B. Bitterness, <u>anger</u>, and a lack of <u>forgiveness</u> limit grace. Hebrews 12:15 *"Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;"*

Ephesians 4:29-32 "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Notes:







Lesson 13:

Grace

Grace

What is Grace?

1. Grace is God's unmerited or <u>undeserved</u> favor. Genesis 6:8 "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD."

Romans 3:24 "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:"

Ephesians 2:7 "That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

2. Grace is God's supernatural help.

Romans 5:20 "Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

Acts 4:33 "And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all."

Jeremiah 31:1-3 "At the same time, saith the LORD, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. Thus saith the LORD, The people which were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest. The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

How does Grace help us?

1. By grace we are <u>saved</u>.

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

2. Grace sets up a <u>classroom</u> in our heart.

Titus 2:11-12 "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;"

3. Grace strengthens us in times of trial.

2 Corinthians 12:9 "And he said unto \overline{me} , My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." God's grace meets the need of whatever situation we experience, such as:

- Loss
- Temptation
- Pain
- Loneliness
- Fear
- Rejection

How can I get Grace from God?

1. Be <u>humble</u>.

I Peter 5:5 "... for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

James 4:6 "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

Philippians 2:5-8 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

2. Ask Him for grace.

Hebrews 4:16 "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

3. Increase your knowledge of God's Word.

2 Peter 1:2 "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,"

2 Peter 3:18 "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ..."

Further understanding of Grace

1. Grace does not <u>void</u> our duty to <u>obey</u> God's commandments. Matthew 5:17 "*Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.*"

Romans 6:15 "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid."

2. Grace can be <u>limited</u> in our lives.

A. <u>Pride</u> limits grace.

I Peter 5:5 "... God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."