THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S GRACE

NDON E. NDON

Copyright © Ndon E. Ndon 2019

The Beauty of God's Grace

Ndon, Ndon

Religion, Christian, Teaching

ISBN: 9780639841304

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles or reviews.

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from The King James Version of the Bible.

DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to the glory of God, and to all God's people, who through Jesus His son have received immeasurable grace in all things that pertain to life and Godliness and to those who will also, receive this grace through this book. May God's name be praised forevermore.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dedication..... iii
Introduction.....7
Chapter 1 Fullness of God's grace 12
Chapter 2 Receiving God's Grace.....30
Chapter 3 Growing in God's Grace..... 68
Chapter 4 Purpose of God's Grace.....85
Chapter 5 Limiting God's Grace 98
Chapter 6 Manifesting God's Grace..... 107

INTRODUCTION

The beauty of God's grace is receiving more than what you deserve, because God's grace brings provision according to God's capacity not according to our strength. The beauty of God's Grace is that we have life in abundance without condemnation, unlike the law which brought condemnation.

The grace of God is an unmerited kindness and favor to live life on God's account and enjoy all the benefits as the owner of the account. 2Timothy1:9.

Jesus came to the earth to set up an account for us as His people; everything He suffered was to

accumulate His account for us on earth. This is like having a father who opens a bank account in his name and fills it up with money and all good things of life enough to last you for a lifetime, and then hands over the bank card and pin numbers to you to enjoy the money in the account for the rest of your life. This is what Jesus did for us, He created an account filled with all good things of life by His grace, and He gave us the card and the pin.

(2 Peter 1:2-3) Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, ***According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness****, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*

All things that pertain to life and Godliness has been already provided for you as a child of God, before you were born into this world through the grace of God, it is your responsibility to take what you need through the Grace bank card and secret pin provided for you.

God's account name for us is called - the Grace of God, the account card is your Faith to access the account, and the pin code is the name of JESUS.

You cannot use the card without the pin code; neither can you use the pin code without the card. This is what Peter told the people when they marveled at the miracle of healing a man, who was born lame. He said to them that faith in the name of Jesus had made the man whole; in order words, the use of the card and the pin code withdrew healing and wholeness from Grace's account for the man.

(Acts 3:16) And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Jesus said whatsoever we ask in His name, we will receive it. This asking has to be done by faith because without faith, it is impossible to please God.

(John 14:13-14)And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it.

(Mark 11:24) Therefore I say to you, All things, whatever you ask, praying, believe that you shall receive them, and it will be to you. (MKJV)

There was a woman who understood the mystery of this grace and she set out to take what she needed, which was healing for the issue of blood. She believed in her heart that as soon as she connects with Jesus the author of Grace, she will take her healing, by her faith. And it came to pass that she had her desire just as she believed in her heart. Her faith in Jesus withdrew healing from God's account already created for her.

(Mark 5:25-34) And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes? And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth. And he said unto

her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

Whatever you need from God today; Faith in His name will help you draw from His Grace Account set-up in its fullness for you.

CHAPTER ONE

FULLNESS OF GOD'S GRACE

Grace is more than help, because help is receiving assistance to accomplish what you desire as you are work things out by yourself, but grace is receiving your desires through what has already been worked out by someone else for you. This is what Jesus has done for us; He has freely given us all things that He labored in conquering on the cross that we may enjoy them as ours, without laboring again for

them. Jesus said on the cross, it is finished; this means He has completed the work for us.

(John 1:16) And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace.

(Ephesians 2:8) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Grace is centered on what God has done already for you, while the law was centered on what you should do.

So the law was basically centered on what mankind had to do to please God and be successful, while Grace is centered on what God has done for man to become successful. The grace of God is for all who believe in the finished work of Christ and have received newness of life by faith. It is the gift of God to all, which is given to advance God's kingdom and show forth His glory on earth. God wants everyone to enjoy what He has already created for all people, whom He loved and made in His own image.

The old testament was more of help and less of grace because people were living by their

righteousness and strength as God helped them, this reflected in the wars they had to physically fight themselves, which we no longer need to fight since grace came and the commandments they had to keep as their righteousness or die when they default. Jesus brought us grace, which is more than enough to raise us up to become whatever God has ordained for us to be. The grace of God is sufficient even when nobody can help you.

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

The Grace of God is given to us in full, so that we may lack nothing. There is nothing we need or will need in the future that God has not already created for us in fullness, just like the garden of Eden He had created with everything man needed from the fullness of His grace, before He created man, there was nothing man wanted that was not made already, and then from man He took one of his ribs which He created to make a woman- a companion, a suitable match for the man. Adam, the first man had everything he could ever want in the Garden of Eden, this was how people were

meant to live life until Satan the tempter deceived and lured man away from God's grace, and from then the man began to live by his strength, tilling the ground, suffering, and struggling for all that he needed.

(Genesis 3:17-19) And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Jesus came to restore to mankind what God gave to us in the beginning, this is the reason Jesus would say - from the beginning it was not so. It is only when we can understand the life God had made for the man at the beginning that we can comprehend what God has in store for His people according to His grace.

Through Jesus who is the author of Grace, we can have access to everything we need to live life

in its fullness. The blood of Jesus is given to cleanse man from all sins and disobedience, which will now make man live as if he committed no sin before and by that being restored to God's blessings without struggle as it was in the beginning. The stripes of Jesus which he received on the cross, was so that we could be healed from all kinds of sicknesses and diseases. He became poor that we might be rich. Jesus took care of every negative effect of life; we should have gone through because of sin. He took care of the cursed of man, which came upon man through disobedience and has given every man who believes in Him full liberty through the fullness of His grace to live a victorious life in Him.

Therefore if the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed. (John 8:36) (MKJV).

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath

borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:1-5)

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)

Grace is receiving what you do not merit on your own, but it is given to you by faith through Jesus Christ.

A STORY OF GOD'S GRACE MANIFESTING IN MY SITUATION

I remember a situation in my life after I got saved and desired to get admission into a certain higher institution to study Building Technology, but when I enquired at the admission office, I was told that the space for building technology students was filled up, and that there was nothing I could do about it except I choose to study land survey. I went to the Chairman board of admission of the school and he chased me away, telling me that I

was asking for the impossible. But by my understanding as a child of God, I knew I was free to have my desire through God's grace whether I merited it or not and no matter how impossible it was; so I refused to accept the only choice available, which was to study land survey, I pressed on by faith in Jesus name for my admission into the department of building technology, which was my desire. God honored my faith and did a great miracle before my eyes.

I went in to see the deputy registrar of the school, he told me it was too late, there was nothing he could do, but as I kept talking to him, the power of God arrested his heart and he called for an impromptu meeting with the chairman board of admission and others concern, while I waited at his secretary's office. About 5-10mins, they sent for me and apologize to me for the delay, while offering me admission to the building technology department. I was astonished at the miracle as that was my first practical miracle after just being saved. From then I was strengthened to believe for the manifestation of God's grace in anything I desired through faith in His name.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. (John 1:14-17)

The scriptures said Jesus was full of grace and truth when He began to manifest His ministry on earth. This is when His glory was revealed to all, through the great works that He did. John said He was given the Spirit without measure. **There was nothing impossible for Him to do, and this was proof of the fullness of grace upon Him. So we as His followers can also walk in the fullness of grace that He did walk, only if we will believe and walk with the Spirit that was with Him, just as He said, he who believes on Me, the works that I do he shall do also, and greater *works* than these he shall do because I go to My Father.**

(John 14:12-14) Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

The ability to do what Jesus did depends on us possessing the same grace that was upon Him, which was the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came upon Him, after His baptism and the fullness of grace was upon Him. These made Him outstanding in all He did. So as we possess the Holy Spirit in us and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit we will have the fullness of His grace in our lives.

Through the name of Jesus, you can have whatever you ask according to God's will and nothing shall be impossible to you when you believe. It is, therefore, your choice to receive God's fullness of grace by faith and walk with His Holy Spirit to see it manifest in your life daily.

FULLNESS OF LIFE

The grace of God was given, so you can have the fullness of life, without God's grace there is no fullness of life. The devil is here on earth to steal, kill and destroy whatever you are trying to build, just as the scripture says except the Lord builds a house, the laborers labor in vain to build it, except the Lord watch over a city, the watchmen watch in vain. So it is only by God's grace that you can have the life you desire in its fullness.

Then Jesus said to them again, Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters in by Me, he shall be saved and shall go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal and to kill and to destroy. ***I have come so that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly****. I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. (John 10:7-11)*

Jesus is the good shepherd who leads us through His grace into abundant life. In life, you are either led by God's grace or the world's standard, which is money.

It is one thing to be born again, which is to be born of the Spirit; it is another thing to be led by the Spirit, just like we were all born from our mother's womb, but not all of us are led by our mothers.

The abundant life that Jesus offers can only be received by those led by Him as their good shepherd and not by those who walk by the world's standard. Jesus said we cannot save two

masters at a time; we will either hate one or love the other.

(Matthew 6:24) "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. (ESV)

The choice to serve God is the choice to live by His grace, which is living life according to the abundance of His provision and power and not according to your labor or what your money can provide.

There are two ways you may test if you are led by God's grace or money.

The first test is to ask yourself - What determines the visions or the projects I undertake, are they determined by God's commands or my pocket's commands?

The second test is to ask yourself - What determines how I fulfill my vision or goals, is it driven by the word of God, which is the word of His grace or by what I want to possess on earth?

It is the fullness of God's grace that gives fullness of life. This is a life that is blessed, spirit, soul, and body. The scripture makes us aware that Jesus came as the fullness of Grace so that we might have the fullness of life. **The life of God in you is determined by how much of God's grace you possess.** There are factors that determine the level of God's grace in your life, but the main factor is your strong desire to see the fullness of God's grace in your life. Some people just live life as it happens to them, without any desire for certain accomplishments and achievements in their lives through God's grace. This is like someone having sufficient money in life, but achieves nothing, because the person has no dreams or visions of what to achieve. The grace of God in the life of a child of God is more than having sufficient money to live life for a lifetime, but that sufficiency must be channeled into something great so that others can see the sufficiency of God's grace and benefit from it.

Nobody benefits from money lying dormant in a bank account, people benefit when money is put to use, by investing it in something that

profits others, so is it with God's grace, the world cannot benefit from the grace of God in your life, if it is lying dormant, without you investing it on something profitable for your generation.

This is the reason Jesus said, everyone who has something, more will be given, and he will have more than enough. But from the person who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away from him (Matthew 25:29). Jesus said this because He knows that those who have something worthy, made use of the little thing they had, but those who have nothing worthy may have rejected and despised that which was given to them.

Jesus also said, let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father. You must channel your grace towards something you will like to see happening on earth, something you are called to do, which is your vision in life and your purpose for living. By so doing you will grow in grace to maximize and experience the fullness of God's grace for your life and purpose. Some things that bother you are things you have been graced to change, so make

you use of the grace of God in your life and grow in it to the glory of God.

Grace grows by constant use, the more you use God's grace to achieve things, the more it grows in you, so you can achieve more. Every Christian should endeavor to plan and execute their purpose and vision through grace, rather than through money. **Money is to the world, what God's grace is to the kingdom of God**. Grace provides far more than money. Money can deliver capital for a project, but cannot guarantee the safe and timely delivery of the project, but grace can produce money with safety and timely delivery, as well as sustaining the project for many generations, just like the well of water Jacob dug, which sustained many generations, because he was a man who lived and walked with God. Times and happenings are all in the hands of Jesus, who is the author of grace. The more we plan with grace, the greater projects we can accomplish because Jesus is with His Father to intercede and work with Him for the prosperity of His Grace on earth. God's grace is the most viable thing on earth, John said we should plan to do and accomplish all things on

earth through God's grace, not by our strength or money.

I remember when my first child was to be born, and by then I did not have money to start shopping for her birth, but I said to God, you must prove to me the fullness of your grace by providing not just what my child would need for survival, but what she wants in abundance. So I trusted God. As the time drew near for my wife to deliver and I had so much pressure from people telling me I must get things ready for her delivery, I went and bought a few things like one bathing soap, face towel and baby powder that was what I could afford then. So with some few days left for the delivery, My wife's workplace- a nursery school, had secretly organized a baby shower for her inviting the staffs and parents, who gave so much of the things we needed for the baby, even things I have never seen before and as if that was not enough, the house fellowship we attended also organized a surprise baby shower the same day, one was in the morning and the other was in the evening. Each group did not know the other group was setting up something. So it happened that we

had more than what we needed in abundance within one day, what we did not receive from the first group, was given by the second group. My daughter had so much clothing that she could not wear all of them before over growing them; I did not have to buy any clothes for her in a space of over one year. We had about four baby strollers, I had to give three out, we had about 2 beds, I gave one to a friend to use, we had so many toys and baby stuffs that we had to keep some things in our garage and we were a blessing to those who needed them. This was a proof of God's grace which surpasses the money I would have posses, because some of the things I received, I have not seen them before, even if I had the money to buy them, I would not know about them or where to get them. We were so amazed by God's wonderful manifestation of His grace. This helped us to believe in His grace more and more.

There is more to God's grace than we can imagine, this is what the scripture says that God is able to do exceedingly abundantly more than we can ask, think or imagine. God's grace is like the unsearchable love and mercy of God, you can only

try to comprehend God's grace if you can comprehend His love and mercy for mankind. No man can fully comprehend God's love, it is beyond our comprehension and so is God's grace. God's grace also speaks about the unlimited wealth of God on earth, which no one can quantify. It is immeasurable. So when you walk with God's grace, you are walking with immeasurable provision for whatever you need on earth during your lifetime. The grace of God supplies sufficiency in all things, so you can abound to every good work. Believe and walk with God's grace for the rest of your life and you will never lack any good thing in life.

God gives us all Grace to accomplish all we desire according to His will for our lives. All grace means all we need is taken care of by God, so we can have the sufficiency to fulfill His purpose on earth. There is nothing impossible for God to do. So we have to trust Him that all we need is already provided in abundance.

As you observe God's creation, you will see that everything created by God is in abundance. This means God's supplies come in abundance. God's creation can multiply because He

commanded it at the beginning of His creation. This means we can expect abundant supplies even when there is little because He can cause it to multiply, just like Jesus did with the five loaves and two fishes that He blessed and fed five thousand people besides women and children. He also repeated the miracle with seven loaves and few fishes to feed four thousand people.

The Grace of God is available in the life of every child of God to give sufficiency for every good work.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work. (2 Corinthians 9:8)

CHAPTER TWO

RECEIVING GOD'S GRACE

God's grace is available through Jesus Christ, grace came through Jesus and we have access to God through Jesus Christ.

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

The beginning of possessing God's grace is to have Jesus Christ in your life.

You cannot have God's grace without Jesus, because He is the carrier of God's grace. Jesus paid

the price for grace on the cross when He gave His life for every person on earth to be saved. He is the author and the finisher of grace.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

The way to receiving Jesus who is the carrier of grace into your life is by believing in Him with all your heart and asking Him to come into your life as your savior and Lord. This is an act of faith. You have to believe that what you have asked is done and henceforth, you have to determine to walk according to His words and guidance that are written in the Bible.

REQUIREMENTS FOR POSSESSING GOD'S GRACE

FAITH

One of the main requirements of God's grace is faith and obedience, not your own works. This grace is for those who walk by faith and not by sight or by works.

Faith can be likened to a bank card you use in withdrawing money from a bank ATM. It is a very essential element of God's grace.

(Romans 5:2) By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

(Romans 11:6) And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

(Romans 4:16) Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

We can see from the scriptures that the main requirement of God's grace is faith. Faith is the key thing to obtaining God's grace in every area of your life. Faith is like the bank card you need to withdraw from heaven's account of grace. Without faith, it is impossible to please God, for he who comes to Him must believe that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Heaven transacts with faith, without faith there is no transaction. In all challenges of your life, the devil would want to destroy your faith more than anything else, so that you cannot receive from heaven what you need for

your prosperity. Jesus said to Peter, Satan has planned to sieve you like wheat, but I pray that your faith fail not, and when you are strengthened, strengthen others. He did not pray that Peter would not fall, but that his faith would not fail, because, with faith, a fallen person can rise again, just like the scripture says the righteous falls seven times and they rise again. Faith must be used in all aspects of your life; the scripture says anything not done in faith is a sin.

God made grace accessible by faith so that everyone living on earth can access His grace, despite their background, limitations or circumstances. By faith, you can change your story without any man's permission, just like the woman with the issue of blood, who changed her story from 12 years of sickness and weakness to a lifetime of health and strength. Blind Bartimeaus changed his story by faith from blindness to a lifetime of sight; the gentile woman changed her story by faith from having a sick child to having a healthy child. There are many men and women on earth who have life-changing testimonies by Grace through their faith.

Faith comes through the knowledge of God's word, and not by any knowledge, because fear also comes through knowledge, but negative knowledge. Knowledge of negative things, like what the enemy is trying to do against you and other negative things happening around you can produce fear. So to have faith for great things, you need to eliminate the knowledge of negative things from your life and establish in your heart the knowledge of positive things through God's word. Fear is the greatest enemy of progress; when once you allow fear in your heart it limits your progress, and this is the reason God often begin speaking to His people by saying to them - FEAR NOT. You should strive not only to hear God's word which is the beginning of faith but to believe God's word which establishes faith in your heart.

The strength of your faith is determined by the level of your understanding of God through His word.

Your faith is bound to be strengthened when you understand through God's word that God cannot fail and also that everything He allows will

work out for good to them that love Him and are called according to His purpose. The beginning of faith is hearing the word and believing the word you hear will establish faith in your heart. The bible says faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word, this means faith begins to happen or manifest when you start hearing the word, but the process of being established can be terminated, if you do not believe the word you hear. The scripture says that the word they heard did not profit them because they did not mix it with faith.

(Isaiah 53:1) "Who has believed our message, and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? (ISV)

The arm of the Lord is revealed to you when you believe His message for your life.

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. But I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, I will provoke you to jealousy by them that are no people, and by a foolish nation I will anger you. But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me. But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people. (Romans 10:14-21)

There are three things that abide forever in Life, Love, Faith, and hope. **Faith is one of the essential raw materials that can produce your desires at any given time and place. It does not depend on the exchange rate or the economy. It depends on the provisions of God's grace for your needs.** As long as the grace of God has control of what you need, it will be delivered to you through your faith. Our strength to make money is limited, and money also has its limitations. It can answer to all things, but cannot do all things; just like when some rich people are sick, money answers their flight ticket and medical bills for the best hospital in the world, but money cannot give them a life,

this is why some rich people still die of divers' sicknesses after spending so much to feel better. But the grace of God through faith can give abundant life and all that money cannot do. We should see money as a blessing through God's grace to do what we can do with it and not as our source and everything. God's grace should be the source of provision for every child of God through faith.

Money answers to all things, but cannot do all things

SET-UP TO LIVE BY FAITH

Many times God sets us up to live and walk by faith through the circumstances and situation we find ourselves, which leaves us no option but to trust Him to help us. When I got saved, I desired strongly to see God's manifestations in my life and that brought me into a life of faith because I found out from God's word that His manifestations only come through faith.

I have encountered many situations in my life where I could do nothing about it than to pray and believe God's word for His manifestation. Like in

one instance, when I applied for a visa to a certain country, I was asked to bring a repatriation deposit of a certain amount in a few days, this is money, I have never had before at once and I did not have time to work for it, all I needed was God's manifestation through faith and while I was praying, God spoke to me to speak to someone and the person said to me, you are speaking to my spirit. I will give you the money, so he gave me more than what I needed for the deposit, so I took the money there and by then, the set time had passed, so they asked me to re-apply, which I did and the visa was given to me without the repatriation deposit, so the deposit became my flight ticket which I did not have. This made me understand that the way of faith through grace is better than the way of human strength.

I saw the manifestation of God because I was forced to trust God since I did not have any other option. I believe God does the same to all His children in different situations, like when He brought the children of Israel out of Egypt through the wilderness to the promised land of Canaan, which he had for them. The bible said there was

another route, but God decided to lead them through the wilderness, where they had no options but to believe Him for everything. This was so that He could prove Himself to them by giving them provisions through faith, even though most of them doubted Him. But they saw His ability to feed them with manna and give them water out of the rock, protect and fight for them. He was able to keep them in good health without a hospital, He kept their shoes in good condition for many years and their clothes grew with them and their children. There was nothing they needed, He could not provide by Himself for them. All this He did so that when they arrive in the Promised Land, they will still walk with Him by faith, even though they would have means of making money.

Faith is not the absence of work, but believing and working according to God's will.

In the story where the wine had finished during a wedding ceremony Jesus attended. At that time, they could not get wine anywhere close by for the event, all they needed was God's manifestation through Grace to give them wine, so

the mother of Jesus went to Jesus and asked for His intervention and when Jesus decided to provide them with wine, He asked His disciples to do some work by fetching water into the purification pots that were available then, and when they did the work according to His word, He also asked them to take the water by faith from the pot to the governor of the feast, who after drinking the water made wine, commended that it was the best wine for that feast. John 2:1-11.

You can learn and grow in faith through the practical situations of life you experience daily. The choice to believe God's word and walk-in obedience always lies with you. It is one thing to hear the word, but if you do not choose to believe what you hear, you will limit yourself from receiving the fullness of God's grace in your life.

LOVE

The grace of God is from God's love, it is the love of God that brought us His grace. So to have the fullness of grace; you need to know His love. The love of God speaks about mercy, compassion,

and the goodness of God for man, whom He created in His own image.

To have the fullness of grace, you need to know God's love

(Exodus 34:5-6) And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

Knowing the love of God is to know God because God is love. True love originates from God. He is the founder of love and anyone that would know love in its fullness must first know Him.

We can try to understand how much God loves us through the sacrifice, He made on the cross of redemption through His Son, in order to save Mankind from sin, bondage, and oppression of the devil. Mankind was condemned to die because of sin, but God sent His only begotten son to die in place of mankind, so that mankind can be free to become who he or she was created to be.

Understanding God's love strengthens your faith to possess the fullness of God's grace in your life.

(Romans 5:1-8) Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

FAITH IN GOD'S LOVE

Faith in God's love is trusting in God. Our faith in God should be rooted in His love for us as His creation and as His people. This is the reason we believe that He will meet our needs and will not forsake us all the days of our lives.

(Galatians 5:6) For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

HIS LOVE FOR US AS HIS CREATION

The love of God for the people He created is so great. It is unconditional love, this is the reason He sent His only begotten son to die for everyone while in their sins. He sees us as His great work and He is ready to do anything to make sure we as human beings are functioning on earth properly without hindrances. John 3:16-18.

(Romans 5:6-8) For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

HIS LOVE FOR US AS HIS PEOPLE

The love of God for His people knows no bound. It is love with a responsibility to those who have become His own people, whose sins have been forgiven, washed by the blood of His son Jesus, filled with His Spirit and walking by His Spirit

through His word. He takes great care of them as a father. His owes them a responsibility to supply their needs, wants, and to protect and guide them all the days of their lives, more than a good father will do for his children. As a child of God, you must believe in His love to receive His blessings. Psalm 84:1, *Isaiah 43:1-7*

(Ephesians 2:4-7) But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Your faith in God's love determines the fullness of God you receive and the height of your dominion on earth. Nothing will be impossible to achieve if you can believe in His love. Know and believe that He will not withhold any good thing from you. Romans 8:32.

(Ephesians 3:14-19) For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant

you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

The level of your faith in God's love determines the power that works in you, which causes God to do exceedingly abundantly more than you ask or think. You can strengthen your faith in His love through the promises in His word. Your faith in God's love will lift you up.

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. (Ephesians 3:20)

LOVING GOD

Your love for God determines how much of God's grace you can receive, because no matter how much someone else loves you, if you do not love the person, you may not be able to receive the good things the person has to offer you. In any

profitable relationship, love must be both ways, just like marriage, when one person loves with all of his or her heart and the other does not love or loves little, there will be challenges in walking together. The scripture instructs us that the most important commandment of God is to love God with all our hearts, soul and mind. This is a command by God because it is the major thing that will help us walk with Him and receive the fullness of His grace in our lives. The level of your love for God determines the level of your faith in Him because it is difficult to believe in whom you do not love, it takes love to sustain faith in someone.

Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. (Matthew 22:35-40)

To love God is to keep His commands and become obedient to His instructions.

He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him. (John 14:21) (MKJV)

OUR LOVE FOR OTHERS

The second most important command of God is to love others. **The law of God commanded His people in the Old Testament to love others like themselves, but the new law Jesus gave in the New Testament says Love one others as I have loved you**. This means your love for others should be Christ-like, which is greater than your own way of loving people. This simply means do to others, the way God would like you to do to them and not the way you will like to do to them nor the way you would like others to do to you.

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. (John 13:34-35)

Faith comes through the knowledge of God's word, and love comes through the knowledge of God. These two things are necessary ingredients

for God's grace to prosper in your life. Anyone who does not love does not know God, despite all the knowledge the person might possess about God.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone who loves has been born of God, and knows God. The one who does not love has not known God. For God is love (1 John 4:7-8 MKJV)

People who have faith without love can do miracles, but the miracles they do is for their selfish gain, they do not care about God or His people. And the Bible says that in the last day, they will say to God, we did miracles in your name and God will say to them, I know you not, depart from me you who work iniquity. This is because love is the greatest of the three things necessary in life, which are love, faith, and hope. Anything done outside love can mean nothing to God according to the scriptures in 1 Corinthians 13:1-8.

If I speak with the languages of man and of angels, but don't have love, I have become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so

as to remove mountains, but don't have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but don't have love, it profits me nothing. Love is patient and is kind; love doesn't envy. Love doesn't brag, is not proud, doesn't behave itself inappropriately, doesn't seek its own way, is not provoked, takes no account of evil; doesn't rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. (1 Corinthians 13:1-8)

The grace of God is revealed more in the lives of His people who keep His command because keeping God's commands is the main proof that you love Him. When you love others as God commands, you position yourselves for God's abundant blessings through His grace, because God can trust you to be a channel of blessings to His people and not a container of blessings. This reminds me of the story of a wealthy man whose business yielded so much profit and abundance of goods, but instead of him sharing with others, he decided to pull down his storehouse and to build a bigger one that can contain all of his abundance and God also decided to take his life away, so that

others can benefit from the blessing He gave the man. So when you are ready to be a channel of blessing to others through love, God pours out His abundant grace and blessings upon you, so others can benefit, but if you want to be a container of blessings for yourself alone through selfishness, He can move you out of the way for His blessings to flow to others.

God's word can be likened to food and prayer can be likened to water, we need both to grow in grace

KNOWLEDGE

We need knowledge through God's word, in order to possess the fullness of grace He has for us. Some people are not sure of the knowledge and understanding to expect when they read the bible, while some only expect one kind of knowledge, which must be in line with their desires. But the bible is written to impart us with several kinds of knowledge and understanding that will cause us to possess the fullness of God's grace in our lives.

The word of God is the word of grace that can build us up to receive all the blessings that God has stored up for us as our inheritance.

And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. (Acts 20:32)

The knowledge of God gives you an understanding of the character and integrity of God and our Lord Jesus. Knowing God for who He is will strengthen you to trust Him in all things, for they that do know their God shall wax strong and do exploits. When you know the character of God, His faithfulness, His likes and dislikes alongside His ways of operations, you will not only believe in Him, but you will be able to speak confidently of what He can do because you trust in Him. This knowledge will give you understanding and faith to relate with Him and receive all He has for you. The knowledge of the Lord releases more grace for you to operate as a child of God in the fullness of what God has for you.

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. (2 Peter 1:2-4)

It is those who know God that know His ways and they have the ability to do greater things like Jesus did. Just like the bible says He made His ways known to Moses and His acts to the children of Israel, Psalm 103:7. This confirms that Moses and all the other great men of God in the Bible, who did mighty works in their time, were only able to do those things because they had knowledge of God. People like David, Gideon, Paul, Peter and many others who did great things did walk in the ways of God. This is what God expects from us because He delights in those who know Him.

This is what the LORD says: "The wise man is not to boast in his wisdom; the strong man is not to boast in his strength; and the rich man is not to boast in his riches.

Rather, let the one who boasts, boast in this: that he understands and knows me, for I am the LORD who acts with gracious love, justice, and righteousness in the land. I delight in these things," declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 9:23-24)

Knowing and accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord will give you the mindset of Christ, which gives you the power to overcome the enemy and fulfill your purpose with ease, because the enemy works through our minds, Philippians 2:5. Therefore when our mindset is not aligned with God's word, the devil can mislead us to destruction, but whenever our mindset is aligned with God's word, we are bound to have victory over all the devices of the enemy. The enemy is very subtle, he does not come to us in a way we expect him to come, he comes in different ways as if he wants to do us good, but the mind of Christ gives us discernment to know how to overcome our enemies at all times.

KNOWLEDGE OF WHO YOU ARE IN GOD

The knowledge of who you are in God is to know the capabilities of God, whom you belong to, and what belongs to you in God. Knowing who you belong to, determines how you fulfil your purpose. Peter declared Jesus as the Christ, **the son of the living God.** Jesus knew whose son He was, even when most people around Him did not know, this gave Him the confidence and the authority to do things others could not do.

*And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, **the Son of the living God**, Matthew 16:16.*

The power and the authority of Christ to fulfill His purpose depending on whose son He was. The bible says as many as receive Christ as their savior and Lord are given the power to become sons of God, this is when people become born again.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (John 1:12-13)

Being born again is the beginning of Sonship in God, it is not the completion of Sonship, some people just recite the words of repentance, get born again without any determination, they return to their former ways, thinking that is all that makes them children of God. Jesus said to those who believed on Him that they can only become His disciples if they continue in His word.

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32)

Continuing in God's word and the kingdom lifestyle reveals God's grace in your life. It is the truth that makes you free from every deceit, traps, and bondage of the devil. **The core calling of God for His people is to become His disciples, a disciple is a consistent follower, who believes and applies the principles of his or her master at all times**

Knowing who you are, gives you the ability to overcome obstacles and correct your mistakes on your way to fulfilling the purpose of God, just like the prodigal son came to the understanding of

who he was, and this brought a restoration of good life to him.

And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee. (Luke 15:18)

The bible says every child of God is a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar person called to show God's praise on earth. This means you are a special person on earth as a child of God and when you know and believe who you are in God, you will begin to act differently and expect results according to who you are in God and not according to what people say or what is happening around you.

(1 Peter 2:9-10) But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S PROVISIONS FOR YOU

This is another factor that affects God's grace in our lives. This is having knowledge of what God has in store for you.

It is a good knowledge of God's provision that will stir you up to desire the best in life.

It is that which will make you reject anything that takes you backward and hold unto the blessings of God that makes rich and adds no sorrow. The elder brother of the prodigal son was a good son who did not have knowledge of what his father had provided for him. He knew his father was rich, but did not know his own riches through his father, so he was struggling in the midst of his own wealth, and he said to his father this many years have I served you, but you have not given me even a young goat to celebrate with my friends, but I believe he was astonished when his father told him that everything he had was for him to enjoy. So he did not need to have a young goat, he was free to have whatever he needed for his life, be it a big goat or goats. This tells us that without

knowledge of God's provision we will suffer and lack in the midst of plenty. Luke 15: 11-32.

The elder brother of the prodigal son knew his father was rich, but he did not know his own riches through his father, so he was struggling in the midst of his own wealth.

The word of God gives the knowledge of the fullness of God's provision for your life and the assurance of that provision, just as the bible says if God did not withhold His only son from us, what will He not freely give us.

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Romans 8:32

The scripture says my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, the knowledge that reveals God's grace to us is in His word. The word of God contains the promises of God which are fulfilled in your life as you know and believe them. Having faith in God's purpose and provision for your life will strengthen you to aim higher and receive everything God has in-store for you

KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S POWER

This is to know and experience the acts of God. The acts of God are the manifestations of God to fulfill His word to His people; Jesus said you do err because you know neither the scripture nor the power of God. The manifestation of God's power in our lives gives us the strength and courage to receive greater things through His grace. David was a man, who manifested the grace of God in his time, because he knew the power of God, he went beyond his generation. He valued the manifestations of God in his life and he drew courage from them. He recounted his experiences of God's power before Saul when he was about to fight Goliath the giant. He said I have killed a lion and a bear, so the God who delivered me will also deliver me from Goliath. I believe this is one of the reasons Jesus came through his lineage because of his walk with the Lord. **The grace of God gives us such sufficiency in all things, which our labor can never give.** Faith in God's power can bring forth manifestations in your life beyond your imagination.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: Our hope to always overcome in life should rest on His grace and not on our works. 2Corinthians9:8

The power of God manifests through the authority of God. **The authority of God you exercise releases God's power for your good.** You must know and use God's authority given to you as a child of God in order to access power through His Grace. There are things God will not do for us because He has already given us the authority to do them.

Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. Luke 9:1-2

You can see from the scripture that God has given those who are His disciples, the power and authority to cast out demons, cure diseases and heal the sick. So when you meet with demons, you are to command them out through the grace of God using your faith and the name of JESUS. Also, you heal the sick with the same authority. If you

don't use this authority, but you pray for God to cast out a demon for you, He may not answer you on that matter, because He has already made provision for that. You ought to walk in God's authority to experience His power and victory at all times. You must seek to know God's authority for yourself, even as you exercise it daily by faith.

THE NAME OF JESUS

The name of Jesus is the pin code to accessing the grace of God, while using faith as the card. Jesus said we should ask anything in His name and it will be done for us, but He also said we should ask believing, in other words if we don't believe in what we ask in His name, it may not come to pass, because this is like using the right pin code with a wrong card to withdrew money from a bank ATM.

I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it" (John 14:13-14 ISV)

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. (Matthew 21:22)

Peter said to the people that gathered to see a man who was born lame walking for the first time, that it is faith in Jesus' name that has made the man whole. This means that He used the right card, which is faith with the right pin code, which is the name of Jesus and there was a withdrawal of healing and wholeness from the grace of God to the lame man. Faith in the name of Jesus will always bring a change in your situation.

And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. Acts 3:16

The name of Jesus is not a pin code that can be cracked by anyone to withdraw from God's grace illegally; it is only for the right users. There was a story of some men who saw Paul the Apostle using the name of Jesus to receive blessings for the people, and they taught, they could do the same. So they set out to cast demons out of a man who was possessed in the name of Jesus, but the demon-possessed man knew they were not the right users of the pin-code, so he attacked them.

Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. Acts 19:13-17

The power in God's name has been since the Old Testament and it became much clearer in the New Testament. David overcame Goliath in the name of the Lord, when he said I come to you in the name of the Lord God of Israel. And the bible also speaks about the name of the Lord being a strong tower where the righteous run into and they are saved. So the name of the Lord is an instrument of power in the mouth of a believer. Whoever calls on the name of the Lord with faith shall be saved.

OBEDIENCE

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, *ye shall eat the good of the land: Isaiah 1:18-19*

Your willingness and obedience to God's commands and leading guarantee your unstoppable access to God's grace.

The blessings of God require obedience in faith. Obedience is proof of your commitment to the faith you profess. Obedience is the work we are required to do when we believe. Faith without work is dead.

God loves cheerful obedience; this is obeying willingly and not grudgingly. The scripture says God loves a cheerful giver, giving is working in obedience to God's commands. God prefers obedience to any sacrifice or anything you could have to offer Him.

And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to

hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king. (1 Samuel 15:22-23)

When you don't obey God you are saying to Him that you know better than He does and that your ways will work out a better result than His ways. And also when you disobey God, you are rejecting His word and His leadership over your life. You wonder why people disobey God and then when things become bad in their lives, they blame it on God. God is not responsible for any disobedient person, because disobedience takes you out of His covering and blessings. And when you are out of God's covering and blessings, your enemies can do whatever they want to do in your life. So it is important that you focus on obeying God in all things, so you can easily access His grace for your prosperity.

God gives you the grace to obey His word for your good because He works in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure. You are not called to struggle in obedience, because His grace is sufficient for you in all things. You just have to

depend on Him with all our hearts, seeking to do things His own way and He will guide you through.

By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name (Romans 1:5)

Your obedience determines whom we serve; you cannot serve God with all your heart and not obey Him. Many profess to serve God but are disobedient to His commands. This does not profit in any way. Some people obey when it is convenient for them. These are those who are neither hot nor cold. They don't take a stand for God; they take a stand for themselves to do as it pleases them. The word of God says God will spew those who are neither hot nor cold out of His mouth. This means God takes no pleasure in such people. He takes pleasure in those whose hearts are set to obey Him in all things. Revelation 3: 15-16

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? (Romans 6:16)

Your obedience confirms your authority. As you walk in obedience you have the right to use your authority in God to rebuke and punish all disobedience around you. A leader in disobedience does not have the justification to punish a follower in disobedience. So God wants us to walk in obedience, so we can have the justification to deal with our enemies who are walking in disobedience to God.

And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled (2 Corinthians 10:6)

CHAPTER THREE

GROWING IN GOD'S GRACE

We grow in grace as we grow in the practice of God's principles through the Holy Spirit and God's word. These are the pillars of Grace. You cannot access God' Grace without His Spirit and word.

We are meant to grow in God's grace daily, so we can increase in all He has for us in this life.

We also grow in grace as we grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ and all He has done for us. 2 Peter 1:2-4; 3:18.

(2Peter 1:2) Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

(2 Peter 3:18) But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen.

(1 Timothy 1:14) And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

The grace of God grows exceeding abundantly where there are abundant faith and love. The kind of faith, which increases God's grace in your life, is the faith that works through love and compassion. Whenever you desire to see things happen in other people's lives majorly for their own good and God's glory, and not for your self-promotion, you will see God's abundant grace. God's standard of reward is mostly based on our motives for doing things because He can see the intent of every man's heart and He judges accordingly.

(Galatians 5:6) For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any strength, but faith working through love.

Jesus operated with faith that works through love because He always had compassion on people, even those who did not know Him. And this is the reason He operated in abundant grace made available to Him by the father, so He can impart many lives.

HOW TO GROW IN GRACE

LIVING BY THE WORD

Jesus said man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeded from the mouth of God.

(Mathew 4:3-4) And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Living by the word requires knowing the word, believing the word and practicing the word. I have known the power of God through living by His

word because His word has changed so many circumstances and situations in my life that were impossible for man to do. Living by the word is to walk by God's word in the face of challenges, believing that every step you take to fulfill God's word will change your situation and circumstances for good. Just like it happened to the four lepers, who took steps of faith based on God's word spoken through the mouth of Prophet Elisha.

(2 Kings 7:1-9) Then Elisha said, Hear ye the word of the LORD; Thus saith the LORD, Tomorrow about this time shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria. Then a lord on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God, and said, Behold, if the LORD would make windows in heaven, might this thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof. And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die? If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die. And they rose up in the twilight, to go unto the camp of the

Syrians: and when they were come to the uttermost part of the camp of Syria, behold, there was no man there. For the Lord had made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, even the noise of a great host: and they said one to another, Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us. Wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and fled for their life. And when these lepers came to the uttermost part of the camp, they went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and carried thence silver, and gold, and raiment, and went and hid it; and came again, and entered into another tent, and carried thence also, and went and hid it. Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.

We can see from the scripture that the lepers had victory in the face of an impossible situation because they were moved by the word of God as they took steps of faith to the camp of the Syrians the Lord amplified their steps and made it sound like the noise of chariots and horses, which made

the Syrians flee for their lives. Living by the word helps you bypass some natural process of things that you cannot fulfill. I have rented houses, without submitting necessary documents I did not have, because God made the owner of the house not to ask for them. I have lived and succeeded in places I was not qualified to neither stay nor succeed because God told me to stay there and I lived there by His word, which made all things work out for my good.

Knowing the word comes by searching out the scripture to find the word of God concerning our situation or challenges, this is not just finding out what u want to know, but it is finding out what you need to know.

(Isaiah 34:16) Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.

(Jeremiah 6:16) Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

Believing the word of God is taking a stand on God's word alone, without compromising with other words. When once we start saying BUT, trying to explain our inability to work with the word, we have not yet believed the word**.** God is not calling us to believe in what we see but to believe for what we don't see. So when we wait to see before we believe, we fail.

(Mark 9:23) Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

WALKING IN TRUTH

Beloved, in regard to all things I pray that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers. For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified of the truth that is in you, even as you walk in the truth. I have no greater joy than these things, to hear that my children walk in the truth. (3Jn 1:2-4)

The beginning of the prosperity of your soul through grace is having knowledge of the truth, but the full manifestation of that prosperity is walking in the truth you know. Many people make no effort to practice the word of God they hear,

which results in them not prospering in their soul, and not prospering in their lives.

The knowledge of God's truth begins your manifestation, but walking in the truth you know, fulfills your manifestation. Saul, the king of Israel began a manifestation, he did not fulfill because he did not walk in the truth he knew

In every manifestation of God, man has a part to play and God has His part to play. As a matter of principle, when a man does not play his part, God cannot play His part. This is like what God told me some time ago that my work is to believe and fear not as I obey Him, and His work is to bring to reality the manifestations of His word.

(Genesis 17:1-2) And when Abram was ninety-nine years old, Jehovah appeared to Abram and said to him, I am the Almighty God! Walk before Me and be perfect. And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly. (MKJV)

God said to Abraham walk before me and be perfect and I will do what I promised you. So God commanded Abraham to walk in the truth so that He can prosper Him as He promised. So we can see

that not walking in the truth can limit God's prosperity in a person's life.

PRAYER

Prayer strengthens us to live by the word we know. When you are not prayerful, you cannot live by the word, because you lack the energy to do that, even though you have the desire. The level of your prayer life determines the level to which you can live and walk by the word.

Anytime you know the word, believe the word, but cannot apply the word, it is because your prayer life is weak which makes your strength small, thereby making it impossible for you to apply the word, even when you desire to apply it.

Jesus, who is the word and full of the word had to pray, very well in the garden of Gethsemane three times before going to the cross, in order to have strength to fulfill His father's will. Peter who was sleeping and did not pray at that time could not resist the temptation of cutting off the ear of one of the people who came to arrest Jesus, trying to compromise the father's will.

(Luke 22:46) And said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation.

(Luke 21:36)Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

We cannot stand to do the will of God we know without prayer. Prayer is our communication with God that strengthens our walk with Him. If you finish praying and you are still weak, then you were not praying, but complaining or talking by yourself. **Prayer is a two way communication with God, which empowers us to do His will.**

(1Thessolonians 5:17) Pray without ceasing.

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Walking in the Spirit helps you to grow in God's grace; this is your ability to abide in the instructions and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Not doing things of your own but doing things based on God's will and directions, just like Jesus said while on earth that He will not do anything except what the father has instructed Him to do through the Holy Spirit He received. It was the Spirit of God

upon Jesus that gave Him the grace to succeed in all He did while on earth as man.

(Luke 2:40) And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Every child of God who is saved and washed by the blood of Jesus is entitled to receiving the Holy Spirit, who guides and leads God's people to the fulfillment of God's purpose on earth.

(Romans 8:9-14) But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

God's grace was released through His Spirit even in the Old Testament to give mankind divine

power and ability to succeed. We can see even in the life of Sampson who operated in supernatural power an ability, that he received strength when the Spirit of God came upon him, because then the Holy Spirit did not live in man since man's life was not yet purified by the blood of Jesus, He only visited man when there was a need for divine intervention.

You can also understand from God's word through Zachariah that the Spirit of God was God's inspiration for His people to grow and prosper in all they did. **The Holy Spirit is the disseminator of grace.**

(Zechariah 4:6-8) Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts. Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

(Zechariah 12:8-10) In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them.

And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications

The grace of God flows through the Holy Spirit to our spirit, because God works through our spirit, so any person that must walk and succeed with God must do so in connection with the Spirit of God through his or her spirit.

Philemon 1:25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

TOTAL SUBMISSION TO GOD

You also grow in grace as you submit yourself totally to the Lord, not leaning on your own understanding. Submit your knowledge, understanding, and wisdom to God that He may work through you. His grace is for those who depend on Him. James 4:6-7.

God gives more grace to the humble because the humble will be careful not to boast in what he/she has, but to glorify God by fulfilling the

purpose of the blessings received according to God's will.

(James 4:6-7) But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Total submission to God is keeping your wisdom and strength aside to depend on God's wisdom and strength in order to have good success in all you do.

(2Corinthians12:9-10) And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

When we walk in the grace of God we can receive God's blessings for ourselves and for others in times of need. Hebrews 4:16.

LIBERAL GIVING

Giving is an act of love; it is that which causes us to grow in grace because love is the most important thing for growing in God's grace. Liberal giving is a way of receiving the fullness of grace because it takes giving to receive. Jesus said give and it will be given back to you good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over, this describes the fullness of grace we stand to receive when we give liberally. It is a provision that overflows, just like David said my cup runs over. God's intention is to give you exceeding abundantly more than you could ask or think, but you have to first do things, that prove you strongly desire the harvest God has for us, like sowing the right seeds. Giving is like planting seeds in the soil and expecting a harvest sometime in the future. The harvest time depends on God, but the seed time depends on you. This is the reason the scripture speaks about seedtime and harvest that will not cease.

(Luke 6:38) Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and

running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

(Philippians 4:15-19) Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

The scripture speaks about tithing which is mentioned in the old and New Testament. Tithing is giving 10% of your harvest or earnings as the Bible stipulates in Malachi 3:8-10 and Mathew 23:23. I believe tithing in the Old Testament was God's way of setting a minimum standard of giving for His people to teach them how to give and to deliver them from selfishness, which destroys the world. If God did not state a certain measure of

giving as a standard, some people will only be giving very little or what they don't need and some would not even give at all because of human selfishness that does not care to benefit others.

I encourage people to see tithe of 10% as just a minimum standard of giving set by God and to give above 10% of God's blessings in their lives to advance God's kingdom, help the needy and show care to other human beings around them. This is one way to cause people to glorify God on your behalf, because you have blessed them. **You should also know that it is what you do with what you have that counts before God and not what you have, because what you have was given to you by Him.** Liberal giving also makes people pray for you and bless you because they are blessed through you.

(*2 Corinthians 9:13-15) Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men; And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.*

CHAPTER FOUR

PURPOSE OF GOD'S GRACE

The main purpose of grace in the kingdom of God is not to provide for yourself, but to advance the kingdom of God on earth. A prince does not work to feed himself in His father's kingdom, He works to advance His father's kingdom, because he is fed by the kingdom. He can only work to provide for himself, when he is out of the kingdom's support, just like the prodigal son**.**

(Matthew 6:25-33) Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

From the scriptures, God wants you to work for the kingdom and receive your needs and desires from the kingdom. Your work is to seek the

advancement of the kingdom of God on earth through His daily provisions in your life.

(Hebrews 13:20-21) Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

You are to work in the Kingdom with the resources of the kingdom to promote, expand and take territories for the Kingdom of God

In the Kingdom of God, Your blessings come through God's grace, and not by the kind of work you do for yourself. The requirement of God's grace is faith and obedience, and not your own works. This grace is for those who walk by faith and not by sight or by works. Romans4:16

(Romans 5:2) By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

(Romans 11:6) And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

The grace of God gives us such sufficiency in all things, which our labor can never give.

(2Corinthians 9:8) And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

Your hope in overcoming always should rest on His grace and not on your works.

(2Thessolonians 2:16) Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace.

PURPOSE AND GRACE

Your purpose is what defines the grace of God upon your life because purpose defines a person or thing. Everything that God created both living and non-living things has a purpose according to the grace bestowed upon them. Just like a bird has the grace to fly, because it's purpose has to do with doing things in the sky and building its nests

on treetops, but a lion cannot fly, because it has no business in the sky, it's place is in the jungle. **When you find your purpose, you identify with your grace, because grace is empowerment to fulfill purpose.**

Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. (2 Timothy 1:8-9)

Your purpose and grace is made manifest by your encounter with your savior Jesus Christ, and the proof of having a life-changing encounter is following Him. Jesus said, my sheep hear my voice

and follow me, a stranger's voice, they will not follow.

(John 10:27) My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

It is possible for a person to talk and not be heard. Whenever you speak to someone who has the ability to help you but refuses to help you, the person has not heard you. Just like the story of Jesus and the Canaanite woman.

To hear a person is to hear the voice from the heart of the person, which is to hear sincerity and truth from the person. This is the reason some people cry in order to be heard because it is believed that tears are the unspoken words of the heart.

So as you encounter the savior with a sincere and truthful heart and continue to follow Him, you will find and fulfill your purpose by His Grace.

The proof of a true encounter with the savior is to become a follower of the Savior, just like Peter, James, John and the rest of Jesus followers.

Many people that had an encounter with Jesus desired to follow Him immediately, like the two blind men that Jesus healed.

(Mathew 20:30-34 And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David. And the multitude rebuked them because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David. And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you? They say unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened. So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, ***and they followed him.***

I believe that purpose and grace will be the two main things that God will use to judge our lives on earth.

(Hebrews 2:1-4) Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and if every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward, ***how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to***

be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by those who heard Him;) *God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with different kinds of miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?*

The great salvation is the grace of God, which Jesus brought to mankind; He was preaching grace during His life-time on earth

(John 1:14-17) And the Word became flesh, and tabernacled among us. And we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and of truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, This was He of whom I spoke: He who comes after me has been before me, for He was preceding me. And out of His fullness we all have received, and grace for grace. For the Law came through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Your purpose can be known by your gifts and talents, so if God is to judge your life on earth by your purpose, He will judge what you did with the gift of God in your life, just like the story of those who were given talents in the Bible. God has given talents to everyone and He will return to judge what was done with it. (Mathew 25:14-30)

POSSESSING YOUR POSSESSIONS

We can only advance God's kingdom on earth when we learn how to possess our possessions as His people on earth.

THREE THINGS THAT AFFECTS WHAT YOU POSSESS AND BECOME

Whatever a person possesses or becomes requires **EMPOWERMENT**, **WILLINGNESS,** and **ACTIONS**. These three things are very important. For example, a person who possessing an expensive car like Ferrari, needed first to have the empowerment which is the resources and then the willingness to pay so much for the car, followed by the action of actually exchanging his money for the car. Willingness is very important, because a person with an expensive car is not necessarily the richest person, as there are people who might be richer and can afford such car, but are not willing to exchange so much money for a car. So a person's willingness coupled with his actions does make him outstanding to possess what he desires.

Everybody that achieves some greatness in life, go through these three phases, just like

Abraham. God called him and later empowered him with a child and later tested him to proof his willingness and actions to the world by asking him to sacrifice his only son for Him. Abraham took his empowerment, Isaac, and through his willingness, he journeyed to the place of sacrifice set by God and by His actions of tying down the child and lifting up his knife to kill him, he was justified and proven to be worthy of possessing nations and becoming the father of nations.

EMPOWERMENT

Your empowerment is the Grace of God made available for you by God, whether as a gift, talent or inheritance to help you become what you would like to become and possess what you desire. Everybody has some grace of God made available to them in different aspects of their lives and in different measures. So you have to look inwards to find what you have and use it to possess what you desire.

One of the major reasons people cannot use what they have is because they do not appreciate it, just like the story of a man in the Bible who was

given one talent, but he refused to use it and profit, rather he buried it in the ground and gave it back to his master on his return. This brought him a great loss, even the loss of his soul.

WILLINGNESS

The grace of God in you without your willingness to use it does not profit. It is your willingness to use what you have that brings the change in your life. There was a boy who had five loaves and two fishes and was willing to sacrifice it for others to feed. Through his sacrifice, many people were blessed. This is why the Bible says if you are willing and obedient, you will eat of the good of the land. **Nothing changes until you are willing to change it.**

ACTIONS

According to Newton's first law of motion, it says every objection in a state of rest or in a state of uniform motion will remain in that state of motion unless an external force acts on it. So without actions, empowerment and willingness make little or no difference in a person's life.

Actions in line with obeying God's word can change your life for good.

Your actions proof to the world that you are an Overcomer; qualified for God's blessings. God knows those that are His and those that will overcome even before we act, just like a good teacher knows the bright students in the class, and those that will pass the test and examination, but even the bright students must still take the test and exams to proof to the school and the world around that they are bright and qualified to be promoted. This is why God still allows us to be tested, even though He knows we are faithful, so that others can see that we are His and that we are qualified by Him to be promoted.

BEING SUCCESSFUL WHEN TESTED IS A PROOF OF YOUR QUALIFICATION BY GOD

(Genesis 18:17-19) And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do

justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

From the scriptures, we can see that God knew that Abraham will be faithful and will do His will, but He still had to test him.

CHAPTER FIVE

LIMITING GOD'S GRACE

This is receiving the grace of God in vain, and this happens when you neglect to hold unto God's grace while going through challenges and also when you refuse to believe at the time of your deliverance. This is like finding the last bus on the route that takes you home, but it has no sitting space available except a standing space which has been provided with something to hold unto, but you give up and refuse to use the transport home. God always makes provision of something for us to hold unto while going through challenges, so we

will not give up. And He also makes provision for us to be delivered at the right time.

(2 Corinthians 6:1-10) We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.) Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, Byhonour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true; As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Having something in vain is having something without making use of it when you need it. God has given us His grace both for bad

and good times; we always have to remember that He is with you always until the end of your life, just as He promised. So if He is with you when we are going through problems, then His grace is with you as well. It might be grace to endure for a season or grace to be patient for a while. It might also be grace to go through a test in life for your promotion in the future, but whatever the problem you are going through, you are not alone, just hold unto His grace by faith. Remember He said in His word that no temptation greater than you will come to you, so you are able to overcome that situation by faith through His grace. David said though I go through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. The grace of God is released through His Spirit and word, so you just have to depend on His Spirit through prayers and study to meditate on His word. The Holy Spirit is a comforter and His word brings consolation. God will definitely see you through to a good ending for your life. There will be light at the end of the tunnel.

FRUSTRATING THE GRACE OF GOD

Frustrating the grace of God is laboring to do what God's grace should do. It's like pushing your family in your car without switching on the engine to drive, when the engine is still functioning. The engine of a car is the power that moves the car, so when you try to move a car without using the engine of the car, you are frustrating the engine. Every Child of God is called to move forward by God's grace through faith, but when a child of God ignores God's grace and start laboring to move forward in life by his or her strength, then the person is frustrating God's grace available to him or her. The scripture says every child of God is assigned angels to help and protect us as we fulfill God's purpose on earth. But if you try to do the work of your Angels assigned to you through God's grace, then you will be frustrating those Angels, who are not allowed or given commands to do what they were created to do.

(Galatians 2:19-21) For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and

the life which I now live in the the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. ***I do not frustrate the grace of God****: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.*

Another illustration of frustrating God's grace is by looking at the operating system of a car; I can take the body of a car including the engine and every other component of a car excluding the battery as grace, and the battery as faith. We know the battery is the source of power that starts up the engine and continuously empowers it to move the car, without the battery the car would not start and move, except its source of power is not the battery. Some Christians who frustrates God's grace are those who do not have a well-charged battery, so when they go to church with their problems, the pastor lays hands on them using his battery, he jump-starts their engine to move from where they are to somewhere else and when they arrive there and stop the car, they cannot move from there anymore, that is when they call the pastor to come again and jump-start them from there to somewhere else. So this cycle continues as

they refuse to charge or replace their battery, which is their faith, so as to start up their engines and move their car to wherever they are meant to go by themselves. Practically, you may find some Christians who continuously go for deliverance, without having the faith to sustain the deliverance. The pastor prays for pain on their left side abdomen and the pain goes away and returns to their right side abdomen, so they have to go back to the pastor to remove it from the right abdomen, so the pain can leave and return back to another part of the body, and they will always need the pastor to pray and take it out of every part of their body as the cycle continues. They fail to allow their faith to dominate in their bodies for all round victory.

FALLING FROM THE GRACE OF GOD

Falling from the grace of God is turning away from living by grace to living by the law; this is when a person turns away from walking by the Spirit to walk by the flesh, which is walking by sight instead of walking by faith (Galatians 3:11-12; Hebrews 10:38-39). It is also turning from doing

good to doing evil. Sin can make a person fall from grace; loving the world and things of the world can also make a person fall from grace because the things of the world which includes the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life are enmity to God (1John2:16; James4:4).

Falling from grace is about those who have had a relationship with God before, people who have walked in the grace of God in time past, but are now walking by their strength. If you have fallen from Grace, you can return to God, so He can establish you again in His grace. Be careful not to allow anything to make you fall from God's grace.

(Galatians 5:1-7) Stand fast therefore in the liberty with which Christ has made us free, and do not again be held with the yoke of bondage. Behold, I, Paul, say to you that if you are circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do all the Law, ***you who are justified by Law are deprived of all effect from Christ; you fell from grace.*** *For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness out of faith. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any strength, but*

faith working through love. You were running well. Who hindered you that you do not obey the truth?

PERVERTING THE GRACE OF GOD

Perverting the grace of God is interchanging God's grace with worldliness. It is distorting the truth of God's grace to suit a person's gain. It is an abuse of God's grace, which is using things the wrong way. This is why every child of God who desires to stand fast in God's grace must always confirm things with the scriptures before practicing it. The scriptures written as the bible is the greatest standard of God's grace to uphold, so every idea that does not line up with that must be discarded.

(Jude 1:3-4) Having made all haste to write to you about the common salvation, beloved, I had need to write to you to exhort you to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. For certain men crept in secretly, those having been of old previously written into this condemnation, **ungodly ones perverting the grace of our God for unbridled lust, and denying the only Master, God, even our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Apostle Paul said that we should keep aside everything that easily beset us and run with patience the race set before us through God's grace. Perversion comes through our weaknesses. We must always watch and pray in order to remain in God's grace above our weaknesses.

(Hebrews 12:1-4) Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.

CHAPTER SIX

MANIFESTING GOD'S GRACE

WORD GRACE

This is the grace in God's word that can fulfill itself regardless of who speaks it or who is involved. This is the grace that manifests through the integrity of God's word to fulfill His promise, just like He did for the children when He brought them out of

captivity, to fulfill the promise He made to Abraham, even though the children of Israel at that time did not know Him or believe in Him.

(Deuteronomy 9:4-6) Speak not thou in thine heart, after that the LORD thy God hath cast them out from before thee, saying, For my righteousness the LORD hath brought me in to possess this land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD doth drive them out from before thee. Not for thy righteousness, or for the uprightness of thine heart, dost thou go to possess their land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee, and that he may perform the word which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Understand therefore, that the LORD thy God giveth thee not this good land to possess it for thy righteousness; for thou art a stiffnecked people.

Many times when people receive blessings from God, they seem to think that it is because of their righteousness and faithfulness, but most times that is not the case, because God's rain falls on the roof of both the righteous and the wicked. God is a faithful God, He keeps to His word most

times, even in the midst of our unfaithfulness. He is gracious and full of compassion

(Acts 20:32) And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

The word of God is the word of His grace, which has the ability to fulfill itself, even from the mouth of an infant. This word of grace has the ability to build you up from the lowest level of life and make you who you ought to be at the highest level of life. Sometimes people think that God's word is only fulfilled from the mouth of church leaders; this is not true, because whosoever believes the word and speaks it, will receive what the word can do. God will honor His word at all times without respect of persons, even when it is against His people who disobey, just like it happened in the reign of David.

(2 Samuel 21:1-14) The children of Israel broke God's covenant during the reign of Saul to kill the Gibeonites, whom they were not supposed to kill and God's wrath was upon the land as He allowed famine to ravished the

land for 3 years until David sought the Lord to know the cause of famine and when he knew, he set-out to make amends, which brought a turnaround for the land of Israel.

Speaking the word of God you believe with boldness and confidence releases tremendous grace to bless the people.

(Acts 14:3) Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

(Isaiah 55:10-11) For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

(Matthew 24:35) Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

INDIVIDUAL GRACE

Individual grace is manifested according to your calling and your obedience to God. Your calling speaks about the anointing of God upon your life through His gifts and purpose for your life, for example spiritual gifts and kingship like that of Jeremiah and David. Your Obedience speaks about your commitment to God and His word, for example Saul's disobedient to God while he was king limited his personal grace of kingship and David's obedience elevated his personal grace of kingship. One of the things that will promote the grace of God in your life and give you room to manifest God's grace at a higher level is seeking God first in all you do. Also, disobedience will limit God's grace in a person's life.

Every child of God operates at different levels of Grace according to our calling and commitment to the kingdom of God. There are individual grace's which we have before God and man Just like Moses had grace before God, which gave his requests speedy attention and answers. It is the Holy Spirit that affects every grace we have in God.

(Psalms 84:11) For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

(Romans 12:3) ***For I say, through the grace given unto me****, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*

(Romans 12:6) Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

(Exodus 33:12-14) And Moses said unto the LORD, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight. Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people. And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.

Moses said to God; prove that I and thy people have found grace before thee, but God said I will only do this thing because of you alone. This simply means that the people did not find grace

before God like Moses, because as we get to know them, their actions were far from God. It was their children who were born in the Wilderness that found grace before God. They were the ones who were left of the sword that destroyed their fathers.

(Exodus 33:16- 17) For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in that thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth. ***And the LORD said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name.***

(Jeremiah 31:2) Thus saith the LORD, The people which were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest.

Men like Noah, Abraham, Elijah, Daniel, Job, Samuel, David, Jesus and other great men of God found Grace and favor before God, in that their requests were answered by heaven speedily.

(Genesis 6:8) But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

(Ezekiel 14:12-20) The word of the LORD came again to me, saying, Son of man, when the land sinneth against me

by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it, and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it: Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD. ***Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.***

(John 1:14) And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

It is the personal grace we obtain through our relationship with God that guarantees our position in the kingdom of God.

(1 Corinthians 9:27) But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

CORPORATE GRACE

This is a grace manifested through the corporate faith of God's people. The scripture says if two shall agree over a thing, it shall be done. Corporate faith can release great grace among

God's people for greater manifestations because God delights in unity, just like it happened with the disciples when they prayed in unity to God against the threats of the rulers, elders, and scribes of the people.

(Acts 4:24-35) And having heard, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord and said, Lord, You are the God who made the heaven and earth, and the sea, and all that is in them; who by the mouth of Your servant David has said, "Why did the nations rage and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against His Christ." For truly, against Your holy child Jesus, whom You have anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the nations, and the people of Israel, were gathered together in order to do whatever Your hand and Your counsel determined before to be done. And now, Lord, behold their threatenings, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your Word, by stretching forth of Your hand for healing, and miracles, and wonders may be done by the name of Your holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the Word of God with boldness. And the multitude of those who

believed were of one heart and one soul. And not one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own. But they had all things common. And the apostles gave witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power. ***And great grace was on them all.***

(2 Chronicles 7:14) if My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Corporate grace is what we need to turn things around for good in our generation. It begins when we collectively recognize our mistakes and humble ourselves before God to receive His forgiveness and intervention for a change in our lives and societies. We need to work together as people of God, speaking with one voice and doing things together to address the negative occurrences in our nations through the grace of God.

Great grace accompanies unity