**Eastside *Life* Church – January 24, 2015**

**What’s So Amazing About Grace– Part 1**

**Ephesians 2:4-10**

**Pattern & Plan**

*Mercy / Love / Grace / Faith /Gift / Created / Walk*

*‘Mercy’- ‘not getting’ what man does deserve because of original sin (fall).*

*‘Love’- ‘sacrificial giving of oneself’ for the benefit of an undeserving other.*

*‘Grace’- unmerited favor towards another advancing their calling & destiny.*

*‘Faith’- the trust that receives or ‘takes’ what is theirs in Christ.*

*‘Gift’- given out of love for the other party, but not to ‘buy’ a response.*

*‘Created’ – spiritual vitality: not due to our effort, but of God’s creative power.*

*‘Walk ’- our maturity is also initiated and sustained by God’s power.*

***Romans 5:17***

*‘For if by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, much more* ***those who receive*** *abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness* ***will reign*** *in life through the One, Jesus Christ’*

We reign in life not because of chance or luck, but on receiving:

 1. An abundance of His grace, and … 2. His gift of righteousness.

**More on the role of faith**

*Jesus wanted them to receive more*

Matthew 6:30 / Matthew 8:26 / Matthew 14:31

**Making the most out of the Bible Tip**

*‘The God of the OT is the same as the God of the NT*

I thought God was kind of angry in the OT: **Psalm 25:6-8** / **Psalm 69:16**

God’s willing to protect & bring His own covenant people back from utter destruction time and again, & also extend mercy ‘undeserving’ Gentiles.

**Old Testament EG: Ninevah**

* A ‘fishy tale’ of mercy & grace

**Jonah 3:3-5** *Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Jonah%203&version=NKJV)*] in extent. 4And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day’s walk. Then he cried out and said, “****Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”***

*5So the people of Nineveh* ***believed*** *God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them. 6*

Jonah said this about God after it was all said and done:

**Jonah 4:2** *“a* ***gracious*** *and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity”*

**Final Word:**

*‘Misunderstandings come when we just don’t know’*

We need to know that sin has infected all mankind at all times.

The utter impossibility of man to save himself is proved by history!

Hence the absolute need for God’s hand in saving mankind.

Why God did what He did to protect a pure covenant line to bring Jesus as pure Savior to the world.

The utter destructive evil nature of our adversary.

Why there’s still so much trouble today: ‘Why does God allow…this or that…’

It’s because Jesus the prince of peace has to be received into the hearts of wicked people.

**Notes**

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