



YES



NO

2019

- **We want to say YES to ‘whatever He has for us’**
- **If we are to say yes to what God has for us, then there are things we must learn to say NO to first**

We said NO to...

**... disgrace from
stopping us being who
God wants us to be**



There is therefore now

NO

Nada **Niente** Nul

Keiner Kò si

ഒന്നുമില്ല റ

dighi

Geen **Dim** None

**Condemnation for those
who are in Christ Jesus**

Romans 8:1



**WE
SAY
YES**

We Say Yes to...

His Grace



- **Are you going to live in the shadow of disgrace or in the light of His grace?**



Titus 2:11-14

“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people. It trains us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, as we wait for the happy fulfillment of our hope in the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He gave himself for us to set us free from every kind of lawlessness and to purify for himself a people who are truly his, who are eager to do good.”

Grace for Today

- Understand His grace is granted and embrace the truth of this
- To recognise and avoid the danger of taking His grace for granted
- To see how His grace is to be outworked in our lives

Grace

- Our 'grace' is from latin 'gratia' (favour, goodwill, kindness etc.)
- The New Testament term typically translated as grace comes from...
 - Χάρις - Charis
 - Linked to gift: derivative of charisma, charity etc.
 - No one English word cannot effectively translate
 - 'Unmerited Favour', 'To stoop toward', 'Beauty', 'Strength', 'Thankfulness', 'To Bless', 'Divine assistance', 'Empowering'

Grace

- **A possible theological definition:**

“The unmerited love and favour of God toward human beings; divine influence acting in a person to make the person pure, morally strong; the condition of a person brought to God's favor through this influence; a special virtue, gift, or help given to a person by God.”

(Webster's New World College Dictionary)

Understand His Grace is Granted

- **He already said yes!**
 - I didn't realise Specsavers have too!
- **A gift needs to be received, opened and put to use**
 - Ro 3 - wages of sin = death, GIFT of GOD = eternal life
 - Adam and eve earnt their fig leaves, but their animal skins were a gift
- **We say YES!**
 - Head AND heart understanding!

Gift Given

- **Romans 5:15** But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.
- **Paul went to great lengths to explain the beauty and the reality of the free gift of forgiveness and grace to the church in Rome**



MAGIC Etch A Sketch SCREEN

Second Chances

“Countless second chances

We've been given at the cross”

(Rend Collective)

Second Chances

- **His grace is always enough**
 - 2 Cor 12:9 “But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.”
- **He can even create fruit from of our past fights and failures**
 - Growing maturity and grace in us
 - Ministering to others going through similar pain
 - Help others avoid mistakes we’ve made

Graison Grace

- His grace is more than the absence of punishment; it is His favour and His goodness extended to us
- He always has more than we need...
 - John 1:14 “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.”

Don't Take His Grace for Granted

- A true understanding of His grace means we won't take it for granted
- His Grace is not an invitation to keep getting it wrong
 - Romans 6 “What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

Putting Grace to Work

- **Titus 3:4-8** “But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good.”

Gracious Goodness!

- We cannot earn it, but we do have to outwork it
- We can do nothing to earn His grace, but owe Him everything because of it
- “I would far rather convey grace than explain it.” (Philip Yancey)
- Can we be a ‘Grace Driven’ church?

What Motivates?

- **NACs vs NAFs, Pleasure vs Pain, Fear vs love?**
- **What makes you drive across the country on a winter's night? Travel across the world to a place you would never usually think to visit? Get up in the middle of the night to change a nappy? Look after someone who is unwell or infirm?**
- **Relationship is often the most powerful motivating force.**
- **He has given everything for His relationship with us, we should give everything to 'Love God, Love People'**

Grow in His Grace and in Him

- **2 Peter 3:17** “Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. 18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”
- **Simon Peter knew the beauty of second chances, the danger of taking it for granted and the vital truth that to grow in grace is to grow in relationship with Jesus**
- **“The solution to sin is not to impose an ever-stricter code of behaviour. It is to know God.”** (Philip Yancey (What’s So Amazing About Grace?))

Grace For Today

- ‘Lord, help me embrace the truth that
Your grace is granted’
- ‘Lord, I’m sorry for where I have taken
your grace for granted’
- ‘Lord, help me to put your grace to
work in my life’