



Grace is without question amazing, and it is more than just a song or a religious phrase. The song and the statement are true, but the scope of what grace is surpasses a singular definition. Like a diamond it has multiple facets that reflect the life and light of God differently.

Some would argue the technicality of this statement, but Jesus is the manifestation of grace as much as He is the manifestation of love. Love is not something God does but, according to the scriptures, it is who He is. Similarly, grace is something that can be seen, felt, experienced, given, received, rejected, and expressed.

*[John 1:14 NKJV] 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*



I often ask a room full of Bible college students what they believe grace to be and usually receive a handful of answers that are the typical religious catch phrases that are given to define the word. More often than not, I hear things like favor, unmerited favor, the acronym of G.R.A.C.E. *God's riches at Christ expense*. Of course, the acronym only makes any sense in the English language.

Many times, what people describe as grace is actually mercy. This also is one of the attributes of God. Mercy is something He is rich in, and it is in a constant state of renewal as the scripture proclaims: it is new every morning. Morning is a constant reality somewhere in the world twenty-four hours of everyday.

Mercy is God's willingness passion and desire to treat us better than we deserve. It is by the mercy of God that He extends grace to all of humanity in the gift of His grace. Grace is an undeserved and unmerited favor but it is so much more than this. I believe like God's love the depth of grace cannot be fully known; it surpasses our knowledge.

We will continue this study next time as we look into the manifold grace of God that we have received. Cindy and I are grateful to all of our partners who extend grace towards us making our work possible.

***Together we are reaching the four corners of the earth with the light of the gospel!***

**PLEASE CONSIDER PARTNERSHIP WITH US IN THE POWER OF GOD'S PURPOSE!**

Over the past 35 years, Steve and Cindy Shoop have invested their lives in ministering the Gospel of Jesus as missionaries. Their passion for helping people has provided them with the opportunity to serve in a variety of ministries as well as the privilege of living in three different countries in Africa. Today, Steve and Cindy reside in the state of Ohio after living 25 years in southern Africa. Steve continues to express his gift in ministry both in the United States and the nations of the world. Steve has a passion in developing leaders who are established in God's love, grace and peace that comes through the righteousness of faith. Gospel Training International's vision is found in their ministry slogan,



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