

the service or people we serve. Take them to God, not to ourselves. Do not compare ourselves or the results of our service with others because it can cause envy and pride. Gifts cannot be a sign of God's favor with us. Therefore, the heart must always be attached to God so that we avoid self-error and the wiles of the devil.

Always remind our souls: I am a useless servant; I just do what I have to do (Luke 17:10). There is no need to expect recognition from others but to boast in God, the source of all grace.

God can only entrust great service to one who will understand His mind and own His heart. The more God entrusts, the greater the trials and problems faced. Therefore, we desperately need grace so that our ministry is powerful, effective, efficient and pleasing to God.

No human being is perfect – no matter how great our gifts, intelligence and successes are, all of us are weak, fragile, and cannot live without grace. God's grace never fails, but we often fail to utilize His grace in our daily lives. Pride sets a person out of grace; but the humble will receive God's wonderful grace. It is wise to be humble and honest before God because His grace is enough to help us.

-----'Immānū'el-----

To all Church members and volunteers. Anointing Prayer Will be held on:

Saturday, June 10, 2023, at 11.00 am with Mr. Nehemiah.

And continued with lunch together. Please attend all Church members, volunteers, youth, young adults, kids church.

Thank you for your attention. God bless you all.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Marla Runtukahu	28 May
Michael Eman	29 May
Lodwyik Tewuh	30 May
Heri Widodo	04-June
Criss Paul Cristian	07 June
Nicole R Thendersz	09-June
Fergie Soputan	11-June
Lianah Endun	12-June
Jennifer Bolang	17-June
Erniwati William	18-June
Jacklyn Lele	18-June
Mark Perreault	24-June

June Wedd. Anniversaries

Raleigh & Elly	14 Juni
Awie & Engi	17 Juni
Dedi & Imelia Wijaya	18 Juni
Didi & Erni William	28 Juni

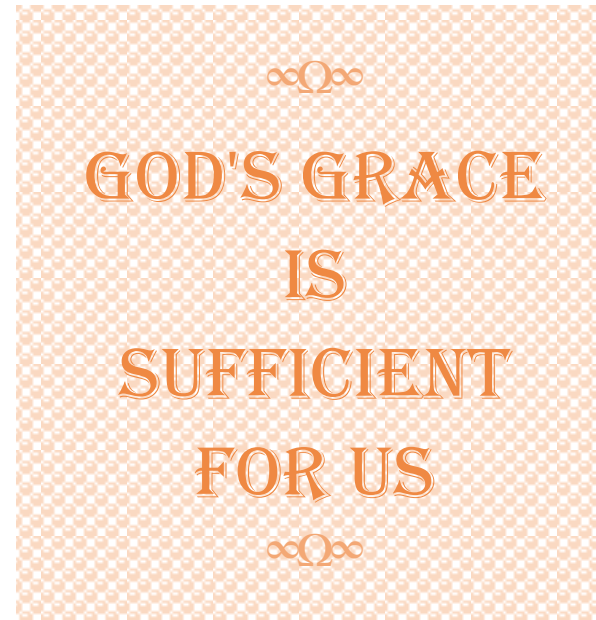
COmmunity Of Love (COOL)

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Ferdinand Maramis,
Tel. 617.8250.
- COOL Joshua :
James Tombeng, Tel. 841.3544.
- COOL Victory :
Hesti Eman Rimper,
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CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Online Worship can be followed at:
FB Live and YouTube:
Bethel International Church
House of Healing.



Believers cannot live without God's grace. With our own strength, we do not have the strength to reject sin, overcome weaknesses and problems. We are so weak and fragile. But God's grace abounds upon those who will be humble, those who are powerless without Christ and who do not rely on their own strength.

Sin arises when the man turns away from God who is the truth. Sin corrupts and destroys people's lives.

In no way can man restore himself. Sin damages man's relationship with God, with himself, with others, and with nature.

The breakdown of the relationship with God causes a person to live in guilt, fear, shame, hopelessness, in curses, bonds and sufferings and there is no peace. Sin causes damage to self-image that causes inner conflict so that a person becomes confused, lost (lost) and there is a moral decline that exchanges valuable things for valueless, arrogant, self-pity, no self-mastery, and illness arises. Damage to relationships with others lead to conflict, envy, anger, mutual hurt, hurt, disappointment, mutual destruction, etc.

God's grace can restore our sin-damaged condition. We are going through a process of sanctification to live in truth. Our part is to learn to respond to each of the Holy Spirit's guidance and rebuke with humility and obedience.

But grace, which He bestows upon us, is greater than that. Therefore He said, "God opposes the arrogant, but has mercy on the humble." (James 4:6)

We want to learn from the experience of the apostle Paul, where God showed His love and power precisely in the weaknesses, tests of faith and problems he faced. Why?

1. That all glory may be unto God alone.

God needs to show that with our own strength, we will not be able to overcome our sins, weaknesses, and problems. All because of God's grace, so that no one can boast but to boast in Him. God, all sources of grace will complete, edify, and strengthen us.

Thus saith the LORD: "Let not the wise boast because of his wisdom, let not the



June
4
2023

BETHEL CHURCH INDONESIA
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Senior Pastor:

Rev. DR. Ir. Niko Njotorahardjo

District Pastor:

Rev. Nehemia & Juliana Lolowang
pastor of the congregation:

Rev. Andi & Desi Sipayang

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the strong boast because of his strength, let not the rich boast because of his riches, but whoever will boast, let him boast because of the following: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who shows mercy, justice and truth on earth; indeed, these things I love, saith the LORD" (Jer. 9:23-24).

2. To make us trust and rely on God more and more.

We cannot understand the workings of the higher God and His deep design (Isa. 55:8-9). Sometimes God seems to allow weaknesses, tests and problems to occur in our lives. By faith we can surrender in the strength of His grace because He can work in our weaknesses for good. Only God can help in His way and time, not because of our efforts as human beings.

3. Prevents us from falling into the sin of pride.

There are people who, when their weaknesses arise, become frustrated with themselves or even blame circumstances or others. Why? Because he wants to look good and strong in people's eyes. This is pride in disguise because God's Word says no one is good except God Himself.

"All the ways of men are clean in their own eyes, but it is the Lord who tests the heart" (Proverbs 16:2).

"Therefore, who would have thought that he stood firm, be careful that he would not fall!" (1 Cor. 10:12)

The apostle Paul, who understood God's grace, boasted in his weakness. Although given spiritual gifts, revelations and used by God extraordinarily, he did not try to build an exaggerated image of himself. He does not deny that he is full of weaknesses. This is not an attitude of inferiority and self-pity but a humility that dares to honestly admit one's situation.

"But I restrained myself, lest any man

counts me more than they see me or hear from me" (2 Cor. 12:6b).

The apostle Paul acknowledged that there was nothing good in him (Romans 7:18, 24). God's grace prevented him from falling into the sin of pride (2 Cor. 12:7). He realized that he was like clay that was so fragile in the face of challenges, so that it would be evident that the abundant strength came from God, not from himself (2 Cor. 4:7).

4. God makes us strong through our weaknesses.

But the Lord answered me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore, I would rather boast of my weakness, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore, I am happy and willing in weakness, in torment, in tribulation, in persecution and distress for Christ's sake.

For if I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Cor. 12:9-10)

If we humble ourselves, then when we are weak, we become strong because the power of Christ descends upon us. On the contrary, pride makes us weak and fall into sin.

5. That we learn to love others by accepting their weaknesses.

Just as God has shown mercy for our weaknesses, so too will we be able to be merciful and not judge others for their weaknesses. The weaknesses of others can be used by God to renew our character to be more like His image.

Grace to serve "Serve one another, according to the gift which each has obtained as a good steward of the grace of God" (1 Peter 4:10)

God saved us not just to be Christians / churchgoers. We are saved to be fruitful disciples of Christ, one of whom serves. Ministering is not only the responsibility of certain people, but of all

believers (Eph. 2:10).

Serving means putting the interests of God and others before one's own. Grace helps us to serve by the power of the Holy host.

We serve not because we follow along, not to pursue blessings or because of binding obligations. The Lord Jesus gave us abundant life (John 10:10), we are blessed to be a blessing (serving from abundance). God's abundant grace gives us a heart of service, the power of authority, gifts/talents, wisdom of knowledge, opportunity, finances, etc. As good stewards of God's grace, we need to have the right perspective on serving:

A. Pleasing and powerful service is born of intimacy with the Holy Spirit and knowledge of God.

Everything the Lord Jesus did during His earthly ministry was the Father's will, not His own (John 5:19)— and so we are. A heart attached to the Holy Spirit leads us to the knowledge of God. The Holy Spirit teaches us to better understand His mind and heart in order to use gifts correctly and serve with accuracy. Without fellowship with the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of Grace), our service will be futile because it only comes from our own thoughts, ideas and abilities (the flesh).

If we are in Christ and His Word abides in us, then the Holy Spirit will guide, give wisdom, ideas, and anoint us to succeed in the Father's will (Philippians 2:13). All who are 'born of God' overcome the world; ministry that is 'born of God' is powerful and impactful. "For you know that in fellowship with the Lord your labors are not in vain" (1 Cor. 15:58b).

B. Grow to serve; serve to grow.

Our lives are like trees; Trees never eat their own fruit but rather give it to others to enjoy. We must not hide the talents

God has entrusted (Matt. 25:26-27). Each of us is given grace according to our capacity (there are 5, 2 and 1 talents) and their respective gifts.

People who grow in grace will learn to recognize and develop the gifts that are in them. The Holy Spirit will direct him to serve in the right field. Do not serve carelessly, but do it with commitment, full of responsibility and integrity.

"But by the grace of God I am what I am, and the grace which He bestows upon me is not in vain. On the contrary, I have worked harder than all of them; but not me, but the grace of God that was with me." (1 Cor. 15:10).

By serving, our spiritual life grows and is maintained stable. We have a sense of responsibility to discipline ourselves into God's presence with prayers of praise, and worship, to live in truth, and to guard our hearts, attitudes, and words.

We serve out of love for God and others; Not as a Torah/compulsion, not as spiritual pride or simply completing a task.

Challenges, frictions, problems and self-denial / sacrifice are common in ministry. All of that needs to be experienced in order for us to grow up and mature. God educates and trains us to be tough, test-resistant disciples of Christ to be trusted to do great things in the last days.

C. Keep the purity of heart, do not steal the glory of God.

What God wants is to serve with a sincere and pure heart motivation. Eyes fixed on Christ keep our motivation pure. Service is self-devotion to God done with love, willingness and joy – not as a manipulative or commercial practice for profit and self-interest. Beware of the spirit of Mammon because God affirms that we cannot serve two masters (Luke 16:13). Believe that God's grace is sufficient to nourish our lives. Keep your heart with all vigilance, lest we steal God's glory and feel entitled to

