



**Devotion**  
**A Prayer For Abounding Grace**  
**November 5, 2017**

Dear Grace Family,

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.

– [2 Corinthians 12:8-9](#)

I can flip a switch, but I don’t provide the electricity. When I turn on the overhead light in the morning, I don’t celebrate, “Hey, look what I did! I turned the lights on!” I didn’t provide the power. An electrician wired my house; the power company provided the energy; all I did was flip the switch that released the flow.



It's similar to turning on a faucet. I didn't put the plumbing in. I'm not the water company that supplies the water. I simply turn on the faucet and the water flows.

So it is, in a limited sense, for the Christian with the ongoing grace of God. His grace is essential for our spiritual lives, but we don't control the supply. We can't make the grace flow, but God has given us circuits to connect and pipes to open expectantly.

Our God is lavish in his grace, often liberally dispensing his favor without even the least bit of cooperation and preparation on our part. But he also has his regular channels. And we can routinely avail ourselves of these revealed paths of blessing, or neglect them to our detriment.

### **Lay Yourself in the Way of Allurement**

Zacchaeus may have been a wee little man, but he modeled this big reality by positioning himself along the path of grace. He couldn't force Jesus's hand, he couldn't make grace flow, but he could put himself along the path where Grace was coming ([Luke 19:1-10](#)). The same was true of blind Bartimaeus ([Luke 18:35-43](#)). He couldn't earn the restoration of his sight, but he could position himself along the route of grace where Jesus might give the gift as he passed that way.

"Think of the Spiritual Disciplines," says Donald S. Whitney, "as ways we can place ourselves in the path of God's grace and seek him as Bartimaeus and Zacchaeus placed themselves in Jesus's path and sought him". Or as Jonathan Edwards puts it, we can "endeavor to promote spiritual appetites by *laying yourself in the way of allurement*."

God's regular channels of grace are his word, his ear, and his people. So often, he showers his people with unexpected favor. But typically, the grace that sends our roots deepest, truly grows us up in Christ, and produces lasting spiritual maturity, streams from the ordinary and unspectacular paths of fellowship, prayer, and [Bible](#) intake in its many forms.

While these simple "means of grace" may seem as unimpressive as everyday switches and faucets, through them God regularly stands ready to give his true light and the water of life. Let's pray for this abounding grace today:

***Lord, thank you for your abundant, abounding grace. Thank you that we don't have to earn a drop of the mighty river of grace that flows freely for us today. Thank you for the unexpected, unmerited favor you've showered on my life. Help me put myself in the path of your love and grace. Help me not neglect the disciplines I need to meet with you regularly and to drink from the water of life. Thank you for your rich love. Amen.***

Crosswalk.com

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Joint Reformation Service** – Thank you to all the choirs and Pastors that made our celebration so joyous. 120 WELS members from the area, and their family and friends, attended the service. Thanks to all the ladies from Redeemer and Grace who provided such a yummy repast during the social hour afterwards!

**Pastor Flunker** – We're all praying for you and your family. We look forward to seeing you on November 12<sup>th</sup>!

**Time Change – Fall Back** - Don't forget to change your clocks one hour back This Saturday 11/5!

**Coffee Hour** – PLEASE NOTE, starts at 10am. Come early and enjoy some fellowship.

**November 5<sup>th</sup> – Julie Larson, Marilee Nolte, Donna Roth, Sandy Hamill**

November 12<sup>th</sup> – Joan Riese, Connie Lehmann, Joy and Bill Altenhein

November 19<sup>th</sup> – Maxine Gilbreath, Valerie Kamppi, Tammy Fuwell, Jon Hood Family

**Parsonage Work** – Thank you to all the helpers! The painting is just about finished and looks so nice. Landscaping anyone?? Contact Dave Smith if you can help or have ideas.

**Ladies Thursday Bible Study - Location change!** Please note that the group is meeting in the empty parsonage next door to the church for now. They are also busy getting into God's Word in 2 Samuel. All ladies of Grace and Redeemer are welcomed. Speak to Lori Hoover for inquiries.

**Streams** – Put on your thinking caps and submit material for publishing in the Streams, ie; new church purchases, special celebrations, church happenings, school news, Bible class, Sunday School, council news, etc.

You may contact Sandy at Cell # 833-7326; text, voicemail, phone.

Email ; [slwrgeg526@yahoo.com](mailto:slwrgeg526@yahoo.com). You will get a prompt reply.

### **Prayer List**

**Garland Hill**- Healing from a stroke

**Anne Rhine**- Healing from a broken hip

**Sandra Sullivan** – Healing for cancer

**Bill Yergen** – Comfort & strength

**Della Waldbauer** – Healing & strength

**Marilyn Smith** – Health & encouragement

**Mark Jankowski** – Healing for cancer

**Karen Jankowski** – Healing for back

**Irma Alderson** – Comfort & Strength

**Wanda Lennon** - Healing & Strength

**Dee Ekstrom** – Healing for cancer

**Florence Teske** – Thanksgiving for healing

### **Shut in List**

**Irma Alderson**

**Carol Butler**

**Ewald Ehlers**

**Jack Lott**

**Marlen Rieker**

**Norm Campeau**

**Ed Peterson**

**Loraine Beard**

**Pauline Dean**

**Dorothy Johnson**

**Anne Rhine**

**Bill Yergen**

**Sandra Evans**

**Esther Wachter**

**FRUITS OF FAITHFULNESS & LOVE & STEWARDSHIP for 10/29/17**

Grace/Viviendo por Gracia Stewardship of Word and Sacrament

Sunday service – 45, Adult Bible Study -16, Reformation – 120.

11/2 Thursday Bible Study – 18

|                            | <b>Actual Received FOR 10/29/17</b> | <b>Needed weekly Per 2017/18</b> | <b>Actual to Budget this Week</b> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>General Fund</b>        | <b>\$2850.00</b>                    |                                  |                                   |
| <b>WELS Missions</b>       | <b>\$171.00</b>                     |                                  |                                   |
| <b>School</b>              | <b>\$240.00</b>                     |                                  |                                   |
| <b>Secret Supporter</b>    | <b>\$50.00</b>                      |                                  |                                   |
| <b>Chapel</b>              | <b>\$6.00</b>                       |                                  |                                   |
| <b>TADS tuition</b>        | <b>\$0</b>                          |                                  |                                   |
| <b>Radio</b>               | <b>\$0</b>                          |                                  |                                   |
| <b>Insurance</b>           | <b>\$1.00</b>                       |                                  |                                   |
| <b>Evergreen</b>           | <b>\$412.00</b>                     |                                  |                                   |
| <b>Capital Improvement</b> | <b>\$0</b>                          |                                  |                                   |
|                            |                                     |                                  |                                   |
| <b>TOTAL OFFERING</b>      | <b>\$3730.00</b>                    | <b>\$4732.00</b>                 | <b>\$1002.00</b>                  |

