## THE GRACE OF GOD - IN US

## Life In Christ: Living in the life and purpose of Jesus Christ

Study Notes from the Message on February 8, 2017

Hebrews 4:16 NLT

"So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most."

**Grace** is the "complete generous act of God", as Paul describes in his personal work. In the Old Testament grace is an ongoing working principle that is observed in beneficent acts – "freely given blessings without consideration of claim or merit."

**Mercy** is one of those generous acts of God – compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm.

**Forgiveness** is a demonstration of God's mercy – so, will also be an extension of God's grace.

- Can you think of the single most important exercise of grace someone has shown toward you?
  Who did it come from?
  - Would you say that this individual was a merciful and forgiving person?
- 2. In measuring the gift of grace, the Apostle Paul contrasts it with the "first man" Adam. Read Romans 5:12-21 and find all the descriptive terms of Adam's sin. Then compare those terms with the work of Christ on the cross and what that does for us all.

3. If we are slaves to sin before Christ, then how are we free in Christ – **Matthew 5:17**; **Romans 6:14; 3:21-22**.

4. How should we continue to live in our new-found freedom in Christ (Romans 6:1-14)?

## WHAT WOULD IT MEAN TO LIVE WITH THE GRACE OF GOD IN US?

- 5. Take the principle of Romans 5:8 and apply this to our approach to the people outside the household of faith. How does this look coming from us?
- 6. Again, use the scriptures (Colossians 3:13) to see how we have been treated and how we are to exercise God's grace in us.