

“OVERCOMING GRACE”
The Extraordinary Gift of Grace #6
January 3, 2021

Overcoming Grace = God works in the lives of his chosen people to transform their rebellion into surrender so that they freely repent and recognize Christ as the risen King.

The Joy of Overcoming Grace...

- 1. The Intoxicating Joy of Becoming a New Creation in Christ** -- *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!*¹⁸ *All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:*¹⁹ *that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.*
2 Corinthians 5:17-19

In Christ You...

- **Have received blessings beyond measure!** *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.* Ephesians 1:3
 - **Have become an adopted, eternal child of God!** *For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love*⁵ *he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—*⁶ *to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.* Ephesians 1:4-6
 - **Are not judged or condemned but forgiven!** *In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace*⁸ *that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,*⁹ *he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ...* Ephesians 1:7-9
 - **Are forever assured of the fulfillment of the promises of God!** *And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,*¹⁴ *who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.* Ephesians 1:13-14
 - **You are no longer a zombie but have real spiritual life in Christ!** *But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,*⁵ *made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.* Ephesians 2:4-5
 - **You are already seated with Christ!** *And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,*⁷ *in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.* Ephesians 2:6-7
- 2. Faith that Overcomes the World** -- *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.* Ephesians 2:10
 - 3. Therefore, We are a Community of Overcomers** -- *His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,*¹¹ *according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Ephesians 3:10-11

THE JOURNEY DEVOTIONAL
January 3rd, 2021 Week
Discussion Questions from the Sermon

1. What was something you read in the weekly Scripture readings or heard in the sermon that made an impact on you? Explain.
2. In the sermon we talked about our new identity in Christ. Which of the statements from Ephesians chapters 1 and 2 particularly struck your heart? Why?
3. How might God's grace and the impact of God's grace impact the life of a Christian? How has it impacted your life? Explain.
4. Read Ephesians 3:8-10. How are verses 8-9 connected to verse 10? How are good works related to God's grace?
5. In the sermon we talked about the impact that a Church of Overcoming Grace Christians can have in the community and world. What impact would you like to see CrossPoint have?
6. What do you think the Lord wants to say to you today about grace? About being God's "handiwork"?
7. How will you respond to this sermon and/or the Scripture passages?

Weekly Bible Memory Verse: *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.* Ephesians 2:10

Bible Readings: Reading these passages of Scripture will help you become like Jesus in how you think and what you do, in addition to preparing you for next week's sermon. Remember to read these passages slowly, allowing the Lord to speak to your heart and mind:

Monday – John 10:22-30

Tuesday – Ephesians 4:17-32

Wednesday – Ephesians 5:1-20

Thursday – Romans 8:31-39

Friday – 2 Corinthians 1:12-22

Saturday – Psalm 23

Sunday – 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28