

The Gospel of John

PART 15

John 8—Grace For the Broken

JOHN 8:1-11

At dawn Jesus returned from the Mount of Olives to the temple courts, where people crowded around him as he sat down to teach. The Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery and made her stand before the group. They said, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. What do you say?" They were using this question as a trap to have a basis for accusing him.

JOHN 8:1-11

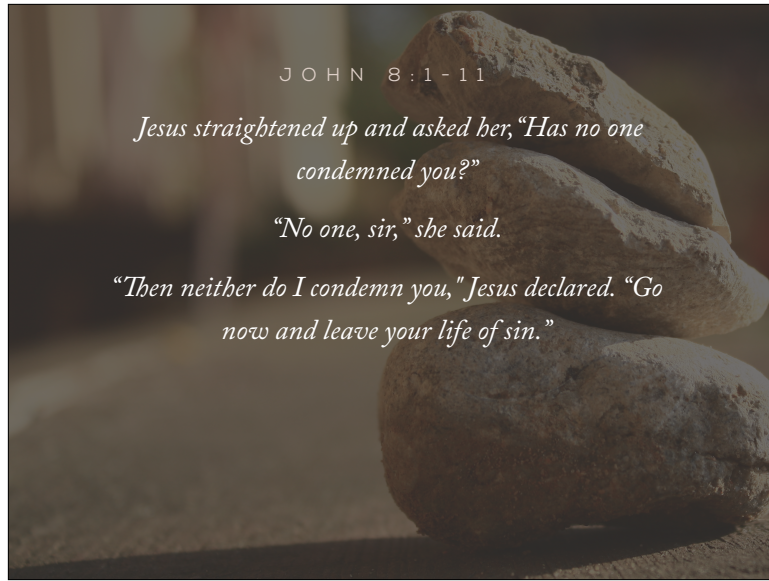
But Jesus bent down and wrote on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he stood up and said, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. At this, they began leaving one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.

JOHN 8:1-11

Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Has no one condemned you?"

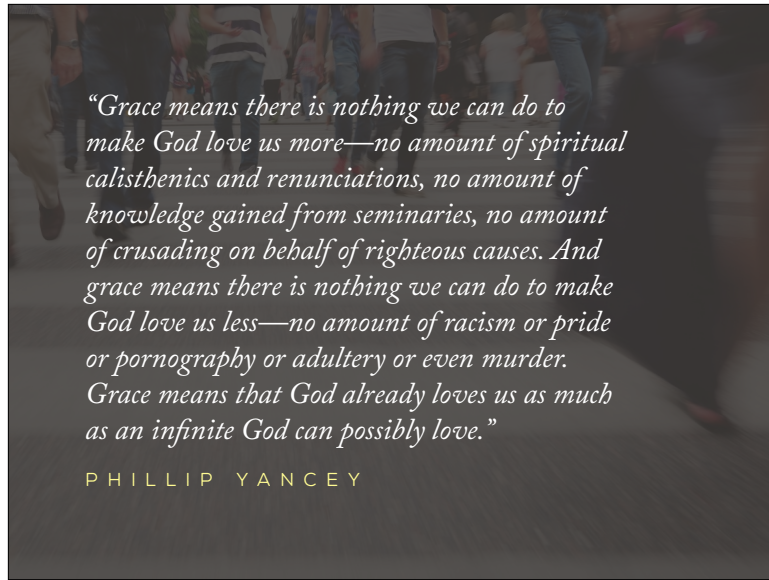
"No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

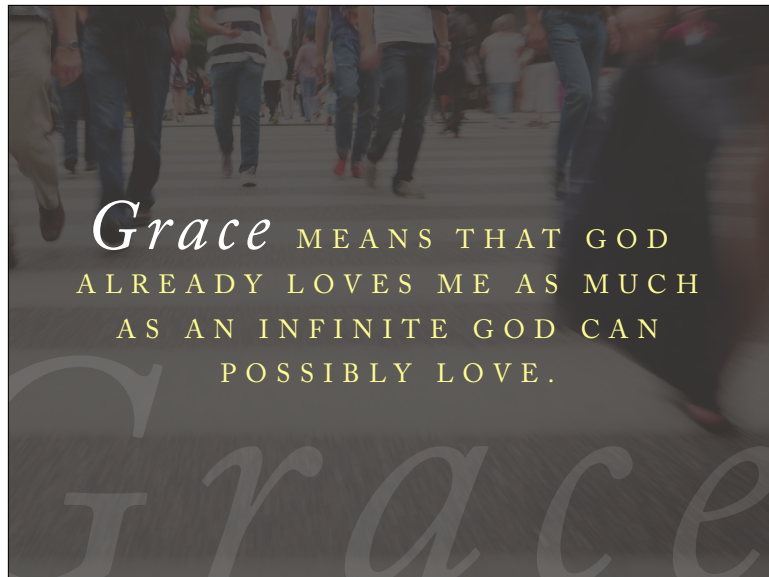


"Grace means there is nothing we can do to make God love us more—no amount of spiritual calisthenics and renunciations, no amount of knowledge gained from seminaries, no amount of crusading on behalf of righteous causes. And grace means there is nothing we can do to make God love us less—no amount of racism or pride or pornography or adultery or even murder. Grace means that God already loves us as much as an infinite God can possibly love."

PHILLIP YANCEY



Grace MEANS THAT GOD
ALREADY LOVES ME AS MUCH
AS AN INFINITE GOD CAN
POSSIBLY LOVE.



I was a glob of unworthiness. And what I needed more than anything was a sense that God accepted me, owned me, held me, affirmed me, held me, affirmed me, and would, never let go of me even if He was not too impressed with what He had on His hands.”

LEWIS SMEDES



PSALM 103:8-14

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love...he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.



WHAT FORCE ON EARTH CAN
WIELD THAT KIND OF POWER
OVER A BELEAGUERED
PSALMIST, AN ADULTEROUS
WOMAN AND A STADIUM FULL
OF ROCK-N-ROLLERS?

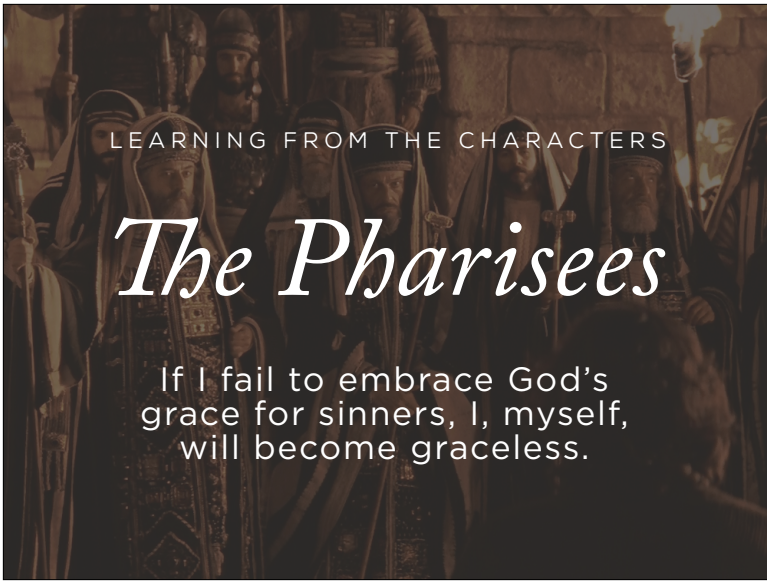
↓
only
Grace

It is only by grace that the
brokenness we are born with—
and live with—is mended.

*“The notion that God’s love comes to us
free of charge, no strings attached, seems
to go against every instinct of
humanity. The Buddhist eight-fold
path, the Hindu doctrine of karma, the
Jewish covenant, the Muslim code of
law—each of these offers a way to earn
approval. Only Christianity dares to
make God’s love unconditional.”*

PHILLIP YANCEY

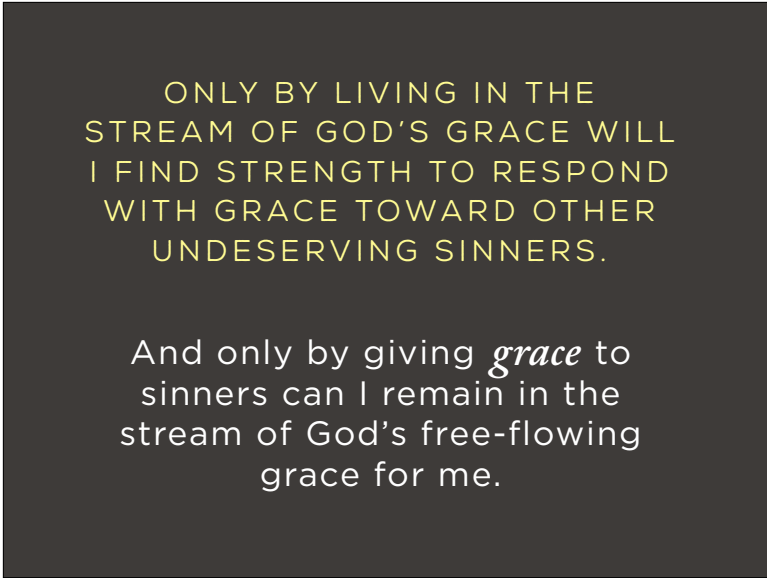




LEARNING FROM THE CHARACTERS

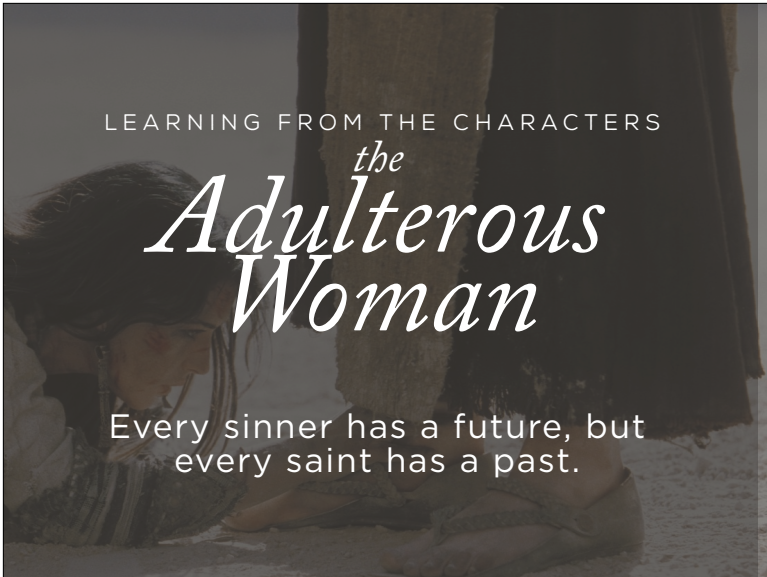
The Pharisees

If I fail to embrace God's grace for sinners, I, myself, will become graceless.



ONLY BY LIVING IN THE STREAM OF GOD'S GRACE WILL I FIND STRENGTH TO RESPOND WITH GRACE TOWARD OTHER UNDESERVING SINNERS.

And only by giving *grace* to sinners can I remain in the stream of God's free-flowing grace for me.



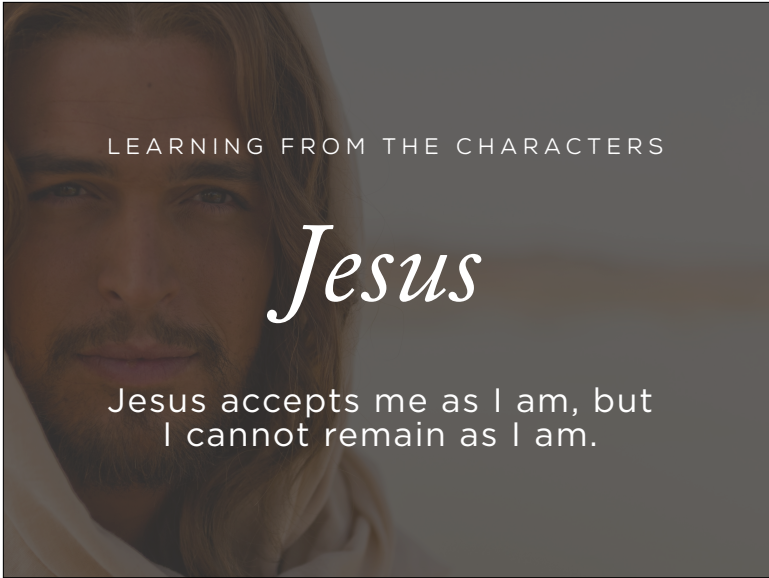
LEARNING FROM THE CHARACTERS

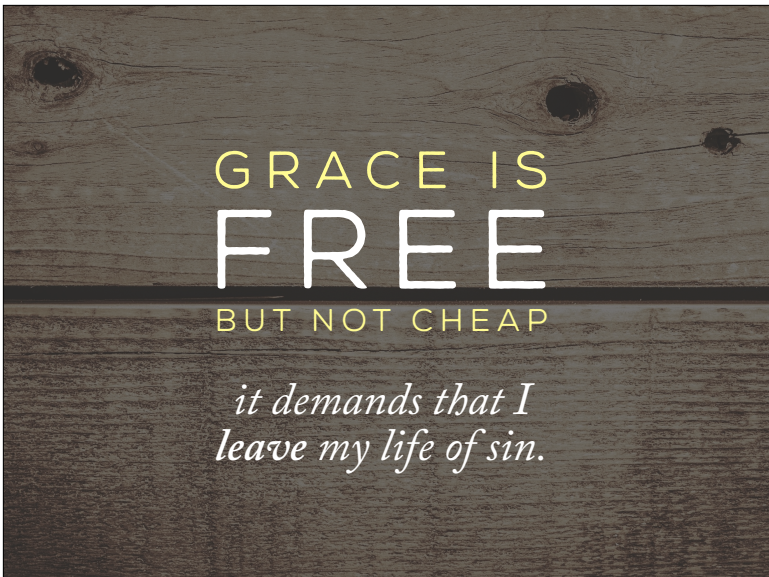
the Adulterous Woman

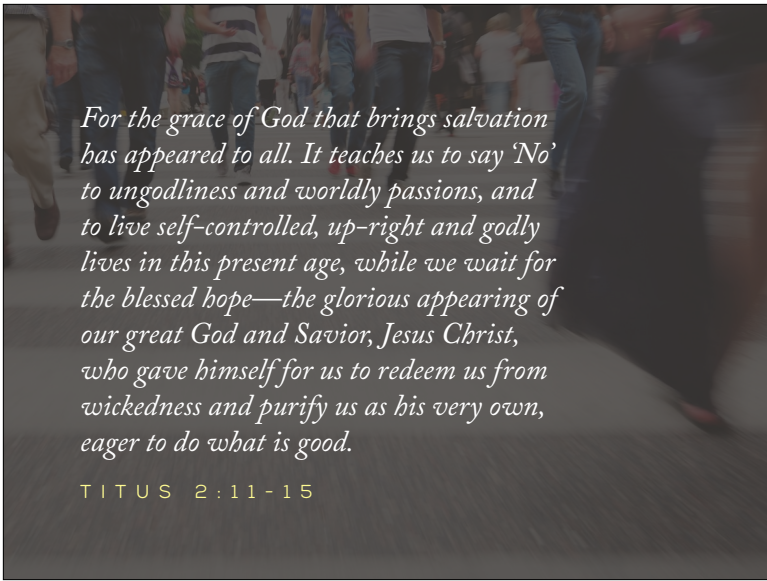
Every sinner has a future, but every saint has a past.

NO MATTER HOW BAD, UNWORTHY,
AND DISQUALIFIED I THINK I AM,
I AM NEVER BEYOND THE RENEWING
REACH OF GOD'S GRACE.

NO MATTER HOW GOOD, WORTHY
AND QUALIFIED I THINK I AM,
APART FROM GRACE, THERE IS
NOTHING GOOD IN ME.







For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all. It teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, up-right and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from wickedness and purify us as his very own, eager to do what is good.

TITUS 2:11-15



I have been given a gift!
It can't help but change me!



FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD IN THE
BEGINNING WAS THE WORD I AM THE W
D THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE HE GAVE T
GHT TO BELIEVE IN HIM AND THE W
ME THAT THE CHILDREN OF GOD I HA
CAME FLESH AND DWELLING WITH
LONG US TRUST IN GOD JUST ALSO IN
D THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE A NE
MMAND LOVE YOU LOVE FOR ANOTH
ROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE I A
E VINE
HOEVER HEARS MY WORD AND BELIEV

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