

# Rooted

4 Signs of being rooted in God

\*4 Signs of Discipleship

1. Grace (forgiving and kind)
2. Good Works (service - highlight Danielle and Ruth )
3. Generosity & Gratitude (giving finances - all these things “book” - giving time to people Highlight someone - testimony )
4. Gods Word is the lamp (guidance) and standard of truth (highlight a Life Group video testimony of someone growing in gods word TOGETHER)

**All four of these are given to you by God then you give them away**

*God plants you, making you a new creation. You bear fruit. You eat of this fruit from the life of others who were planted. You become rooted in God THEN you grow up mature and begin to bear fruit.*

## **Week 1 GRACE NOV 7, 2021 KINSMAN CAMPUS**

Today, we’re talking about being rooted in grace. This is about forming a good theology, an accurate understanding of your doctrine - what you believe about God, about your salvation and really the salvation of any person.

We’re going to take 4 weeks spending time in Collosians but before we do I want you to see a picture of grace. Before we see a picture of grace, I want to show you what NOT being rooted in your faith looks like. Turn to Psalm

### **Psalm 1:1-6**

**Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;<sup>2</sup> but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.<sup>3</sup> He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.<sup>4</sup> The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;<sup>6</sup> for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Notice the three progressions of those who are not rooted in God’s grace.

When you are not rooted in grace, you will first walk with the wicked.

You’ll compromise a little. Hear a little gossip, spread it... compromise a little

Next, you’ll stand, you’ll get comfortable. Church will become optional. Bible reading will become optional. You’re standing. Not moving forward in your faith.

Next, your seating in the seat of scoffers. This is a bad place to be - now you’re mocking people who trust God.

Then contrast that with verse 2 - Blesses is man who doesn’t walk, stand or sit in compromise but the man whose “Delight is in the law of the Lord and on his law he mediated day and nigh.” What is that person like?

He is like a tree planted by streams of water yielding fruit - prospering and succeeding in all he does.

The prophet Isaiah talks about this too; so does Jeremiah.

In similar fashion, look at the words of the prophet Jeremiah when teaching about how our lives can be rooted in God's grace and truth and bear fruit OR ... not.

**Jeremiah 17:7-10 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. <sup>8</sup> He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit." <sup>9</sup> The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?<sup>10</sup> "I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."**

Here we see again this contrast between the evil and the fruits of an evil heart - a heart that is deceived and the fruit of a man who trust the Lord and is planted by the streams the Lord provides.

He is not anxious, does not fear and it's leaves remain green.

Did you know that you can come to a place in life where no matter whether you lose your job, the trials comes, things that should cause great fear and alarm - no matter what - you are NOT alarmed or fearful or anxious! YES, you can come to a place of being ROOTED in the Lord!

I want you to see a moment in the life of Jesus and His followers that depicts what GRACE is - what grace is all about. Turn to John, chapter 4 please. There are notes available on the website if you'd like "Click Resources, Sermons, Sermon Notes" that PDF will come right up so you can follow along if you'd like.

#### **John 4 - The Samaritan woman at the well**

##### **John 4:3-30**

**"He (Jesus) left Judea and departed again for Galilee. <sup>4</sup> And he had to pass through Samaria. <sup>5</sup> So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.**

**<sup>7</sup> A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup> (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep.**

**Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The**

water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.”<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet.”<sup>20</sup> Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.”<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.”<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.”<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.”

<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am He!”<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?”<sup>28</sup> So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people,<sup>29</sup> “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?”<sup>30</sup> They went out of the town and were coming to him.”

There are so many beautiful pictures of grace in this encounter with Jesus!

First of all.

Jesus went thru Samaria ON PURPOSE.

One important truth you and I need to remember about salvation is that it starts with God.

**To be rooted in grace, you must remember that GOD comes to you before you come to God.**

*Confront the Self-Made Man*

We live in culture that promotes a very self-made man mentality.

You become great because you aim to become great.

You don't hit what you don't aim for.

You need to work hard and dream big and believe in yourself.

While some of those things are true in one sense - they certainly don't help your salvation.

You only become righteous because JESUS can make you righteous. You only become saved from your sin when you're willing to admit your sin and ask God for His grace.

**Romans 5:1-21**

**“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by**

faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Notice the FRUIT produced there: endurance, character, hope, love...

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

(12-16 states that through Adam, we are all born into sin)

<sup>17</sup> For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ...where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, <sup>21</sup> so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

It's important that you know that me, you, your neighbor, your boss at work, your mom and dad, everyone is born into this problem of sin and we are all in need of God to give us grace - to forgive us of our sins and wipe the slate clean.

God comes to US before we come to GOD.

GOD sends YOU to your neighbor or coworker or boss, even if their not hopeful, even if they're cynical towards God and towards religion.

**This woman's first response was bitterness and cynicism.**

**If you don't confront your pain and anger in your heart, you'll let that sin become your identity. Jesus wants to change that.** But it is NOT your identity. You must let Jesus' love penetrate your heart - just like this woman.

I love how Jesus was persistent.

Jesus knew she was there. It was 12 noon the Bible says. That means it was the heat of the day and she came alone.

In that culture it was custom for women to go to the well to gather water in the morning or evening when it wasn't so hot.

When I wen to Israel in 2017 trust me it was HOT and it was JANUARY!

The team who brought me said it's almost unbearable to come visit Israel in June or July. It gets so hot in the middle of the afternoon.

Jesus is hot and tired and thirsty - which btw I love how scripture reveals His humanity.

Jesus is the NEW human. He's not just GOD teaches us what to do - He's GOD who became HUMAN to reveal us to what is possible.  
Yet Jesus who is still human - thirsty for a cold drink stops at a well - not just any well - Jacobs well.

**After all, think of the irony of this moment!**

Jesus comes to Jacob's well. This is the well given to Joseph

**2. Jesus sees your pain and prejudice and wants to confront it and replace it with His grace - grace that produces the fruit of joy, hope and love.**

She knew Jews were racists and sexist  
She assumed he was too - especially when He said "YOU get me some water"

The woman ran into THE well sitting at a well!

Her first response is bitterness.  
Hebrew... "Be careful a root of bitterness doesn't grow up within you  
This CAN happen as a christian btw

"Sir give me this water so I don't have to ever come drink again" sarcasm AGAIN  
Vs 16

If she went to the mall area and went in to shop at Five Below where my girls shop in 2021 she's buy that shirt that says "WHO ME? Sarcastic? NO!"

Jesus confronts that fact that she's rejected and hurting. If she couldn't conceive a child she was hurting.

Do you know how many people are hurting just WAITING for hope? Waiting for someone to believe in them and look at them with eyes of love - with a mindset of acceptance?

**Many people's first response to the Gospel is sarcasm and cynicism. Don't walk away and give up when that happens. Like Jesus, keep pushing through the pain. Acknowledging it, not ignoring it but being persistent in your declaration that Jesus and only Jesus can bring true peace to our hearts.**

Most Jewish people in that time were so racist, they wouldn't even go through Samaria. In fact did you ever notice that the writer here, John, contrasts two stories back to back. First the story of Nicodemus speaking to Jesus then this woman - a woman with no name - and certainly a disparaging background.

**John makes a contrast between the woman at this well and Nicodemus of chapter 3 because he wants us to see that both the religious and the rejected reprobate need to be rooted in His grace.** He was educated, powerful, respected by everyone, orthodox, theologically trained. Not her! She was from Samaria! The place where Jews had married

descendants of Ishmael and defiled the Jewish race. Samaria was invaded 800 years earlier (1 Kings 16-17) and because of that the Jewish people there married Iranian people descendants of Ishmael and so they were considered half breed by gentiles and Jews alike.

Asa, the king of Judah, experienced a lot of turmoil as did many kings but not like his reign. He was assassinated by Zimri and once that assassination took place, the kingdom was split in two. Some followed Omri and some followed Tibni. But the people who follow Omri attacked the others and forced them to serve one King - Omri.

Once Omri was established, he bought the hill where Jacobs well was and built a town and called it Samaria.

So this woman was from Samaria - a place despised by JEWISH people for everyone there was considered only "half jewish" therefore NOT truly jewish.

She was unschooled, without influence, despised, capable only of being used and abused.

Nicodemus was a man, a Jew, a ruler; she was a woman, a Samaritan, a moral outcast. And what does John point out - both needed Jesus.

Similar to the point I made last week in the story of the prodigal son. Both the wayward son and the older brother needed grace.

In these two stories, told back to back, both needed Jesus. Both needed grace.

Nicodemus, the religious elite man, needed grace to be born again - to be forgiven of his sins. The woman, a moral outcast, someone with a checkered past if she's coming to the well alone at 12 noon to avoid the drama of being seen by the other women of the town - a woman who carries the weight of not just her water jar but the weight of her shame. She too needed grace. She too needed Jesus.

**To be rooted in grace, you must realize that you are just as much in need of God's help as the murderer & adulterer. If you don't realize this and truly believe it in your gut, you'll be condescending though 'Christian' You'll be dismissive although "Christian" You'll be graceless, though a "Christian, saved by grace."**

You'll focus more on rules than on people. You'll post on social media about Christian rules being broken but never have your neighbor over for dinner. Never hear their story. Never share your story.

Yet, if you let the seed of grace be planted into an open heart, it will germinate. It break through the dirt. It will spring up and take root and suddenly you'll begin to bear fruit and give grace to others. You'll desire that your neighbors know Jesus - that your coworkers know Jesus - that your family know Jesus! Why? Grace has been given to you and now you're rooted in God - now you're bearing fruit - fruit like love, compassion, kindness.

The thorns of cynicism are gone.

The thorns of judgmentalism are gone.

God wants His grace to so permeate your heart that are you more concerned about your neighbors going to hell than you are Christians not meeting your standards.

Repeat that

Grace comes into our hearts then bears fruit. What is that fruit? The fruit of the Spirit ... love joy  
**When you receive grace, you begin to give grace. You see people for their potential not their problems.**

Jesus had an unbelievable ability to do this. It was shocking to most, even His followers! The disciples walk up and don't release that THEY have some religiosity some prejudice that THEY have to deal with

What's our values at ROG?

The big one that encompasses them all ...

Above all else we LOVE. We see people the way GOD SEES THEM.

So what happened as a result of this woman's encounter with Jesus?

Once she received grace, once she heard him say "I AM HE" her heart came alive! The spirit of God awakened her to the reality of God the beauty of Jesus! She ran to town and told everyone. They all came out and BELIEVED!

When you drink from THIS well YOU become a well of living water

This is the same woman who made a point to avoid people!  
Jesus was rooted in grace and therefore an encounter with Him, changed her completely!  
**The same woman who avoided people because of her shame is now witnessing to people because of God's grace. If you haven't witnessed to anyone lately, it's not because you need an evangelism manual; it's because you need a better grasp on the grace given to you by Jesus!**

Let's take a look at a moment in the OT when God showed grace to someone others disregarded.

ABRAHAM - Hagar. God sees me.

God knows your name.  
God knows your pain.  
God knows your true value!

He saying all four of these things that are signs of a disciple a follower of Jesus who is rooted in the Lord there is a truth that they begin with God. They certainly don't begin with us.

Here's what I mean because of God's grace you will learn to forgive others and give grace you are not gracious any of yourself you are gracious and kind because God has been gracious and kind to you.

Next week when we talk about good works the only way good work starts to bear fruit in your life is because you realize that God has done a good work in you and that he has served you the Jesus lay down his life and suffered on the cross to serve you to Jesus washed your feet.

In two weeks when we talk about generosity it's not that you one day decide to be generous; it's that you realize that generosity springs up from your heart because you realize God has been so incredibly generous to you! Good works do not cause grace good works or a fruit of grace!

**Goodness, good works, grace all START with God. God plants us beside HIS stream; we're rooted in Him and then we bear fruit - the fruit of HIS character.**

Righteousness comes because of salvation; you are not saved because you are righteous you are righteous because you are saved! God does the work. God makes you righteous. God extends grace. God has been gracious to you! God has been generous to you! When you get this revelation, you will begin to share God's grace with others. You'll tell people about Jesus and His love. Like this woman, you will become a well of salvation for many!

The word "well" in the text above is the rout word spring and do you know that to this day it stil has a natural spring supplying water. Many churches have been built there over the centuries. Most were destroyed by Muslim invaders. But there's a church there now - an Orthodox Church. Josph's grave is only a few hundred yards away - a few football fields distance from

this well. This is part of the promised land! JESUS fulfills the promise to be the well - the LIFE and WATER the LIVING WATER that truly quenches us so we never thirst again!

**We're going to study the book of Colossians and find that their culture in Colossae was in many ways different from ours today but had many of the same trappings as we do today.**

Paul wrote this letter to the Christians there for basically two purposes. First, he wanted to address the false teaching that was being propagated by the Jewish believers. They were insisting Gentile believers in Christ adopt their Jewish traditions and even insisting without such adoption, their salvation wasn't true. This worked against the message of grace without works, the primary message of the Gospel. Paul aimed to disarm that and bring Gospel truth to this mixed-bag Christianity that was growing. Second, he wanted to remind us of the power of our reconciliation with God, the blood that made that possible.

**Paul wrote this letter to believers in Colossae from the cold dungeon of a Roman prison.**

This was his first time in a Roman prison. The second time would be his last. He had seen God's Spirit prompt Philemon and others to plant churches and was moved by the expansion of the church. We can read more about that in Acts 19. When the planters reported back to Paul of the believers' confusion in Colossae, the Apostle Paul was burdened to bring order to the chaos. **Today's culture seems to be doing exactly what the Colossians were doing - simply adding Jesus to their traditions or in some cases, adding traditions to Jesus. The implication from the leaders was that these traditions were necessary to be accepted by God. This is, of course, in stark contrast to the teachings of Jesus and the message of God's grace and our repentance.** The first words out of the mouth of John the Baptist were simply "Repent" and the message of Jesus was likewise, "Repent. The Kingdom of God is at hand."

In fact, when asked what was required to become righteous, Jesus replied with words like "You need only to be thirsty" as if desire was the only requirement. On another occasion, He simply replied with "You need only to believe in the One the Father has sent" speaking in third person, of course.

Jesus, nothing else is required for your salvation.

Jesus, nothing else is required for the enjoyment of life.

Jesus, nothing else is the target, the bullseye that you soul longs for.

Jesus, nothing else will satisfy you.

**Jesus and only Jesus will fill you with the very thing your mind, soul and body craves.**

What does the human crave? Why do people turn to drugs or alcohol? Sure to "numb the pain" but what more are they doing? They are looking to soothe the ache of their heart for something supernatural, something more real than their disappointments. Why do many look to ambition to find their identity and sense of worth? They do so because they've yet to experience Jesus!

Imagine having an amazing Bible study where people were coming to faith every single week. It just keep growing and in fact, the "entire region" was coming to your Bible study. Some would call that a new church, in fact. That's what happened in Colossae. The only problem is, some new converts from Judaism started to mess up the simplicity of this new Christ-centered

community. Where once, they were passionate about serving one another, praying for one another, now they were bent on impressing one another with a new Jewish protocol that made them look a little more spiritual than the next guy. This is a classic trap among.

### *A LITTLE DEEPER*

The temptation that arises out of that is this idea can be summed up in a phrase I've heard over the years. Sometimes this phrase comes from a beautiful place of genuine hunger for God. Other times, it comes from a place of self-righteousness. It's the kind of thing that ruins a church small group. It comes from someone implying that they have a "deeper truth" or "greater revelation." It's really bad when that same person soon implies that it's a relation that's hard to acquire and that really only them and "\_\_\_\_\_" fill-in-the-blank of their spiritual guru can get it.

This sort of philosophy of "wanting something deeper than Jesus" drives a wedge between new believers and seasoned believers whereas the beauty of grace builds a bridge and unites believers. I remember serving under my dad's ministry when a certain woman kept using this phrase. Sure enough, in a matter of months, she single-handedly demolished a life group. It turns out people don't want to attend a group where that one person is the only one that has that "special revelation" and uses jargon no one else can understand.

I personally witnessed this when someone in our church had gone bananas over getting a copy of "John G Lake's healing handbook." She was absolutely floored that *she* had a copy! It was only a matter of weeks before she shared on Facebook quote after quote of a certain minister. I clicked one of his videos. My skin was crawling the entire time he spoke. A minister *should* carry a spirit of humility and gratitude; in his case it was replaced with a pretentious demeanor illustrated by phrases like "this revelation I have was very difficult to come by." He made many remarks like this. The moment that led me to shut my laptop in frustration, the line that put me right over the edge was when he said "For those of you that are listening at home, you should know that you probably won't be able to receive this revelation I have." Be careful of any minister, online, on Facebook or in person, that speaks with this tone - this implication "I have something that you probably don't have and probably won't get"

This sort of self-righteousness masquerades as spiritual hunger or spiritual enlightenment and can deceive some into joining in. This same person, imagine this, ended up causing some major division in our church, causing many to leave our church family, believing things that were simply not true.

Whenever someone says to you "I just need to go a little deeper" Ask what they mean. They could be VERY sincere and truly just wanting to be closer to God and that is AWESOME! If it's not about knowing Jesus in a deeper way, then run. If it's more like "I just think the people at this church and the sermons are just too simple for me." Then you probably should run - run away from that person and run fast.

The beatify of Jesus and His grace is an unfolding relation that is more beautiful every day and it's available to EVERYONE. You are not more likely to have a greater revelation than someone else. **We are all brothers and sisters and share in the same grace that our older brother Jesus provides - the reaction of our Father and His goodness!**  
**The warnings Paul gave to the Colossian church, we should receive for ourselves. Jesus is the fulfillment of man's desire. Jesus is the visible image of the invisible God. Jesus is everything you've been looking for!**

Jesus and only Jesus, can satisfy the longings within you. The Holy Spirit brings attention and glory to Jesus. The more you're filled with the Spirit the more you want to know Jesus and have JESUS be seen in you. The deeper you go in the Holy Spirit, the more like Jesus you'll become. And what was Jesus like? Bold but accessible. Firm but gentle. Friend or Enemy. He was never responded to with apathy. You either loved him or you hated him. Christ-followers likely have this same reaction.

We must take Paul's warning to the Christians in Colossae and apply to our modern age. We can accidentally import our cultural norms into the Bible's text and change it to mean what we *want* it to mean instead of what it actually means. We can bring in our family's traditions and imply that everything we think and we can impose rules and cultural norms in order to be part of the "in-group." That exclusion mentality is dangerous and we must keep our hearts free from that. Jesus was the most inclusive, welcoming, gracious, friendly person walking around Israel. His friendliness and willingness to accept all and have dinner with anyone drove people crazy! He was even given a nickname because of it ... Friend of Sinners. Lord, may we too have such a nickname because our love is so real, so genuine, so authentic. Today, we have Christians who are more passionate about making a post online than making a friend nearby. Why? Their love has grown cold. They've become puffed up. And if we're not careful that can happen to us! What happen in Colossae can happen to us. We need a relation of God's grace towards us!

We need reminded of the grace of God that saved us and be sure to communicate that to everyone that joins our church or life group. Many people truly have good intentions to be "good people" and that intention can lead them into adopting cultural norms that are pressured upon them by deceived Christians. Our goal is not to Americanize Christians who come to our small group or church.

**Our goal is neither to get them to view everything the way we view things. Our goal is to love and befriend them and walk them through a process of surrendering their life over to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Our goal is get them to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit and follow *His* prompting and *His* leading. Our goal is not that they agree with our values but that they agree with Biblical values. Our goal is that they are rooted in grace.**

We point one another towards the Bible and the centerpiece of the Bible who is Jesus, Himself. The more we focus our attention on the "Darling of Heaven" to steal Darlene Zschech's words, the fewer arguments and divisions we'll have among us. The more unity we have in our adoration of Jesus, the more lost people will see Jesus in our unity and come to salvation.

That woman told everyone in town and the Bible says that they all came out to see the man she described! Most of them believed in Jesus as the sound of his preaching! One minute she was a reprobate, a sinner, likely even prostitute. And if not a prostitute, simply a woman who couldn't have kids which is why she was passed from one husband to the next because in that culture it was a real mark of shame if you couldn't have kids.

**One minute that woman was avoiding people in her shame. The minute after an encounter with Jesus and His grace, she's an evangelist! May we be rooted in grace once again and see a mighty revival in Trumbull County! In every church we start and here in Rock of Grace Kinsman campus!**

Maybe we haven't seen many salvations lately because it's possible that we've forgotten about grace! We've let that same spirit of self-righteousness has creep into our hearts. It's that "older brother" syndrome from Luke 15 we talked about last week. The strange thing about pride is that the only person who can't see it is the one who has it. Spiritual pride is a subtle, ugly thing.

It's like putting makeup on a snake. You must kill that snake the minute it tries to raise it's head, in your *own* heart first, and second in the life of your community. When that snake raises it's head, squash it by pointing to the forgiveness of *your* sins by the blood of Jesus Christ.

**Part 2. Good Works**

**Part 3. Generosity**

**Part 4. Gods Word**

**Great stuff in here: <https://youtu.be/E8jnSGkQ70A>**