

March 16, 2018

## **Russell's Rittings....**

The first Sunday I was in Atlanta for graduate school I went to Grace UMC. Grace is a towering red-brick structure with the name GRACE on one outdoor wall, visible for several blocks. I had visited there at the invitation of my landlady, who was a member. The great preacher, Dr. Cecil Myers, was the pastor then.

Grace is an important word for our faith. Ephesians 2 teaches us that we are saved by grace through faith.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer in THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP said, “cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without repentance, baptism without discipline, communion with confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate.”

Lent is a special time for repentance and reflection, and a time for allowing God’s amazing grace to be real in our lives!

I look forward to seeing you Sunday. The sermon is, “Lift High the Cross” (John 12: 20 – 33).

“and the folks are friendly”

Russell