

Living Stones Church
Sermon Notes – March 29, 2009

“The Scandal Of Grace”

Matthew 20 – The Parable of the Vineyard Workers

In the last two weeks we have been learning about grace. On Sunday night we heard from Phillip Baker about grace and how we should apply it in our daily walk with Jesus. Last Sunday March 22, we established that we receive grace when we are born again. It is not something we earn or work for --- it is a free gift of a gracious God!

You may ask, “What’s so amazing about grace?” It’s been said that Christianity is above all a religion about grace. And to me that is certainly true. I know that I am a recipient of that grace. But to most, grace is not well understood and often not believed. We use the word and sing the song, but rarely think about what it means.

In his book, “What’s so Amazing About Grace,” Phillip Yancey points out that part of our problem is in the nature of grace itself. Grace is scandalous. It’s hard to accept, hard to believe, and hard to receive. Grace shocks us with what it offers. It is truly not of this world. It frightens us with what it does for sinners. I cannot image that someone would do for me, what Christ did and still does.

Grace teaches us that God does for others what we would never do for them. We often think we are not that bad and that we could be saved. God started with prostitutes and then works downward from there. God extended His Grace to a person named Saul who persecuted the early church and he became the writer of most of the New Testament. He saved and delivered a phone man and allows him to pastor a wonderful church in Decker Prairie!

Grace is a gift that cost everything to the giver and nothing to the receiver. It is given to those who don’t deserve it, barely recognize it and hardly appreciate it. That’s why God and God alone should receive the glory in our salvation. The Son of God, the man called Jesus did all the work when he willingly died on the cross for our sins.

I wonder, do you know Him today? Have you been a recipient of His Grace? It is available to you today- will you accept it today?