

TO UNDERSTAND GRACE CONSIDER

1 Who We Were Without Christ

- There is none righteous, not even one (**Rm.3:10**)
- We have all sinned, and fall short of the glory of God (**Rm.3:23**)
- The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked (**Je.17:9**)
- Unregenerate man is dead in trespasses and sins (**Ep.2:1**)
- Wrath of God abides upon all unbelievers (**Jn.3:18,36**)

2 Who We Become With Christ

- Grace is what saves us (**Ep.2:8**)
- Grace is the essence of the Gospel (**Ac.20:24**)
- Grace gives us victory over sin (**Jm.4:6**)
- The Bible repeatedly calls grace a “gift” (**Ep.2:8**)



GRACE AS A GIFT

- 1 Nothing is owed in return**
Grace/Gift is different than a loan - Loan requires payment
- 2 A gift is free to the recipient**
Gift is not free to the giver
- 3 A gift once given has transferred ownership and now is ours to keep**
Giver gives up right to take back what was given
- 4 A gift is a voluntary exchange from giver to recipient**
2Co.8:9, Know the grace of our Lord - though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor
- 5 A gift is completely unmerited by the recipient**
We do not deserve God's salvation