



CAPTURED BY GRACE

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Week 6 – Legal vs. Vital

Introduction:

The commencement is only the beginning!

His legal grace brought about your forgiveness of sin. His vital grace empowers you with freedom from sin!

Walking in the Power of God's Vital Grace:

1. Expect the _____ of grace in your daily life

Self-righteousness or Self-condemnation – both the rotten fruit of legalism!

2. Embrace the _____ that grace unleashes

God's grace is more like a crockpot than a microwave!

3. Enjoy the _____ that trust and obedience place you in

Obedience is not about getting a reward, but it is extremely rewarding!

Application:

1 John 3:23

John tells us that there is one singular two-sided coin under the New Covenant: FAITH in Jesus, and LOVE for one another. The first aligns us with God, the second with each other...

Aren't you glad that Christ's commands are not burdensome like the 613 rules, regulations and rituals under Moses?

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life:

1. In the weekend message, we talked about “Legal vs. Vital.” When many people talk about God’s grace, it’s about the legal part...being declared “not guilty” by God the Judge. But why is the vital aspect of grace (divine power to live a new life) so critical as well? Discuss...

Ponderings:

2. We are not only rescued “from something” (i.e. judgment), but “for something” as well. Read Ephesians 2:8-10 and discuss what it is that God has saved us for and why it matters...
3. On an average day, do you “expect” to experience the power of God’s vital grace? What does it look like to live with this kind of expectancy?
4. “Growing in grace” (2 Peter 3:18) is more like a crock-pot than a microwave. In what sense is God’s grace an “event” in your life, and in what sense is it a “process”? How does Jesus’ analogy of the Vine and the branches (John 15) speak into this conversation? Discuss...
5. We know that our standing with God is a free gift of grace from start to finish. In the practical world, however, how do trust and obedience place you a position to experience the full orb of God’s blessing for your life? Discuss...

Promptings:

6. In the message it was said that “our obedience is not about earning a reward, but it is extremely rewarding.” Discuss the “rewards” – tangible or intangible – of obeying the Lord. Why is obedience almost always an act of faith? How are you growing in your obedience in response to His amazing grace in your life?