

By Grace Through Faith

Bill Cullen, 2025

We are saved by grace.

- We are saved by ...
 - Jesus' suffering and death in atonement for our sins and the sins of all people (*Eph. 2:8; 1 Tim. 2:3-6; 1 Jn. 2:2*),
 - and by Jesus' resurrection providing us with new life (*2 Cor. 5:17; Ro. 6:5-11; Tit. 3:4-7*).

Means of Grace

- The Holy Spirit in the offering/communication of grace (Jesus' work in His death and resurrection) has "means" He uses to communicate said grace (what Jesus has done and is doing (e.g., Word and Sacrament)).
- Through such communication/means, the Holy Spirit impregnates the hearer with the sperm of grace. If grace is not rejected, faith is birthed. Through such faith the offered grace is subsequently worthily received (receive with worth having birthed and/or nurtured newness of life).
- Word and Sacrament are not grace in themselves. They are "means" the Holy Spirit uses to *communicate* grace (Jesus' salvific and regenerative work) and to *birth* and *nurture* faith which receives/believes Jesus' grace and work (*Jn. 20:31; Ro. 10:14-17; 2 Th. 2:13-14*).
- Jesus' death and resurrection is God's grace incarnate.

Faith and Grace

- Grace is not offered/communicated merely to those having the faith to receive it. If this were the case, grace would not be unconditional and faith would become a good work as it would be a prerequisite (condition) to grace being offered.
- Faith receives grace and responds to it; it does not create grace. Faith does not create Jesus' death and resurrection. Grace is the stimulus initiated by God. Faith is a God-stimulated response to grace.
- Faith, as it is birthed/stimulated through the communicated grace, worthily receives (enables grace to have personal/subjective worth) the benefits of Jesus' death and resurrection (*Eph. 2:8-9; Tit. 3:4-7*).
- If faith is not birthed/stimulated (and unfortunately, sometimes it is not) when grace is communicated (through Word and/or Sacrament), that grace has no tangible/personal worth for the individual. It has no meaning for the individual, thus it is heard/received unworthily, without worth.

Means of Grace Revisited

Grace is freely and unconditionally offered in Word and Sacrament in order that the Holy Spirit might use them to stimulate (birth and nurture) faith. Such God stimulated faith worthily receives the grace that God freely and unconditionally offers everyone (*1 Tim. 2:3-6; 1 Jn. 2:2; 1 Jn. 4:9-10*). Worthily receiving = grace having personal/subjective worth/value for the hearer. Again, Grace freely offered may or may not be worthily received.

- We share Scripture with people who do not yet have faith because we believe it is a "means" the Holy Spirit can and does use to stimulate/birth faith, enabling one to enjoy the grace offered (*Jn. 20:31*).
 - Although sometimes the Scriptures are heard unworthily (faith is not always stimulated—birthed or nurtured), that does not stop us from sharing the Scriptures as we hope and pray they will have their desire effect.
- We baptize infants because we believe the Holy Spirit can and does use baptism as a "means" to stimulate/birth faith, enabling one to enjoy the grace offered.
 - Although not every baptized person ends up having faith and thus that baptism lacked its intended worth (baptized unworthily), that does not stop us from baptizing infants as we hope and pray the Holy Spirit uses this "means" to communicate God's love and Jesus' salvific work.

- If the Lord's Supper is a "means" God uses to communicate God's unconditional grace (like Scripture and baptism are), it needs to be offered freely and unconditionally (as Scripture and baptism are). To make faith and/or doctrinal agreement a prerequisite is to turn faith and doctrinal agreement into a good work by which one now "merits" grace before it is or can be even offered.
 - Faith is a God stimulated response to grace, not a work by which we merit grace.
 - If faith to receive the Holy Supper is not birthed or present, the Holy Supper is received unworthily (it does not have personal/subjective worth) for the receiver, but this does not negate God's worthy invitation and offer.
 - Just like Scripture and baptism, the Lord's Supper can be worthily or unworthily received, but God still freely and unconditionally seeks to use these means to communicate His love and grace.
 - Jesus' grace is for all. The Lord's Supper is a means of that grace which is for all.
 - If the Lord's Supper is Jesus' body which was broken for all and His blood shed for all, they ought to be offered to all. (1 Tim. 2:3-6; 1 Jn. 2:2; 1 Jn. 4:9-10).
 - When we go to the Lord's Table for the Lord's Supper, we are not going to a Lutheran table, a Catholic table, a Baptist, etc. table. We are going to God's table. We are not going for a Lutheran supper, a Catholic supper, a Baptist, etc. supper. We are going for the LORD's Supper. It is Jesus who has invited us to His table as He offered Himself and died for all and as He invites all to receive His grace.

Regarding Doctrinal Purity and Unity

We are united as one body not because of doctrinal purity and/or doctrinal agreement. We are one because Jesus' death and resurrection has made us one (1 Cor. 12:12-26; Eph. 2:13-22; Eph. 3:14-15; Eph. 4:3-6).

- We are saved, members of the Christian family, and one with one another not because of our shared views on the Lord's Supper, or our shared views on any other doctrinal issues other than upon the doctrine of being saved by God's grace manifest in the person and work of Jesus and enjoyed by faith in this salvific work.
- Other doctrinal issues are very important as they emanate from the teachings of Jesus to be believed and obeyed (Mt. 28:19-20; 1 Tim. 4:16), but it is Jesus' death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sin and the newness of life that makes us family and that makes us one (Eph. 2:13-22).
- Doctrinal differences ought not be causes of division (1 Cor. 1:10-17; 1 Cor. 11:17-26; Phil. 2:1-5), rather they ought to bring us humbly to the table for prayer and study in and around the Word (Acts 17:11).
- It is not doctrinal differences in themselves that cause divisiveness, but the self-righteousness, and the quarrelsome attitude and demeanor that all too often accompany the differences. When a humble, seeking, and teachable spirit and demeanor exists between and among those with differences, differences can and usually do become enlightening and everyone grows as differences are shared and prayerfully discussed (Pr. 10:19; Mt. 7:1-5; Mt. 12:36-37; Acts 17:11; Ro. 12:3-21; Ro. 14:1; Ro. 15:1-2; 1 Cor. 8:1; Gal. 6:1-2; Eph. 4:29; Col. 3:16; Col. 4:6; 2 Tim. 2:14-26; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Jas. 1:19,26; 1 Jn. 1:7-10).

1 John 2:1-2 (NIV)

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin.

But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—

Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

***²He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,
and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.***



By Grace Through Faith For Works

Saved by Grace—Saved for Service

1. We are saved solely by God's unconditional and limitless grace most demonstrably unfolded in Jesus' suffering and death in atonement for the sins of all humankind for all time. (*Jn. 3:16; Jn. 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:3-6*)
 2. This atonement is mediated to humanity by the Holy Spirit using such means as Word (Holy Scripture) and Sacraments (Baptism and the Lord's Supper) whereby, in the receptor of grace, faith is stimulated (birthed and/or strengthened). (*Jn. 3:5-6; Jn. 20:31; Ro. 10:17; 1 Cor. 11:26; 2 Th. 2:13-14; 2 Tim. 3:15; Tit. 3:5-6—Jn. 1:14; Heb. 1:1-3; Heb. 12:2*)
 3. As faith is birthed, grace, is worthily received (received with worthy), is experienced and enjoyed, and Jesus through His Spirit takes up residence in the believer. (*Jn. 3:3-6; Ro. 6:3-4; 2 Cor. 4:10-11; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20; Gal. 3:27*)
 4. A step at a time, Jesus, residing in a person, begins to mature within him/her. As Jesus matures in a person, the person increasingly manifests Jesus' presence and character in "the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." (*Jn. 15:4-5,8,12,16-17; Ro. 6:11,13; 2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 4:19; Gal. 5:22-23,25; Phil. 3:12-16; Col. 1:28-29; Col. 3:12-14; 2 Pe. 1:3-8*)
 5. As Jesus matures in us and we mature in Him, Jesus' agenda increasing becomes our (the believer's) agenda. (*Mt. 20:25-28; Mt. 28:19-20; Lk. 19:10; Jn. 3:16-17; Jn. 13:12-17,34-35; Jn. 17:15-18; Gal. 5:6; Eph. 4:11-13,16; Phil. 2:12-13; Col. 1:24,28-29; 1 Tim. 2:3-7; 1 Pe. 2:9; 1 Jn. 3:16; 1 Jn. 4:7-12*)
 6. As Jesus matures in us and we in Him, we increasingly seek His Kingdom (His kingly reign of love) in all things, and in love we strive to faithfully live out our citizenship as citizens of the Kingdom of God. (*Mt. 3:1-2; Mt. 4:17; Mt. 6:10,33; Mt. 10:8; Mt. 11:12; Mt. 12:28; Lk. 17:20-21; Acts 28:23,30-31; 1 Cor. 16:14; Phil. 2:12-13*)
 7. **Dietrich Bonhoeffer** wrote in his book ***The Cost of Discipleship***: "Salvation is free but discipleship with cost you your life." (*Lk. 9:23*)
 8. **Martin Luther** made the following statements in his "**Treatise on Christian Liberty**":
 - "A man does not live for himself alone in this mortal body to work for it alone, but he lives also for all men on earth; rather, he lives only for others and not for himself. To this end he brings his body into subjection that he may the more sincerely and freely serve others."
 - "This is a truly Christian life. Here faith is truly active through love (*Gal. 5:6*), that is, it finds expression in works of freest service, cheerfully and lovingly done, with which a man willingly serves another without hope of reward; and for himself he is satisfied with the fullness and wealth of his faith."
 - "...the Apostle has prescribed this rule for the life of Christians, namely, that we should devote all our works to the welfare of others, since each has such abundant riches in his faith that all his other works and his whole life are a surplus with which he can by voluntary benevolence serve and do good to his neighbor."
 - "He does not distinguish between friends and enemies or anticipate their thankfulness or unthankfulness, but he most freely and most willingly spends himself and all that he has, whether he wastes all on the thankless or whether he gains a reward."
 - "From Christ the good things have flowed and are flowing into us. He has so "put on" us and acted for us as if he had been what we are. From us they flow on to those who have need of them so that I should lay before God my faith and my righteousness that they may cover and intercede for the sins of my neighbor which I take upon myself and so labor and serve in them as if they were my very own. That is what Christ did for us. This is true love and the genuine rule of a Christian life."
 - "We conclude, therefore, that a Christian lives not in himself, but in Christ and in his neighbor. Otherwise he is not a Christian. He lives in Christ through faith, in his neighbor through love. By faith he is caught up beyond himself into God. By love he descends beneath himself into his neighbor. Yet he always remains in God and in his love."
- Gal. 5:6,13-14; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:8-10; Jas. 1:22,27; Jas. 2:17,26, Ro. 8:5-12; 2 Cor. 3:4-6; Eph. 3:20; Phil. 1:6; 1 Jn. 3:1-2; 1 Jn. 3:16-----1 Jn. 2:1-2**



Scriptures Cited Using the NIV

(Listed in the order they are found in Scripture, not in order they are used in the article.)

___ **Proverbs 10:19** ¹⁹When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

___ **Matthew 7:1-5** ¹ Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. ³ “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

___ **Matthew 12:36-37** ³⁶ But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. ³⁷ For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”

___ **Matthew 28:19-20** ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

___ **Luke 9:23** ²³ Then he said to them all: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

___ **John 20:31** ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

___ **Acts 17:11** ¹¹ Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

___ **Romans 6:5-11** ⁵ If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. ⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

___ **Romans 10:14-15,17** ¹⁴ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ¹⁵ And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”... ¹⁷ Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

___ **Romans 12:3-21** ³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. ⁴ Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. ⁷ If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸ if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully. ⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink...” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

___ **Romans 14:1** ¹ Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.

___ **Romans 15:1-2** ¹ We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. ² Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.

___ **1 Corinthians 1:10-17** ¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. ¹¹ My brothers, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. ¹² What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ." ¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized into the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I am thankful that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so no one can say that you were baptized into my name. ¹⁶ (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

___ **1 Corinthians 8:1** Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that we all possess knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.

___ **1 Corinthians 11:17-26** ¹⁷ In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. ¹⁸ In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. ¹⁹ No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval. ²⁰ When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, ²¹ for as you eat, each of you goes ahead without waiting for anybody else. One remains hungry, another gets drunk. ²² Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you for this? Certainly not! ²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

___ **1 Corinthians 12:12-26** ¹² The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

___ **1 Corinthians 16:14** ¹⁴ Do everything in love.

___ **2 Corinthians 5:17** ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

___ **Galatians 5:6** ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

___ **Galatians 6:1-2** ¹ Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. ² Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

___ **Ephesians 2:8-10** ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

___ **Ephesians 2:13-22** ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. ¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

___ **Ephesians 3:14-15** ¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

___ **Ephesians 4:3-6** ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit— just as you were called to one hope when you were called— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

___ **Ephesians 4:29** ²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

___ **Philippians 2:1-5** ¹ If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. ⁴ Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

___ **Colossians 3:16** ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

___ **Colossians 4:5-6** ⁵ Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. ⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

___ **2 Thessalonians 2:13-14** ¹³ But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

___ **1 Timothy 2:3-6** ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all men....

___ **1 Timothy 4:16** ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

___ **2 Timothy 2:14-16, 22-26** ¹⁴ Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. ¹⁶ Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly.... ²² Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. ²³ Don’t have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord’s servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. ²⁵ Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

___ **2 Timothy 3:15-17** ¹⁵ from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

___ **Titus 3:4-7** ⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

___ **James 1:19,26-27** ¹⁹ My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,... ²⁶ If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

___ **1 John 1:7-10** ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. ⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

___ **1 John 2:2** ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

___ **1 John 3:16** ¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

___ **1 John 4:9-10** ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Love  Faith

Galatians 5:6



Luke 9:23 – 1 John 3:16