

It's All About The Tools

Gary Plauger - December 9, 2018

Hosea 4:6 "...My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge..."

Point 1: We are Saved by Grace:

- Ephesians 2:8-10 "it is by grace, (unmerited favor), you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Grace is receiving something we do not deserve, while mercy is not getting something we do deserve. (Barabas)

Point 2: We are empowered by Grace:

- Titus 2:11-14 "For the Grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope--the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good."

Strong's 5485: Charis; graciousness, the divine influence upon the heart, and the outward reflection in the life; including gratitude:--acceptable, benefit, favor, gift, grace (joy, liberality, pleasure, thank, thanks, thankworthy.:

Point 3: We are equipped by Grace:

- Romans 12:6-9 New King James Version (NKJV) ⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith; ⁷ or ministry, *let us use it* in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; ⁸ he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Point 4: We access through Faith:

- 2 Peter 1:2-11 New King James Version (NKJV) ² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the ⁵ [\[a\]](#)corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

Fruitful Growth in the Faith

- ⁵ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control ⁷ [\[b\]](#)perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸ For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither ⁹ [\[c\]](#)barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be even

more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹ for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Point 5: Grace is evident to others:

- Acts 11:22-23 New King James Version (NKJV) ²² Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. ²³ When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord.