

# **The Gift of Grace**

## Seeing God as He Really Is

### **Psalm 86:5**

For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.

### **Psalm 31:19**

Oh, how great is Your goodness, which You have laid up for those who fear You, which You have prepared for those who trust in You in the presence of the sons of men!

### **Psalm 33:5**

He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

### **Matthew 19:16-17**

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

### **Romans 3:12**

They have all turned aside; they have together become unprofitable; there is none who does good, no, not one.

### **Matthew 7:11**

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

- **We are born in a fallen, sinful state and the only chance we have to be good is through the Holy Spirit's work in our lives.**

### **Galatians 5:22**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness...

- **Our concept of who God is – is primarily shaped by fallen humans (our parents).**

### **Genesis 1:27-28**

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

**Matthew 7:11**

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

- **The only way we can truly understand the goodness of God is by direct revelation from God.**

**Exodus 33:1-5**

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Depart and go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your descendants I will give it.' "And I will send My Angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanite and the Amorite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite. Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in your midst, lest I consume you on the way for you are a stiff-necked people." And when the people heard this bad news, they mourned, and no one put on his ornaments. For the LORD had said to Moses, "Say to the children of Israel, 'You are a stiff-necked people. I could come up into your midst in one moment and consume you. Now therefore, take off your ornaments, that I may know what to do to you.' "

**Exodus 33:18-19**

And he said, "Please, show me Your glory." Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."

**Exodus 34:5-7**

Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

## **What Does God Look Like?**

### **1. Merciful**

**Hebrews 4:14-16**

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet

without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

## **2. Gracious**

### **Hebrews 4:16**

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

## **3. Longsuffering**

### **Hebrews 13:5b**

For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

### **Galatians 5:22**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness...

### **1 Corinthians 13:4a**

Love suffers long and is kind.

### **Proverbs 18:24b**

There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

## **4. Abounding in Goodness**

### **Psalms 145:9**

The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.

### **Genesis 1:31a**

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.

### **Galatians 5:22**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness...

## **5. Abounding in Truth**

### **Matthew 24:35**

"Heaven and earth will pass away, my word will never pass away."

## **6. Forgiving**

**Matthew 18:22**

Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

**Psalm 103:12-14**

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

**7. Just****Exodus 34:9**

Then he said, "If now I have found grace in Your sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray, go among us, even though we are a stiff-necked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us as Your inheritance."

**Exodus 34:29**

Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him.