

God's Grace – Our Response

1. "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Galatians 1:3.

a. This is a statement that appears at least 10 times in the New Testament. What does this statement mean to you?

2. On Sunday, we talked about 4 truths about God's grace and our response to His grace...

a. Because of God's grace, He is not angry with you. How do we find ourselves accepting this truth? Is it easy? Challenging? A struggle? Look at **Psalm 103:12**. How does this passage help us come to terms with this truth?

i. Our response... **Matthew 18:21-35** demonstrates grace and a blatant disregard to extending grace towards others. Where do we see this lived out in our lives? In the community of faith?

ii. How might we extend grace that would demonstrate God's love to those around us?

b. Because of God's grace, He is not disappointed in you. Look at **Romans 5:8**. Discuss how this passage demonstrates this truth.

i. Our response... Describe a time when you were disappointed in yourself. How do we move forward when we are disappointed in ourselves? How easy is it to get disappointed in others? How can we apply this truth in our daily lives as we look in the mirror and interact with others around us?

c. Because of God's grace, you don't have to be perfect. How do we see this truth at work in our lives and others?

i. Our response... S.H.A.P.E. is one part of our life that demonstrates that we don't have to be perfect before God can use us.

ii. S – Spiritual gifts (**1 Corinthians 12; Romans 8; Ephesians 4**).

iii. H – Heart or passion.

iv. A – Abilities.

v. P – Personalities.

vi. E – Experiences (good and bad).

vii. Do you know your S.H.A.P.E.? How could we best serve you in getting into your S.H.A.P.E.?

viii. Discuss how you are using your S.H.A.P.E. now.

ix. We have a process we will walk you through to discover and fine-tune your S.H.A.P.E. (coming this fall).

d. Because of God's grace, you can have a close and intimate relationship with Him.

- i. Study **Revelation 5:12 & 14**. What does that communicate to us about worship?
- ii. Study **John 15:4 and John 1:1 & 14**. What thoughts does “Abiding” or “remaining” in Christ stir up? How do you engage in “abiding” in Christ?

3. Complete the sentence... “Because of God’s grace, I _____.”