



“Being Thankful for God’s Grace”

1 Corinthians 1:4-9

Sunday 4/25/2010

➔ **Introduction...** The Christians in Corinth were really struggling to make sense as they tried to live the Christian life. They lost sight of God’s grace and Paul will show them the way back. He will remind them of where they’ve come from, but first he reminds them of what God has done for them. He reminds them of Grace.

➔ **Open it...**

1. What hobby or activity was most enjoyable in your teens?

2. How have your interests changed since your teens?

➔ **Explore it... Read 1 Cor 1:4-9**

1. What verse or verses would you pick to define grace and why did you choose them?

2. Pastor Steve said that God doesn’t have to forgive or save anyone. Discuss how this is true or not and how it affects your view of God. Read Romans 6:23.

3. Pick a sin – any sin – such as lying, adultery, stealing, or abuse. Discuss how these are crimes of refusing to give God the supreme love, respect, and obedience He deserves.

4. Is it easy for you to think that God has extended His grace to us through Jesus alone? Read John 15:13, Romans 5:7-8, 1 Peter 3:18. How willing are you to die for your enemies?

5. How has your life been enriched as a result of God’s grace to you through Jesus?

6. Why do you think Paul specifically said our speech was enriched in Jesus? How has that been in true in your life? See James 3:6-8, Eph 5:4.

7. Can you recall your thoughts about Christianity before you became a Christian? Share how those thoughts have changed as your knowledge has been enriched.

8. Explain how the world would respond to the following concepts and how Christians should respond.
 - a) Love your enemies: Rom 12:19-20

 - b) Forgiveness: Matt 18:21-22, Luke 17:4

 - c) First shall be last: Mark 9:35

 - d) We must lose our life to save it: Luke 9:24

 - e) Give and God will provide: Mal 3:10

 - f) Our goals are not in this world: 2 Cor 4:16-18

 - g) Sexual purity is sacred: Eph 5:3, Heb 13:4

9. 1 Cor 1:7 says we have every spiritual gift. What does this mean? See also 2 Peter 1:3.

➔ **Apply it...** As you think back on this lesson – answer these questions personally with I, me and my...

1. When was the last time you sat down and thanked God for His grace? Is this your regular practice or did something happen to make you do this?

2. Review the concept in question 8 above. How close does your concept match the world's view? Do you have work to do in transforming your mind to the mind of Christ?

3. God's grace has been given to us so that we can live godly lives in this present age (Titus 2:11-12). Are you having a problem with living a godly life? Are there areas in your life that may seem ok to most people but you know they need work? How can you apply God's grace in your life to move on?

➔ **Pray it...** Take some time to thank God for His grace. Ask Him to show you where you would be today if you didn't have His grace working in you. Pray for guidance in how to show that grace to others.