?

Matthew 19:16-30

Discussion

In what ways do you struggle with legalistic tendencies?

What good works do you practice to gain the blessings of God?

But folks, if you truly
believe in grace, then you
believe that Jesus paid it all.

Philip Yancy

That he who began a good
work in you (by his grace)
will carry it on to
completion (by his grace)
until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:6

Ephesians 1:3