SERMON NOTES

Unfailing Grace

John 21:18-22

Last week, the one truth repeated for you to hang onto was "Failure isn't final with God's unfailing grace." Today, the truth for you to assimilate into your life is this, "God's unfailing grace moves you to Christian maturity."

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. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. (John 1:14-17)

Grace – Greek Word Charis (*khar'-ece*) and it refers to the freely given, unmerited favor and love of God. Grace is God giving to us what we do not deserve.

Grace is expressed to us by God in several different ways:

1. Common Grace

Matthew 5:45 tells us, "He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous."

2. Saving Grace

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God." (Eph 2:8)

3. Sanctifying Grace

"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion" (Philippians 1:6).

4. Provisional Grace

James 1:17 says, "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights."

5. Miraculous Grace

"Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed amazing miracles and signs among the people" (Acts 6:8).

6. Serving Grace

1 Peter 4:10 tells us, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

7. Sustaining Grace "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor 12:9).
God's grace can save any soul and sustain any believer!
Peter's Calling was Redefined. John 21:18-22
Peter was given a worthy call. (18-19)
Peter was given a familiar call. (19)
Living in God's will for your life is the only life worth living.
Peter was given a personal call. (21-22)
Peter's Influence was Empowered.
Peter's influence was empowered with wisdom. (Acts 1:15, 24)
Peter's influence was empowered with boldness. (Acts 2:22-24, 38)
Peter's influence was empowered with compassion. (Acts 3:4)

Peter's Message was Focused.
Peter's message was focused on repentance. Acts 2:37-38
Peter's message was focused on restoration. Acts 3:6
Peter's message was focused on reconciliation. Acts 3:11-26