



Being a Woman of Grace-Part 2



Being a woman of grace means being a woman with inner strength and beauty, who is dedicated to obeying the commandments of God to the best of her ability.



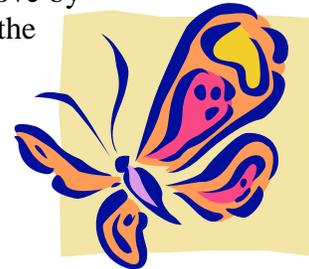
The word “grace” means “the divine influence on the human heart and it’s reflection in their life.”

In other words, reading and hearing the Word of God, plus the guidance and comfort you receive from the Holy Spirit, gives you an inner strength, and power to live your life victoriously.

There are spiritual things that we cannot see with our eyes, but just because we can’t see them that does not mean they are not real and powerful.

Every human being is born with a spirit and a soul. When we receive Jesus as our Savior, our human spirit that we were born with is born again from above by the power of the Holy Spirit of God. When we are born again, the Bible says we become a new creation.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation altogether, the old (previous moral and spiritual condition) has passed away; the fresh and new has come.”
2 Cor. 5:17 AMP



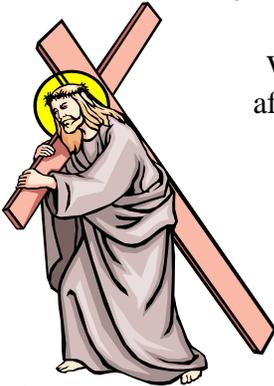
When our spirit is born-again, we are given certain “grace gifts” by God. These gifts of grace give us power to deal with and overcome the difficult issues in our lives by increasing our knowledge of God and His commandments so we can separate God’s truth from human mistakes and become loving, compassionate women of grace.

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you.” Eph. 4:31,32

Kindness, compassion, and forgiveness – three expressions of God’s grace that He expects us to use:

- Kindness is actually another form of the word “grace” itself. It means gentleness, goodness, and kindness to others. A choice to be kind and gentle, even when we don’t feel like it, especially when we don’t feel like it.

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- Compassion is a powerful grace gift. It is what drove Jesus to be willing to die for us on the cross. The word means “to suffer with.” We are to have the kind of pity, sympathy, tender mercy, and affection for others that Jesus had for us when He walked up that long hill to Calvary.
- Forgiveness is the greatest expression of God’s grace and most powerful of the three. It is the whole gospel of Christ.

Forgiveness does not mean that you are saying what was done to you was all right; what it does mean is that you are released from the painful emotions that were caused by what was done to you. It removes the power of their sin against you to have any effect upon you anymore. Living through it once was enough! Why rehearse it over and over, and keep experiencing the pain! It can’t be changed, but you can!

Forgiveness is between you and God. You don’t go to the person (or persons) and say “I forgive you” – that just adds fuel to the problem and causes more hurt.

Jesus set the standard for the way we must forgive others when He was dying on the cross when He said, “*Father, forgive them for they don’t know what they are doing.*”
 Luke 23:34

Of course those soldiers and the people who approved the crucifixion knew what they were doing physically, but they did not know what they were doing spiritually in God’s eyes.

It is the same way for people who deliberately hurt a born-again believer. But, not all hurts are deliberate. Some hurts come from people who don’t mean to hurt us at all, and they really don’t know they have.

Either way, it is our responsibility out of obedience to the commandment of God to release ourselves and those who hurt us from the bondage of unforgiveness.

It costs nothing to forgive, but there is a high price to pay for unforgiveness. God does not forgive unforgiveness.

If we don’t forgive others we are not true women of grace because He loves them as much as He loves us! God forgave everything that might keep others from Him.



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It is evident that to become a true woman of grace requires a change in our attitudes and thoughts about painful things that have happened to us that formed responses of fear and unforgiveness in our approach to our life today.

That kind of thinking is the world's way of handling difficulties, not God's way. To change our old thinking, and think God's thoughts instead is not easy, but it can be done.

The Bible tells us how to change and God would not have told us to do it if it was not important, and if it was impossible to do it.



“For by grace you are saved through (your) faith; and this salvation is not of your own doing, it is the gift of God.” Ephesians 2:8

Amen



Being a Woman of Grace – Part 2

1. What is every human being born with?

2. When is our human spirit born-again?

3. What do God's grace gifts do for us?

4. What are three grace gifts that God expects us to use?

5. What is the greatest and most powerful grace gift?

6. Who is forgiveness between?

7. Who set the standard for the way to forgive others?

8. What was that standard for forgiveness?

9. Why is it our responsibility to forgive others?

10. Why is grace so important? (Ephesians 2:8)
(The answer to this question will be your memory verse)

MEMORY VERSE _____

Being a Woman of Grace – Part 2

1. What is every human being born with?

A spirit and a soul.

2. When is our human spirit born-again?

When we receive Jesus as our Savior.

3. What do God's grace gifts do for us?

Help us know God and His commandments better.

4. What are three grace gifts that God expects us to use?

Kindness, compassion and forgiveness.

5. What is the greatest and most powerful grace gift?

Forgiveness.

6. Who is forgiveness between?

You and God.

7. Who set the standard for the way to forgive others?

Jesus on the cross.

8. What was that standard for forgiveness?

They don't know what they are doing.

9. Why is it our responsibility to forgive others?

Obedience to the commandment of God.

10. Why is grace so important? (Ephesians 2:8)

MEMORY VERSE "For by grace you are saved through (your) faith; and this (salvation) is not of your own doing, it is the gift of God."