



God's Cleansing Grace

MAIN THING

The second act of grace is God forgiving you of every sin you have committed, are committing, or will commit

SCRIPTURE

Acts 9:1-19, Luke 18:9-14

ICEBREAKER

When you were a little kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

OPENING THOUGHT

The second act of grace is God's cleansing grace, also known as "justifying grace." This happens when the person responds to the conviction and comfort of the Holy Spirit and is cleansed of all sin- past, present, and future. However, many people think that it stops there. Nothing could be further from the truth. When God's cleansing grace hits us, it changes us from the inside out, moving us off of wrong paths in life- wrong missions, wrong beliefs, wrong careers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from this weekend's message?
2. In Acts 9, we see Saul (who later became Paul) being interrupted. God interrupted his mission, his beliefs, and his career. Has God ever interrupted one of more of those things in you? What was it and what changed?
3. Jesus tells a parable in Luke 18 about two people who respond to the grace of God. One does it right and the other does it wrong. Why do you think people respond to God the way the Pharisee did? Is there anything in your life that you have "not allowed" God to interrupt or change- telling God to stay in His own lane?

LIFE APPLICATION

Far too many people think that the grace of God is simply something that means your sins are forgiven. That is an amazing truth, but it is also about 1% of what the grace of God really does. Grace isn't a passive process. It is an active process working within all people who call Jesus Christ Lord and Savior. Right now the grace of God is cleansing you and challenging you. What is one thing that God's grace is changing within you, or needs to change within you, for you to follow Christ more devoutly?

CHALLENGE

What, in your life, is off-limits to God? Are you ready to throw open your entire life and say, "God, interrupt me. If I'm on the wrong mission, change it. If I have wrong beliefs about anything, change them. If I'm in the wrong career, change it. I'm responding like Saul, not like the Pharisee in Jesus' parable." How can this group help you with that?