

III. HOW TO OFFER GRACE

- A. Remember how much you have been forgiven.

“And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32

- B. Relinquish your right to get even.

“Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.” Romans 12:19

- C. Refocus on God’s plan for your life.

“But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.” Genesis 50:20

- D. Repeat this process as long as necessary.

*“21 Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”
22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.”* Matthew 18:21-22

EXPERIENCE OFFERING GRACE

GRACE It Really Is Amazing Offering Grace Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

- A. The grace of God is at the heart of our faith and our relationship with God. It is what makes Christianity unique from the other religions of the world. It flows out of the character and nature of God.

“But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.” I Peter 5:10

Grace is God supplying amazing favor in your life. It is undeserved. You can’t earn it, but you can receive it. And it is necessary for both salvation and spiritual growth.

- B. In this series you will understand why grace really is amazing and how to receive the many blessings of grace. These sermons will draw you closer to God as you “experience grace” this Easter season.

Feb 18	Saving Grace
Feb 26	Growing Grace
Mar 3	Empowering Grace
Mar 10	Living Grace
TODAY	Offering Grace
Mar 24	Sharing Grace

- C. **TEXT:** Hebrews 12:14-15

”God will always be Himself, and grace is an attribute of His holy being. He can no more hide His grace than the sun can hide its brightness.”

HOW TO EXPERIENCE OFFERING GRACE

- Offering grace forgives people who hurt you.
- Grace is not just for you. God expects you to offer grace to others.

“23 Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

24 And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.

25 But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made.

26 The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’

27 Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.”

Matthew 18:23-27

I. WHAT OFFERING GRACE IS NOT

- A. Forgiveness is not conditional.
- B. Forgiveness is not minimizing the offense.
- C. Forgiveness is not resuming a relationship without change.
- D. Forgiveness is not forgetting what happened.

II. WHY SHOULD YOU OFFER GRACE?

- A. Because God has forgiven you.

“bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”

Colossians 3:13

- B. Because bitterness is the alternative and it produces trouble.

“32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me.

33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’

34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.

35 “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.” Matthew 18:32-35

- Bitterness produces mental torment.
- Bitterness produces physical torment.
- Bitterness produces emotional torment.
- Bitterness produces spiritual torment.

*“26 “Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath,
27 nor give place to the devil.”*

Ephesians 4:26-27.

- C. Because you need forgiveness.

“14 “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

Matthew 6:14-15