PastorTimandTrudi.com August 22, 2021

GRACE-GIVERS LOVE LIKE THAT

God's grace: the unmerited, undeserved, unearned kindness and of God.
Ephesians 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.
Romans 3:24 all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.
Grace = Charis - implied benevolent from a superior to an inferior.
The transaction of this gift always involved parties.
Romans 11:6 And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.
Grace - "an inexhaustible capacity for God to forgive and to bless".
What keeps us from being Grace-Givers?
Self-deception is a stepping stone to self
Matthew 19:27 Then Peter chimed in, "We left everything and followed you. What do we get out of it?"

Matthew 20:1-16 (MSG) "God's kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. 2 They agreed on a wage of a dollar a day, and went to work. 3 "Later, about nine o'clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. 4 He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. 5 They went. 6 At five o'clock he went back and found still others standing around. He said, 'Why are you standing around all day doing nothing? 7 ' "They said, 'Because no one hired us.' "He told them to go to work in his vineyard. 8 "When the day's work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, 'Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.' 9 "Those hired at five o'clock came up and were each given a dollar. 10 When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. 11 Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, 12 'These last workers put in only one easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.' 13 "He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? 14 So take it and go. I decided to give to the one who came last the same as you. 15 Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?' 16 "Here it is again, the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first."

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Just Wages or _____ Grace If you think you _____ more than others, then you have forgotten how you got invited into the vineyard in the first place. Curiosity creates a for grace. The question: I _____ what's going on with that person that I don't know about? **HOW FULL OF GRACE ARE YOU?** (HOW FREQUENTLY HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED EACH OF THESE?) SELF-EVALUATION: LOVELIKETHATBOOK.COM/LOVE-LIKE-THAT-TEST I DON'T FOCUS ON HAVING OTHER PEOPLE EARN MY RESPECT-I JUST GIVE IT TO THEM. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN I STAY COMPLETELY CLEAR OF CRITICIZING OTHERS AND FAULTFINDING. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN LIKE JESUS, I SEPARATE THE SIN FROM THE SINNER. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN I GIVE LOVE, RESPECT, AND APPRECIATION FREELY TO PEOPLE WHO DON'T DESERVE IT. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN PEOPLE WHO KNOW ME WELL WOULD DESCRIBE ME AS A GRACE-GIVER. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN I KNOW GOD LOVES ME UNCONDITIONALLY. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN WHEN I SEE SOMEONE ACTING IN A WAY I DON'T LIKE, I'M INCLINED TO GIVE THEM THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT UNTIL I BETTER UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN I FEEL GOD'S LOVE IN MY LIFE AND KNOW I RECEIVE IT EVEN WHEN I DON'T DESERVE IT. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN I'M MORE INCLINED TO HAVE AN OPEN HEART THAN AN ACCUSING FINGER. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN I BELIEVE THE BEST ABOUT PEOPLE. EVEN IF THEY'VE BEEN BAD, I WANT THE BEST FOR THEM. NEVER RARELY SOMETIMES OFTEN VERY OFTEN