

How Has God's Grace Made a Difference in Your Life?

Reformation Sunday celebrates the centrality of God's Grace in our lives. During services on October 30th members of our congregation answered the following question: "How has God's Grace Made a Difference in Your Life?" Here are the responses:

"I don't have to be perfect."

"Grace comes in God's beauty in a glorious sunrise or sunset; in the kind words of friends, in hugs and support. Grace is the love of God always shared with me even when I don't always acknowledge Him."

"God gave me a wonderful wife and life."

"God's Grace saved my life and His Grace is continually present through family and friends."

"I feel God's presence always as I go through this wonderful life He's given me. Upon rising, reading the Bible and devotions morning and evening. As I work on church sale projects, prayer shawls & scarves I know He is always with me and thank Him daily."

"Time to work; time with friends"

"Starting over each day new; total forgiveness."

"God has blessed me with music and a good wife."

"Bring 4 of my 5 boys back to Colorado; Robbie home from Iraq by Christmas; a new grandchild in May; forty years of marriage next week; friends & family to love. God is Great."

"I feel God's Grace daily when I extend myself to help others. He is my guide. I feel God's Grace when I look at my son. It is a reminder that each day is a new opportunity."

"I am reminded of God's Grace every time I eat a pop tart or jump on a trampoline or tickle a stranger. God reminds me that there is joy to be found in all things."

"God has blessed me with an amazing husband and family. He has blessed us with a new baby and becoming together by moving so we are all in one home together."

"Received a generous donation for the food drive and Christmas drive this year to use at the school I work at. What a blessing this is!"

"Grace & prayer to me is talking to God each day."

"For giving me a wonderful family & many loving friends as well as good health"

"Because of God's Grace---the heavy burden of who I am is removed and His Grace honors who I am. He is the source. Without Him I am not. Grace is a sweet paradox. I know because of Grace, I am always welcomed when I run away. Every day is Grace."

"Through my crazy, weird and loving family"

"1- omnipresence; 2- can overcome anything with God; 3- equanimity; 4-strength, comfort"

"I served in the military during 3 wars – safely. I was saved from alcohol addiction. I am now over 88 years old. I found Diane. I still have all 8 of my children. I have been saved."

"Being here"

"By being there for me when I needed help and felt alone"

"God has shown me that all things are possible when we believe. I have seen my prayers answered in my grandchildren's lives. The things I prayed for have turned their lives around and they are all doing very well."

"God granted me 5 children and strength to care for them. He blessed me with grandchildren. Then 40 years ago I met Ray my husband who's wonderful to my brood. I had no brothers or sisters and was alone."

"He was with me and kept me here when all others had given up hope that I would survive."

"The Lord has helped me with all I have tried this week and has helped me see that I have to help myself first with seeing the Lord in my life."

"Blessings have been and continue to be abundant in my life-through freedom, my religious faith and salvation. Both seen and unseen blessings have been given me faith and knowledge for God's existence. Only a higher source could have ever touched my life in the ways I have been touched."

"I know I don't have to be perfect!"

"God's Grace has allowed me to get to know my grandson much better than I thought possible."

"God's Grace makes me hopeful in a world that takes away hope. It has brought me forgiveness many times."

"Alleluia-because of my Lord's sacrifice and Grace my sins are forgiven. I feel His love 24 hours a day, every day. Thank You, Alleluia"

"Grace lets me get up and try life again, knowing that I am loved. It gives me the chance to be the person God wants me to be, even when I screw it up. It's one of the few things I remember from confirmation. God's Riches At Christ's Expense."

"Peace Gratefulness Humility"

"Hope and courage to face trouble and trying times"

"I was walking at dawn in Kremmling Colorado and told God that I was moving to Alaska alone. I prayed that if he had a man for me to show me now because I was through with men. I met Roger Bivens of Ft. Myers FL in San Juan Puerto Rico 2 weeks later. Roger was a gift from God 28 years ago."

"God's Grace has led me to finding a loving and open church family here at SOTHLC."

"God's Grace touched me even before I was born. He showered me with blessings galore to remind me of who I am, where I've come from and why I came. God is love. I am a child of love. I come from love and that's where I am going."

"The peace of heart and mind I've received during times of trial"

"To be more loving, inclusive, tolerant of others faults; enjoy the gifts of God."

"God has been my rock thru some very hard times in my life. His unselfish love and forgiveness always gives me comfort. Thank God for his Grace."

"Thank you for the circumstances that we encounter. Thank you for the blessings, for the love."

"Life itself is Grace; true friends are Grace; family acceptance is Grace; never forgetting friends & family that are in our hearts and minds forever."

"Grace enables me to face each challenge of life each & every day with confidence that I am not alone."

"Through the love & smiles of our grandchildren & loving friends"

"Camp; families; my brother"

"Good health, enough food and clean water, a warm place to live."

"God's Grace gives me the power to make choices that are pleasing to Him. It is always present to guide me."

"New life, world, love, health"

“Challenging my family; good moments; bad moments; they give us a good life.”

“Strength to accept losses endured last 3 years”

“God has made a difference by showing me the way to change myself thru myself.

“Lord has shown me a lot about myself. He has made me the man I am today. All I ask is that he continues.”

“God’s Grace comes even when I fall short of doing His will. His Grace has come through family.”

“I see God’s Grace every time it seems the expectations of daily life reaches it max. God sends little signs that I am not alone, and to ‘keep the faith’. (A sunrise/sunset, new fallen snow, an unexpected visit from a friend, a hug from my daughters)”

“Grace is a gift from our Lord – it covers our humanness for each of us from, beginning to end.”

“My life has become more serene and content thru God’s Grace. I have learned to be more understanding thru His Grace.”

“By the grace of God I had great parents to send me on my way. They helped me to be blessed by wonderful friends and family of my own.”

“Freedom of self and others”

“Great children, wonderful wife and peace in my heart, finally”

“God has made me a happier person and more forgiving of people and happy with my church family that makes me feel complete.”

“Without God I would never have been born. Without God I would not have a desire to be here. Without God I would not know love, joy, beauty, kindness & forgiveness. Without God I would never have experienced the many gifts God has allowed me to experience. I would never have obtained a closeness & sense of belonging without God. Without God I would not have meaning or existence.”

“Grace means I can/do receive forgiveness which I can NEVER earn! Couldn’t go on without that!!”

“I know God loves me even when I feel unlovable.”

“God’s Grace has made a difference in my life by giving me hope and strength to be a better mom & wife.”

"God gives free Grace--that precious gift is in every part of life – the only way I've made it through each day."

"My life has been a journey of Grace."

"How to answer that on paper so small?! Faith & knowledge of GRACE @ early age."

"I am saved by God's Grace! Yesterday, today and forever"

"God's Grace has given me an inner peace and understanding of who I am."

"God's Grace, acceptance has given me the courage to show up through 62 years of life. God helps me live through times filled with self condemnation."

"Grace brought me into a personal relationship with God. Brought life to an addicted, angry, self centered human. Did not deserve it but it is mine. Yea God"

"God has been with me through many trials and losses as well as blessing me with much love and forgiveness. I am truly happy and thankful for all I found in God's love."

"God's Grace is expressed in his ultimate gift-the gift of Christ's death, salvation and His promise that we will go to be with Him."

"My Grace is everything that I have."

"After being estranged, God's Grace gave me my family back, and gave me courage to develop my talents."

"Regardless of circumstances, Grace allows me to see through the fog of panic and fear to the light of peace and calm. Only when I trust His Grace can I then proceed through the fog and reach the calm and warmth of His forgiving arms."

"God gave me Rainbow Trail. He has provided me with close friends who care about my spiritual growth. He returned my mother to me. He always has my back, everything I need."

"God's Grace has given me a huge faith. Whatever may happen to me God is there. What a wonderful knowledge that Christ died for anyone who believes and thus receives eternal life."

"When our daughter was 11 we found she had leukemia. Children's Hospital gave us No false hope. Today is her birthday – she is 51 years. Only by the Grace of God."

"I know that God loves me & will forgive all my sins."

"3 fine men we are proud to call 'sons'"

"God's Grace has gotten me through many rough spots in the journey of life; love of family & friends"

"God believing in me when I haven't believed in Him"

"Move to G; old house/new house; tumor; ring; R; marriage"

"God's Grace has made a difference in my life: in the lives of my children and the love we share; in the lives of my family and the love we share; in the lives of friends and the love we share; in the lives of strangers and the love we share; in the peace I find amidst the storms of life; in the joy I feel and express each day"

"God has graced me with His giving me inner peace and putting very special people in my life."

"God's Grace has been with our family – always guiding us through the hard times and celebrating the good as well. Recently, His Grace touched my heart and mind by giving me peace I so sorely needed."

"His Grace has saved my life. He has given me many blessings and a wonderful life."

"made me a stronger person in loss of a loved one"

"God's Grace gives me a peaceful sense of who I am, and should be."