

## The Overture of Grace

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**Text:** 1 Corinthians 15:10 *But by the grace of God I am what I am:* and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I **laboured more abundantly** than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

Let me begin by saying, ~ *Everything we have, we have just received from God!*

-John 3:27(kjv) A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.

-1Cor.4:7(easy english) You yourselves are no better than other people. **God gave everything that you have** to you. You know that. **What you have was a gift.** So, you should not think that you are more important than anyone else. You have no reason to think that.

~Church in everything, stop complaining and start giving thanks!

Overture - means, an approach or proposal made to someone with the aim of opening negotiations or establishing a relationship.

~The thing about sin is that it eats up everything and anything in our life; either gradually or instantaneously.

~If we are not careful we can accept sin as normal, and should never be hated in our life.

~Sin gets through us via Three avenues (1Jn2:16) of a Man's life.

1.) Lust of the Flesh - You! You are your worst enemy. Your addiction, your sinful habits, substance dependency, enslaving activities and tolerance to stand in the neutral ground of lukewarmness, status quo and contentment with no growth. Is the

number one avenue where sin can go through our life.

2.) Lust of the Eyes - The world, the enemy, the media, the movies, the advertisements, the material things, paintings and ornaments, hollywood gadgets, technological multimedia and worldliness, all work against us, to arouse, to entice, to tempt and to cause a man or woman to fall.

When a man or woman is spiritually irresponsible he or she can get caught up in a world of lies and acceptance that change and victory over these are next to impossibility.

*Proverbs 27:20 The eyes of man are never satisfied.*

*Psalms 101:3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes:*

~Only one thing can encourage us, give us hope, and assure us the victory it is called the unchanging, rich and abundant grace of God!

3.) Pride of Life - Fame and popularity, power and self image, unsubmission and insubordination to God and spiritual leadership, all these are epitomes of the PRIDE in our life.

~Let this mind be in you which is in Christ Jesus who being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation, took upon him the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of man. --- Church this is the Grace of God, culminating all to the Cross of Calvary!

~ A man is 1) tempted, and then 2) lured by his own lust or "grk. Exelko" meaning lured from restraints and discipline like a fish being lured from the safety of its hiding place by the very lust within, then man is 3)

Enticed, entrapped, deluded, allured or deceived, and the dangerous thing about being deceived is that they don't know they are deceived. So the bible says don't be deceived because, "When Lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin and sin when finished results in death.

Sin is sin and God hates Sins.

I give you 7 reasons not to sin:

1. Because sin leads to more sin - Prov.5:22 - The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him, the cords of his sin hold him fast.
2. Sin leads to worst sin - Prov.14:12 There is a way that seems right into a man, but the end of it is death.
3. Sin enslaves
4. The wages of sin is death
5. Sin steals joy
6. Sin hurts, both the Lord and the sinner ~Sin is like spitting on His face and making a mockery of His Great Love.
7. Your sin will always find you out
  - Numbers 32:23 – You may be sure that your sin will find you out.
  - In God's universe, nobody really gets away with anything!
  - 1 Timothy 5:24 – The sins of some men are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them.
  - Ecclesiastes 12:14 – For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

~Don't ever think for a second that Sin is okay with God.

~God loves the sinner but He will always hate the sin!

~So Thank God, for His Grace is sufficient for us, For his strength is made perfect in weakness.

### The Overture of Grace:

1. Conviction - John 8:9  
God sends conviction and not \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Confession - 1 Jn. 1:9  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_ with God is good for our soul.
3. Chastisement - Heb. 12:5-11  
Chastisement shows God's \_\_\_\_\_ for His own children.
4. Open Rebuke - 2 Samuel 12:1-6  
Open rebuke is \_\_\_\_\_ than \_\_\_\_\_ Love.
5. Judgement - 2 Chronicles 36:15-17  
Ezekiel 18:30-32 -

### Application:

1. Always respond to God's conviction.
2. Always have an openness to God and His word, and confess your sins to God with all honesty.
3. Receive chastisement, and remember where you have fallen. Learn from others mistakes but more than this, learn from your own mistakes.
4. When put to an open shame or open rebuke don't resist God. Like David Repent right away for the sins committed.
5. Submit to God's Judgement also repent and turn away as this is the last attempt in the overture of God's grace.

~We are now capable of good judgement as mature christians but a lot of these good judgements came from the bad judgements we have made in the past.