

Outside The Box Series #4 - Outside The Box Grace

To understand God's grace is to understand Outside The Box Grace.

Grace used as a noun (Christian belief) the ***free and unmerited favor of God***, as manifested in the salvation of sinners and the bestowal of blessings.

- ***The condition or fact of being favored by someone.***

Used as a verb, do honor or credit to (someone or something) by one's presence.

Grace is a ***terribly misunderstood*** word.

- Detailed *theology textbooks* **do not** offer any concise definition of the term.
- Someone proposed an acronym: ***GRACE is God's Riches At Christ's Expense***.
- That's ***not*** a bad way to *characterize grace*, but ***it is not a sufficient theological definition***.

One well ***known definitions*** of grace is only three words: ***God's unmerited favor***.

A. W. Tozer expanded on that: ***"Grace is the good pleasure of God that inclines him to bestow benefits on the undeserving."***

- ***Grace is not merely unmerited favor; it is favor bestowed on sinners who deserve wrath.***
- ***Showing kindness to a stranger is "unmerited favor"; but doing good to one's enemies is more the spirit of grace.***

GODS GREAT GRACE - Acts 4:33 – NKJV - ³³ And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And ***great grace*** was upon them all.

I believe that ***God wants to*** put on you, your life, and your family...

- AND ON ***YOUR FAILURE*** today... ***GREAT GRACE!!!!***

Mistakes are the price we pay for a full life, if we ***learn*** from *those mistakes!*

- The issue is ***NOT*** if you're going to ***get knocked down***. The issue is ***Are you going to stay down?***
- Timex said – ***You have to take a licking and keep on ticking!***

The word is called resilience in the dictionary –

- The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; (**toughness**)
- The ability to spring back into shape; (**elasticity**)
- **RESILIENCE is what matters most!!!**

Grace is not a one-time event in the Christian experience. We stand in grace.

Romans 5:2 NKJV - through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:2 CEV - Christ has also introduced us to God's gift of undeserved grace on which we now take our stand.

The entire Christian life is driven and empowered by grace:

Hebrews 13:9 CEV - *It is better to receive strength from God's gift of undeserved grace than to depend on certain foods.*

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Mistakes are the catalyst to the miraculous...

- IF you will put them in God's hands! Don't let mistakes destroy you
- Heaven wants to make you - Hell wants to maim you
- And both want to use your mistakes to do it!!!

The adversary wants to mock and maim you for the rest of your life

- For **the mistakes** you have made, and **we have made them!!!**
- God can transform you through your mistakes
- To be **what He wants** you to be!
- **Mistakes** should not maim us the rest of our lives.

Mistakes can become prison houses that hold you hostage.

- **The enemy** would love for all of us **who have made mistakes**
- To be **held hostage in a prison...**
- **Mentally, emotionally, spiritually** - **By the Mistakes** that we have made!

Great Grace only comes after Great Mistake!

- The greater the mistake -The greater God's grace comes to all of us.
- *I didn't come with any bad news today.*
- All I came with today is **GREAT GRACE....**

Point #1

YOU MAY HAVE MADE A MISTAKE, BUT YOU ARE NOT ONE.

Let that sink down into your soul when the enemy is beating your brains out!

- Telling you are trash, stupid, nothing, how could you be so dumb, how could you mess your life up so bad...
- You may have made a mistake, but **YOU ARE NOT ONE!!!**
- You may have failed but your **NOT A FAILURE**

You DON'T have to be a prisoner to your mistake...

- You may be down, but **DOWN IS NOT YOUR DESTINY...**
- **God has grace for your mistakes!!!**

God still has a great plan and purpose for your life.

- He still has **GREAT GRACE FOR GREAT MISTAKES!!!!**
- **You will experience a RESURRECTION, You will COME OUT OF THIS.**

Mistakes can become a doorway to discover possibilities you would not have found without your mistake!

- A portal of possibilities you would have never discovered **had you not gone through the mistake.**
- I'm **NOT advocating** go out and make mistakes so you can learn more about God's Grace.
- I'm just telling you **what the devil means to destroy you with, imprisoned you with, defeat you with, and humiliate you with.....**
- God says, I Can PUT **GREAT GRACE** on your **GREAT MISTAKE!!!**
- **THEN they become a doorway of possibilities to discover - That your failure, your Mistakes are NOT final!!!**

That is why Nahum said: Micah7:8 – NKJV - Do not rejoice over me, my enemy;
When I fall, I will arise; When I sit in darkness, The LORD will be a light to me.

- You will see me mess up
- Don't you start throwing a party
- Don't start rejoicing over me oh my enemies...
- For when I FALL, I WILL RISE AGAIN
- Even I sit in darkness, It Is NOT FOREVER - HIS LIGHT WILL find me again ☺
- DO NOT let Failure become final in your life.
- Hidden in every mistake is a doorway of possibility to discover.
- He doesn't want our Mistake to be a prison - But a pathway to a greater revelation of His GRACE.....

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Point #2

GOD WILL NEVER DEFINE YOU BY YOUR WORST MISTAKE.

- People will, your critics will, your enemies will define you for the rest of your life, by your mistakes!
- YOUR GOD will Never define you by the worst mistake you've made.
- God says "I blot out your transgressions." Remember them NO MORE
- I'll never define you by your worst mistake. NEVER will God EVER DO THAT!!!!

Elder Brother Spirits will! (Luke 15:11-24)

- The only one to bring up the past of the prodigal son - Was the Older Brother.
- The Father never said a word about it... He just threw a coat on him, covered him up, brought him home
- Threw a party, got the musicians out, danced...
- The older Brother was just sitting over their wanting to discuss the Past...
- God will never define you by your worst mistake...

DON'T JOIN THE DEVIL'S SIDE

- He is **the accuser** of the brethren. **Stop defining people by their mistakes**
- **God will never define you** by your worse moment.
- **Mistakes and failures do have consequences** no doubt about it.
- But **they are not** supposed to **define your future**

Heaven wants to make you; Hell wants to Maim you!

God, in order to conform us into his image, let's us fail so we can come to the end of **ourselves** and **our self-righteousness**.

- **The devil desires to crush you for your mistakes.**
- Make you feel **unworthy and worthless**
- When in reality **you are a precious child of God**.
- **Satan wants** you to feel totally worthless.
- **Hell** wants to chain you. **Heaven** wants to conform you.

DO YOU FEEL CHAINED TO A PAST MISTAKE – YOU SHOULDN'T!!!!

Mistakes make you feel stupid – You often think how could of **I did, thought**, or **given in to that**.

- What an **idiot**, then you begin **to beat yourself up**!

Abraham made a terrible mistake, lied about his wife

- Made another mistake when he slept with a woman that wasn't his wife
- **That's terrible...** But, **God never brought it up**, not one time.
- **Even though he made mistakes**, God said **go on, move on...**
- I'm still going to make you **The Father of Faith**
- I know you messed up, but **I'm not defining you by your mistake**.
- You made a mistake, but you are **NOT a Mistake**. AND I'm going to **use you for my glory!!!!**

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Point #3

GOD USES MISTAKES TO TAKE US BEYOND

- How is it that we can make one mistake and ***people will define you by that one mistake***.
- Even ***over all the good*** we have done for the Lord!
- ***God will never bring up your failure...***
- He wants you to ***move beyond your mistakes***, And into ***HIS GREAT GRACE!!!***

The people we almost make deity's out of in the bible.

- ***Jacob*** – Lied and deceived –
- ***David*** – committed adultery, killed people, he did horrible things...

The Point – God ***uses people*** who make mistakes.

God said to Jacob, you're a scam artist, you're a liar, you're a deceiver, you've done about all the bad things you can do.

You're a liar, a luster, you're a looser....

- But I'm going to make you a Prince, I will ***re-name you***
- You ***no longer will be Jacob***, you will ***become Israel***.
- Which means ***a Prince with God***
- I'm going to give you ***power with God*** and ***favor with men***...

I love the fact that Peter messed up

- He lied, cussed, and denied ***Jesus three times***.
- When Jesus showed up in ***his Resurrected body*** and cooked him a meal...
- Jesus didn't look at him and say ***give me the keys back***...
- He said, ***I give you Peter the keys to the Kingdom!*** Just because you ***messed up*** and ***made a mistake***.....
- ***Jesus has never*** said for ***you*** to ***give the keys back!!!***

Jesus is saying to us today, I haven't changed my mind about you, your purpose, and your destiny!

- He's telling us, I knew you would mess up
- But I Put **GREAT GRACE ON GREAT MISTAKES**
- If you just look to me, I NEVER GIVE UP ON YOU - YOUR MISTAKES ARE NOT FINAL!!!!

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Point #4

DON'T LET YOUR MISTAKES HOLD YOU HOSTAGE!!!

- You ***will not*** be able to even praise the Lord!
- ***Condemnation*** does not come from God.
- God will ***use you anyways!***

I've made so many mistakes Pastoring this church....

- God has never come to me and said **give me the keys back!!!**
- People may want to... God said, NO ***I've gave you what I've gave you.***
- I like you, love you, ***I'm for you!!!*** He's saying **the same thing about you** 😊

Psalm 38:16 – NKJV - ¹⁶ For I said, "Hear me, lest they rejoice over me, Lest, **when my foot slips**, they exalt *themselves* against me."

He didn't say ***if*** – He says **WHEN** My Foot Slips!

- You're going to slip and say or do something you shouldn't.
- You are going to **make a mistake.**

I love how **his enemies wait to pounce on him**, but he goes on to say.

Psalm 38:18 - NKJV - ¹⁸ For **I will declare my iniquity**; I will be in anguish over my sin.

Declare means – open your mouth and tell God, I MADE A MISTAKE.

You move from admission to remission.

- If **cancer** is in remission – *It means it is losing its power.*
- When you come with admission – *I MADE A MISTAKE*
- Then suddenly **that Mistake goes into REMISSION**
- You go from Declaration to Restoration
- You go from declaring I'm guilty and God pronounces your innocent
- MY BLOOD HAS COVERED YOU!!!

Wish I would have handled it differently!

- The devil wants to magnify your mistake
- God wants to Magnify Himself during your mistake!!!
- I will not let my mistakes define me...

I am a child of God

- Called, anointed, and *I'm going to do what he has called me to do*
- With more determination and boldness than ever before!!!
- Yes - I've messed up - Yes - I've made Mistakes - BUT

My mistakes DON'T DEFINE ME MY HEAVENLY FATHER DEFINES ME

- **AND HE SAYS, I'M CALLED, I AM CHOSEN, I AM ROYALTY, I AM CLEANSED, I AM WASHED, AND REDEEMED.....**
- **How ABOUT YOU???????**
- **GIVE GOD A PRAISE IF YOU BELIEVE IN GREAT GRACE ☺**
- **THE GREATER THE MISTAKE THE GREATER THE GRACE!!!!!!**

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CLOSE: *God is greater than your mistakes, your failures, your wrong choices.....*

The Bible says we need both **Grace and Mercy**

- There is a difference in **Grace and Mercy**

GRACE GIVES ME WHAT I DON'T DESERVE - I DON'T DESERVE:

- Forgiveness, acceptance, a clean slate, a new beginning.
- Grace is God giving me what I don't deserve! Total forgiveness...
- There is a difference in grace – giving me what I don't deserve & Mercy

MERCY HOLDS BACK WHAT I DO DESERVE

What's powerful is when you have Grace and Mercy working for you!

- Grace giving you what you don't deserve...
- AND Mercy holding back what you do deserve.
- Judgement you do deserve – God stands like he held the Red Sea
- Pass on through – Goodness and mercy are following you!
- Goodness, you hold that side of judgement – Mercy you hold that side back
- I'll hold back what you do deserve And give you what you don't deserve!

It's hard to misdirect a parked car -

THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO DO NOT FAIL ARE PEOPLE WHO DON'T TRY TO DO MUCH.

If you're trying to be great at anything you're going to fail, because it is hard to misdirect a parked car!

- So, these people who sit back and judge everybody by their mistakes
- Usually aren't doing very much **themselves**.
- It's better to fail trying than not trying at all.

Psalms 145:8 NKJV - ⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy.

- **Listen to me if you have** messed up or made a mistake.
- **Made the wrong choice**, done something that was foolish...
- **THE LORD IS GRACIOUS – FULL OF COMPASSION.**
- **SLOW TO ANGER – GREAT IN MERCY**

Psalms 145:14 – NKJV - ¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who fall, And raises up all *who are bowed down*.

You may make a mistake – BUT YOU ARE NOT A MISTAKE

Your Mistakes are NOT greater than God's GRACE ☺

Altar Call: This the message we carry as an **Outside the Box Church when it come to Grace!**

If we can ever become a church **that extends Grace, we will be a revival church!**

Gods got more grace than your disgrace – And God will NOT define you by your worst mistake.

You have two thieves trying to steal your today—

- The **thief of yesterday** - The **thief of tomorrow** -There is **joy in the now!**

Don't let **yesterday rob you** of your joy.

- **Someday** is not **for you to worry about.**
- **You are blessed right now** in **THIS moment!**

Don't worry about tomorrow and **don't live in regret for yesterday.**

- He will meet **your needs for tomorrow.**

God has **more grace than your disgrace.**

- It's not whether **you get knocked down, it's if you will get back up.**
- **Resilience** is what matters most.
- Do not allow **your mistakes to destroy you.**
- **God wants to transform you through your mistakes.**

Outside the Box Grace, My Church - GRACE GIVES ME WHAT I DON'T DESERVE