

The Faith:
Free Gift-Costly Grace
Week 3

“Salvation, being a free gift from God, sounds too easy.” Charles Colson

Grace

“Pride says, I want to be good enough to meet God on my own terms.”
Grace is God’s gift to man which he does not deserve and cannot earn.

Reconciliation

Through sin man was alienated from God, but through Christ’s death peace with God, and salvation itself, was made possible for all who believed in Jesus.¹

Romans 5:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Colossians 1:21–22 (NKJV)

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—

1 Corinthians 6:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

2 Corinthians 5:18–19 (NKJV)

¹⁸ Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

Sanctification

Comes from a Greek verb meaning “to set apart.” It is used in two ways:

- (1) the believer is positionally sanctified; he stands sanctified before God;
- (2) the believer grows in progressive sanctification in daily spiritual experience.²

Given righteousness for right living.

Ephesians 2:8–10 (NKJV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Titus 2:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

¹ Paul P. Enns, *The Moody Handbook of Theology* (Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1989), 645.

² Paul P. Enns, *The Moody Handbook of Theology* (Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1989), 646.

Catechism is:

A collection of questions and answers that are used to teach people about the Christian religion.
A book explaining the beliefs of the Christian religion by using a list of questions and answers.

Understanding that we pay a price for following Jesus.

Persecution/suffering is inherent to Christian faith.

John 15:20 (NKJV)

Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

2 Timothy 3:12 (NKJV)

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

Suffering is part of growth process and causes growth.

Romans 5:1-4 (NKJV)

¹ Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Unity brings power

Reconciliation between believers

Discipleship → sanctification

Faithfully growing in faith for the purpose of being used by God.