

# GRACE for Addictions

## A One Step Program

### Part 4

#### GRACE

A definition of grace: Have you ever wondered how much grace is available to meet your needs? Picture yourself in the middle of the ocean. All you can see for miles and miles is water. God takes you by the hands, dips you into the water and then pulls you out. The amount of water it took to get you wet is the amount of grace you have experienced. The amount of water left is the amount of grace that's available to meet your needs.

John 1:17 "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."

Jesus is the mediator of the New Testament. He is not only Truth, but He's Grace as well. It was Jesus' performance that fulfilled the Law for you and now you can rest in what he did instead of what you do. Grace and truth are the same. If you're preaching truth, you're preaching grace and if you're preaching grace, you're preaching truth. When you preach that we must perform to get God to like us more, you're not telling the truth.

**Key Point:** The success of Grace for Addictions, A One Step Program is not in what you "do" but in what you "believe". Your faith is simply your trust and confidence in the finished work of Jesus.

Matthew 14:20-21 "And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full. And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children."

The Law will give you your daily bread but grace will feed the thousands.

II Timothy 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Approval is to be based on your identity which produces your worth and value. The Father's approval is for "who you are in Christ" and not because of what you do. It's this approval that produces your confidence. You may not know what confidence is but you always know when you don't have it.

Approval comes in two forms:

1. for what you do (your performance)
2. for who you are (your identity)

Approval is something you receive from the outside into your heart. Whatever form of approval you receive will establish your worth and value. Your level of confidence is produced from your worth and value. Confidence is something you give out to others based on your worth and value.

The approval you receive determines your worth and value which produces your level of confidence.

### JESUS' COUNTERPART

John 5:45 "Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust."

It's the Law that accuses you and not Jesus. We've been led to believe that the Devil is Jesus' counterpart. He's not. The Law is Jesus' counterpart. It's either Law or Grace. Jesus doesn't spend 15 seconds dealing with the Devil. He defeated the Devil. The Law is the only tool the Devil can use against you. The Devil wants you to think it's your performance that makes you righteous. It's not your performance that made you righteous but Jesus' performance that made you righteous.

II Corinthians 5:21 "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

You are the righteousness of God in Christ.

### REPENTING TO TRUTH

II Timothy 2:25-26 "In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth. And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will."

When you repent (change directions in your mind) "to" the truth you have repented "from" a lie. That lie is believing it's your performance that makes you right with God. It's this performance mindset that holds you captive in your mind against your will. Your freedom comes when you renew your mind to the truth or his grace.

### HOW TO SPOT A LEGALIST

Romans 2:15 "Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another..."

A legalist accuses you when you don't do it right but will excuse himself when he doesn't do it right. When a legalist does it wrong, it will generally be your fault. A legalist is always trying to correct you. He's the one that can only remember your shortcomings.

We never change someone by pointing out their faults. People don't need us to tell them what's wrong with them, they already know that. They need to be told what's right with them. If we can convince people of what is right with them, the things that are wrong will begin to fall away.

### TWO TREES

Romans 8:1-2 "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

The two trees in the garden were the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and the tree of life. God told Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. But Adam did. Since then man has been going to the tree of the knowledge of good and evil for his approval.

When Jesus went to the cross He took everything the Devil would use against you to the grave. That includes your sickness, poverty, sadness, offenses, and addictions. Jesus nailed everything to the cross. He nailed the tree of the knowledge of good and evil to the cross. Now He tells us that our approval is in Him. Now we can eat of the tree of Life.

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### **Part 4**

#### QUESTIONS

1. The Law gives you your daily bread. What will grace do?
2. When you repent "to" truth, what are you repenting from?
3. What is the "one" step that sets you free from your addictions?

#### ANSWERS

1. Grace will feed the thousands.
2. You are repenting from the lie of performance.
3. The "one" step that sets me free from my addictions is believing in the finished work of Jesus.