

Why grace is such an important aspect of your relationship with God.

First, we're saying, "I've sinned. I've done wrong. I've crossed the line." It's an admission, a confession, a *mea culpa* (to use the old Latin phrase). That's key, because the Bible says, "If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9, NIV).

But notice also that Jesus linked our forgiveness from God with our forgiveness of others. “Forgive us,” He told us to pray, “*as we forgive.*” As. It’s a tiny word, both in English and in Greek. When we say, “Forgive us ... as we forgive,” we’re acknowledging the truth that Jesus taught, that being forgiven is tied to our

# Bible Wordsearch

D	A	Y	U	N	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	R	S	H
T	E	S	U	H	E	R	E	C	N	D	W	F	L	O
E	U	S	S	T	U	C	A	R	E	E	A	I	S	U
D	X	P	E	U	T	L	N	D	E	I	V	N	S	R
E	S	P	C	R	P	A	N	A	T	T	R	I	M	E
T	E	B	E	T	V	A	K	H	W	U	S	A	G	T
S	R	L	I	C	M	I	F	I	T	O	N	A	I	H
U	V	O	P	E	T	U	N	E	N	A	L	M	M	I
R	A	W	D	Y	L	G	R	G	G	G	E	L	O	N
T	N	S	N	O	I	S	S	E	S	S	O	P	A	G
N	T	D	R	E	P	O	R	P	G	D	R	O	L	S
E	S	U	P	P	O	S	E	I	E	R	E	M	D	D
S	M	N	E	T	A	E	B	K	Y	H	A	W	E	N
K	N	U	R	D	A	S	S	I	G	N	D	H	E	I
F	O	O	D	A	W	A	R	E	Y	L	Y	P	C	F

\_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 54

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

ASKED	LORD
ASSIGN	MANAGER
AWARE	MANY
BEATEN	MASTER
BLOWS	PIECES
CHARGE	PLACE
CUT	PROPER
DAY	PUT
DRUNK	READY
EXPECT	RETURNS
FAITHFUL	SERVANTS
FEW	SUPPOSE
FINDS	TAKING
FOOD	THINGS
GIVEN	TIME
GOOD	TRUTH
HOUR	WISE



“I was told I’m supposed to walk by Faith!”

## His Promises

The gates.  
Revelations 21:21

JESUS

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E	S	P	C	R	P	A	N	A	T	T	R	I	M	E
T	E	B	E	T	V	A	K	H	W	U	S	A	G	T
S	R	L	I	C	M	I	F	I	T	O	N	A	I	H
U	V	O	P	E	T	U	N	E	N	A	L	M	M	I
R	A	W	D	Y	L	G	R	G	G	G	E	L	O	N
T	N	S	N	O	I	S	S	E	S	S	O	P	A	G
N	T	D	R	E	P	O	R	P	G	D	R	O	L	S
E	S	U	P	P	O	S	E	I	E	R	E	M	D	D
S	M	N	E	T	A	E	B	K	Y	H	A	W	E	N
K	N	U	R	D	A	S	S	I	G	N	D	H	E	I
F	O	O	D	A	W	A	R	E	Y	L	Y	P	C	F

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### Senior Moments with Jay

We have reached the half-way point of this year. Hard to believe isn't it? As of July 1...there are 177 days until Christmas! Wow! Need to get busy shopping, right? Well, let's not panic yet. We still have time to do that but it's never too early to start.

I hope you are as excited as I am that we have called David and Autumn Herbert to be our Senior Pastor, with a unanimous vote of approval. He's young, full of ideas, and is ready for what God has in store for him here. As plans are formulated, we will pass them along to you.

As I was thinking about what to write this month, my thoughts were drawn to the Book of Joshua. In Chapter 1, the nation of Israel was facing a monumental task of entering the land of Canaan and conquering it. Joshua became the leader following Moses' death. Even though he was trained for this moment, he was apprehensive about his role and what the future held in store.

When I'm not sure what to read or think about, I have a habit of going through my Bible and just looking at the scripture verses I have highlighted or circled or underlined. Then to meditate of why I made these markings. One such marking is in Joshua 1:5-6. "...*Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous! For you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their fathers to give them.*" What this passage teaches us is First: Be strong and courageous! Joshua is called to boldness in God. This chapter exposes Joshua's weakness... there was a need for such a command because even a great leader like Joshua needed encouragement. This bold courage would not be in Joshua himself... but in God! He was to be obedient in the instructions of Moses. Verse 8 says: "*Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.*" God's Word so lived is a guarantee of Christian success. Not that it promises a life without problems, but a life that is able to deal with anything because it takes full advantage of God's presence and promises. The Second thing we learn is: The Lord is with us wherever we go. Reminds us that Joshua's success did not depend solely on his ability to keep God's Word. It depended even more on God's presence with him. Before God could fulfill His promises, however, Joshua had to exercise faith and "be strong and courageous." It's one thing to say to a leader, "Be strong and courageous!" Quite something else to enable him to do it. Joshua was to meditate on the Word of God so he would believe its promises and obey its precepts. God's commands are still God's enablements for those who obey Him. Gabriel's words to Mary are as true today as when he spoke them to her. "*For with God, nothing shall be impossible.*" We have a monumental task ahead of us as we seek to grow in God's kingdom...not only in numbers but in faithfulness and service. We must trust in God to provide what is needed in finances, ability to touch lives and be a light in our community, and to see each and everyone of us "*Grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.*"

Exciting times are ahead! Are we up for the challenge? I trust that you are and together we will see the LORD do miraculous and might things for the kingdom.

Blessings to all... Jay

I recently saw this quote, "No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending" (Unknown). I really began to think about that statement. The conclusion was that we don't start over; but we begin again right where we are, making things better in our lives.

As a believer in Christ, it is not about saying I will do this and I won't do that and then dropping the idea or falling short. It is more about asking the Lord to help us each day, to fall deeper and deeper in love with Him. This way our focus will be set on the things of heaven and not on all this earthly stuff. We have a forgiving God. He will forgive you if you only ask.

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