

18.10.3 Grace Kegworth

One word kept echoing GRACE

Pleased. Easy subject.. Turns out it keeps company with sanctification, reconciliation, justification, even mortification.

Let's start on safer grounds.

Grace before meals - for what we are about to receive... Do we mean it?

Child quote: "Do I have to thank God for the sprouts? Will he know I'm lying."

Another having listed all the items on the table..."Is there a pudding?"

Benediction: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ - love of God and fellowship of Holy Spirit . That much grace!!

Our gracious queen. Wonderful Christian but not allowed to touch us commoners..

Next generation Harry is taking Megan to Butlins!! William and Harry turn up to help with big project
DIYSOS

- Elvis fan/atic. Devotee.. "He didn't have to shake my hand."
Jesus didn't have to die for me. But he did. How are our lives were changed

The grace of Jesus seen in the people he reached out to

tax men
lepers
beggars
pharisees
taught women even Samaritan women
crucifixion
Pat Talkes

I came to realise I haven't even scratched the surface of understanding grace.

To the dictionary:

What is grace?

Definitions and words that crop up

- favour or goodwill mercy; clemency; pardon:
- Theology. the freely given, unmerited favour and love of God. (rpt)
- The influence or spirit of God operating in humans to regenerate or strengthen them.
- Unmerited divine assistance given to humans for their regeneration or sanctification (Oo religious language >>> misunderstanding

Another definition on Wikipedia "the love and mercy given to us by God because God desires us to have it, not necessarily because of anything we have done to earn it", (Deletion mine. He/she has not understood)

So many things we do on auto pilot

Things we always do or have done

words so familiar they are without meaning

All age bring something to do until the programme really starts. (never go to church again once you can choose)

"All hail the power of Jesus' name let angels prostrate fall

Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him" Crown him was gran's threat to clip my ear.

Chanting off the Lord's prayer. Forgive us our sins... That quick??
Deliver us some email

Reading the service words in dull monotone
Ritualistic prayers getting to the end and wondering if you kept talking

Wendy (grandsons were "baptised") "So glad. Now they have a soul."

The most amazing thing is that God thought, that even with all our fears and failures, we are worth dying for.
Grace is God's provision for our salvation.

His action
His love
His mercy
His desire to have us with him

Reading Romans 7 - 8

Galatians 2:19-21

¹⁹For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. ²⁰I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!^[e]

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How to get our heads round something too wonderful to make sense in human terms.
So simple and yet so deep we can never sound the depths

What would Jesus do? He'd tell a story.

The power of story to open understanding
To remember and work on

Start with one of his

Prodigal Father

Luke 15: 11-31

- reckless extravagant love of the Father
 - giving his love profusely lavish abundant generous love
- (I did this next part from memory (and not too well))

Adrian Plass says we often feel we are tolerated by God but only if he holds his nose and averts his eyes.
It couldn't be further from the truth. He loves us to die for.

Best robe – such an honour

Sandals – no chance of being "as one of the hired servants" here.

- And biggest shock of all..... the ring placed on filthy, guilty hands.

Would you give this lad power of attorney.

Would you have entrusted him with a credit card.

Prodigal Father

The dad embraces the stinky boy as if he were a returning war hero.

- reckless extravagant love
- lavish abundant generous love
- forgiven on a lavish scale:

Only reckless extravagant love would make the Father to discard his dignity and run into the street toward a foolish and immature son who had squandered their fortune?

- For longer than forever Max
- Illustrations unlimited The thief and the judge
- Grace at communion from Illustrations unlimited

Regular combined service with rich church and its outreach churches in the rougher areas of the city. One such service saw a converted former criminal, now a church youth worker, kneeling at the altar rail beside the high court judge who sent him to prison.

Pastor later asked judge, "Did you notice?"

"Yes. What a miracle of grace!"

Pastor agreed.

Judge asked, "To whom do you refer?"

Why, the conversion of a convict)

No. I refer to me. It didn't cost that burglar much to be converted. He had nothing but a history of crime behind him so when he saw Jesus as his saviour he knew there was salvation, hope joy for him and knew how much he needed help.

But look at me;

Taught to live as a gentleman,

That my word was my bond

To say my prayers

Go to church , take communion etc

Oxford degree

Called to bar >>>> judge.

Pastor, nothing but the grace of God could have caused me to admit that I am a sinner on a par with a burglar.

It took more grace to forgive me for all my pride and self deception,

To get me to admit I am no better in the eyes of God than that burglar I sent to prison.

- Van da Boerk (>>> Amazing grace)