

## GIVING THE GIFT OF GRACE

Galatians 6:1-10

INTRODUCTION: As we have been given grace by our Lord we must learn to extend that grace to others, even to those who mistreat us. Sadly, not every grace receiver is a grace giver. It is so easy for those of us who have received God's grace in our lives to be so focused on the hard treatment this world gives us that we forget to share God's grace with others:

Hebrews 12:14-15. We must learn that our Lord desires us to share His grace with others to draw them to know the Lord: 2 Peter 3:17-18. The question for tonight is: "How can we become the grace gives to others that our Lord has been to us?"

### I. STUDY THE LIFE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRISIT!

As we continue to look to Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith we can learn to be gracious to others as our Lord Jesus was in His earthly life: 1 Peter 2:21-23. A prime example of Jesus' grace given even to those who hated Him is found in Luke 23:26-43. If you are sharp with others and demanding of others you need to study the book of 1 Peter. How would it change your life if you were to memorize and put into practice in your life 1 Peter 3:1-9? Our Lord Jesus told us that if we would choose to yoke up with Him He will teach us His ways: Matthew 11:28-30. Let me ask you, "Are you still able to learn, can you be like moldable clay?" You see our Lord does not want us to stay as we are, He wants us to continue to grow toward Christ-likeness. Romans 12:1-2. If we will surrender to our Lord He will fill us with Himself and we will be producing His fruit in our lives: Galatians 5:22-25. On the other hand, if you refuse to yoke up with Jesus you will continue to produce the fruit of the flesh: Galatians 5:19-21.

### II. CHOSE TO DELIBERATELY FORGIVE OTHERS!

Our Lord Jesus told a story about a man who was forgiven a great debt by his master but would not forgive his fellow servant even a small debt: Matthew 18:21-35. Now being intelligent followers of Christ, we know He didn't really mean God will stop forgiving us unless we forgive others, don't we? No, we do not know that. If we want to continue to receive God's grace in our lives we must extend God's grace to others! Galatians 6:7-10.

### III. IT CANNOT BE DONE!

So often we really think the Lord didn't mean for us to forgive and be gracious to others as He was. We think, "No regular human being could ever forgive someone who was treating them in that way: Acts 7:51-60. Not only Stephen but the Apostle Paul and Silas also set the example of Jesus' disciples showing God's grace even to those who mistreated them: Acts 16:16-30. We should all seek to glorify our Lord by showing His grace to others that mistreat us. Remember, it is easier to get it right the first time than it is to try to repair the damage done by not showing God's grace. Ephesians 4:26-5:2. In our relationships with others, instead of giving them what they deserve, let's amaze them as we chose to give them what they need: an example of Jesus Christ's unmerited grace!