Quarter Three: *1 and 2 Corinthians*

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Lesson 13—Grace, Love, and Fellowship

Sunday: The Grace of Jesus

September 20, 2026

- **Last Week:** "Dealing with False Teachers"
  - 2 Cor 10 - 13
  - Issues in Corinth with false teachers, appeal for repentance & restoration

- **This week:** "Grace, Love, and Fellowship"
  - 2 Cor 13
  - Grace, love & fellowship are the result of God's work in our hearts

  - **5 imperatives from Paul** (2 Cor 13:11)
    - Closure of Corinthian epistles emphasize elements addressed in his epistles
    - **1. Farewell**: "Finally, brethren, farewell." (**joy**)
      - NIV: "Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice!"
      - ESV: "Finally, brothers, rejoice."
      - Farewell = Gk, "farewell, be glad, rejoice" – a combination of two Greek words – "**joy**" and "grace"
        - 12th time used in the Corinthian epistles

    - **2. Become complete**: "Become complete." (**restoration**)
      - Become complete = Gk, "fit, frame, mend, restore"
        - Used in 1 Cor 1:10 – "Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be **perfectly joined together** in the same mind and in the same judgment." (same Gk word)

      - Paul's appeal to the Corinthian Church was repentance, redemption & restoration
        - They suffered with false teachers, schisms & division in the church, sexual sin – God wanted to restore them

    - **3. Be of good comfort:** "Be of good comfort," (**comfort**)
      - Be of good comfort = used in 2 Cor 1 of God comforting us in all our troubles so we can comfort others
        - From root word of Parakletos

    - **4. Be of one mind**: "Be of one mind" (**unity**)
      - Call to unity – Gk word is difficult to translate into English, as it combines the visceral & cognitive aspects of thinking

    - **5. Live in peace**: "Live in peace" (**peace**)
      - Indicates peace as a command from God but also the promised presence of God

- 2 Cor 13:11 – "…and the God of love & peace will be with you."
    - This is the result of the work of God on our hearts

Memory Text: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Cor 13:14, ESV).

The week in brief:

- 1. Sunday: The Grace of Jesus (Jill)
    - 2 Cor 13:14 – study on the grace of Jesus throughout Paul's epistles
- 2. Monday: The Love of God (Ryan)
    - 2 Cor 13:14 – study on the love of God throughout the NT & Pauline epistles
- 3. Tuesday: The God of Love (James)
    - 2 Cor 13:11 – God, the source of love & many other blessings, as seen in Paul's epistles
- 4. Wednesday: The Fellowship of the Holy Spirit (SQ)
    - 2 Cor 13:14 – study on the Holy Spirit throughout the NT & Pauline epistles
- 5. Thursday: Our Triune God (John L)
    - 2 Cor 13:14 – work, divinity and function of the Godhead as seen in the Pauline epistles

Sunday: The Grace of Jesus

2 Cor 1:2, 4:15, 8:9, 12:9, 13:14; Phil 2:8; Rom 16:20; Gal 6:18; Eph 4:23, 6:24; 1 Thess 5:28; Rom 5:15, 17

11 takeaways of the grace of Jesus from the Pauline Epistles

- Last verse from 2 Corinthians: 2 Cor 13:14 – "The **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion (fellowship) of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen."
    - Grace = Gk, *khar'-ece* (Charis) = "grace, favor" – extended toward
        - Used 157 times in the NT – 110 times in Paul's epistles (including Hebrews)
            - 26 times in Romans
            - 28 times in 1 & 2 Corinthians
            - 27 times in Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians
            - 19 times in 1 & 2 Thess, 1 & 2 Timothy & Titus
            - 2 times in Philemon
            - 8 times in Hebrews
        - Used of the Lord's favor – God freely extending Himself (His favor, grace) reaching (inclining) to people because He is disposed to bless (be near) them
            - Connects with OT Heb term for Grace – again, "grace, extension-toward"
- Today's lesson: explores same Greek word for "grace" through the Pauline epistles
- Pauline epistles open with "Grace to you and peace"
    - And most close with "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ…"
        - Not reviewing those references

- **Takeaway #1: Grace triumphs over sin**
  - Rom 5:20 – "Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, **grace** abounded much more."
    - Grace is stronger than sin – it triumphs over it

- **Takeaway #2: Grace justifies through Christ's blood**
  - Rom 3:24 – "Being justified freely by His **grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus"
    - His grace justifies, because of Jesus' death on the Cross

- **Takeaway #3: Grace is received by faith**
  - Rom 5:2 – "Through whom also we have access by faith into this **grace** in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."
    - Access into the grace comes by faith

- **Takeaway #4: Grace stands apart from human effort**
  - Eph 2:8, 9 – "For by **grace** you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, (9) not of works, lest anyone should boast."
    - Along with Rom 3, this passage is Paul's most complete statement on salvation
    - We are saved by accepting by faith the free gift of God's grace

- **Takeaway #5: Grace not only pardons but transforms**
  - Titus 2:11-12 – "For the **grace** of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, (12) teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,"

  - Heb 4:16 – "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of **grace**, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."
    - Can come boldly to Jesus & find mercy & grace

- **Takeaway #6: Grace gives victory through Jesus**
  - 1 Cor 15:57 – "But **thanks** be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
    - Thanks = grace

- **Takeaway #7: Grace equips us with spiritual gifts**
  - Rom 12:6 – "Having then gifts differing according to the **grace** that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;"
    - God grants us spiritual gifts by His grace
  - 2 Cor 8:1 – 7

- **Takeaway #8: Grace sustains us in weakness and trial**
  - 2 Cor 12:9 – "And He said to me, 'My **grace** is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."
    - His grace is sufficient:
      - His grace is more than enough
      - A prayer with a negative answer is still an answered prayer

- **Takeaway #9: Grace received becomes grace extended**
    - Eph 4:29 – "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart **grace** to the hearers."
        - Grace received is extended in how we speak to others
    - Col 4:6 – "Let your speech always be with **grace**, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one."
        - Grace received is extended in how we speak to others
- **Takeaway #10: Grace produces gratitude and thanksgiving**
    - 2 Cor 4:15 – "For all things are for your sakes, that **grace**, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God."
- **Takeaway #11: Grace can be rejected or abandoned**
    - Gal 5:4 – "You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from **grace**."

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- #3: Grace is received by faith
    - Rom 5:2
- #4: Grace stands apart from human effort
    - Eph 2:8, 9
- #5: Grace not only pardons but transforms
    - Titus 2:11, 12
- #6: Grace gives victory through Jesus
    - 1 Cor 15:57
- #7: Grace equips us with spiritual gifts
    - Rom 12:6
- #8: Grace sustains us in weakness and trial
    - 2 Cor 12:9
- #9: Grace received becomes grace extended
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- #10: Grace produces gratitude and thanksgiving
    - 2 Cor 4:15
- #11: Grace can be rejected or abandoned
    - Gal 5:4

"The grace of Jesus Christ alone can change the heart of stone to a heart of flesh, and make it alive unto God. … Men has no power to justify the soul, to sanctify the heart. Moral disease cannot be healed save through the power of the great Physician. The highest gift of heaven, even the Only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, is alone able to redeem the lost." (*Signs of the Times,* May 2, 1892).