**Notes:**

**Meditate on these this week:**

 **(mutter, read and repeat to yourself)**

**Ephesians 2:4-5**

“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved) …”

**Hebrews 4:14-16**

“Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

****August 18th. 2019**



**Wide Open Spaces - 6**

***“Grace opens things up”***

Welcome

2019

**Wide Open Spaces - 6**

**‘Grace opens things up’**

**Romans 5:2 (Message Bible)**

*We throw open our doors to God and discover at the same moment that he has already thrown open his door to us. We find ourselves standing where we always hoped we might stand - out in the wide open spaces of God's grace and glory, standing tall and shouting our praise.*

The words God speaks, and also that we speak,

play a vital role in our freedom.

**God has called us close to Him …
…to a place of wide-open spaces**

He’s broken us free from restrictions of:

 Sin, satan & circumstances.

He’s opened up heaven resources for us to ‘rule & reign.

**His grace meets our need through faith.**

**Romans 5:17-18** Amplified Bible

***17****For if because of one man’s trespass (lapse, offense) death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive [God’s] overflowing grace (unmerited favor) and the free gift of righteousness [putting them into right standing with Himself] reign as kings in life through the one Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).*

**Two things open up the ‘wide spaces’ of freedom**

1. ‘Abundance’ of His grace.
2. Gift of righteousness.

**An example**

***Luke 5:17***

*Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal* ***them****.*

**How this applies to us**

No one in the room ‘deserved’ anything, yet, the helpless paralytic received both forgiveness & healing. But, the proud & critical religionists did not receive anything. (Even though they had needs too).

Did you notice?

All that the man and his helpers did was to come to Jesus.

**Luke 5:18**

*Then behold, men brought on a bed a man who was paralyzed, whom they sought to bring in and lay before Him.*

**God of mercy
*“Not getting what you do deserve”***

**Psalm 103:8-14**

*The Lord is merciful and gracious,
Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.
He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
Nor punished us according to our iniquities.*

*For as the heavens are high above the earth,
So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;*

*As far as the east is from the west,
So far has He removed our transgressions from us.*