

# GROWING IN GRACE

*2 Peter 3:18*

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How am I realizing my own personal need for a deeper experience of grace?

Two obstacles to growth in grace

1. Self – all about you and not about God
2. False grace

How do you know someone is saved by grace?

- They take seriously sin and God's law.
- Grace can and must produce a genuine heart change once it is answered by wholehearted faith.

Three things needed for growth in grace

1. Expose myself to grace
2. Appropriate grace
3. Express grace

## **I. Exposure to Grace**

- a. Jesus
- b. Scripture
- c. Relationships
  - Family
  - Close friends/mentors
  - Small groups
  - Church congregation

## II. Appropriation of God's Grace

- a. Recognize the need – the continued need

Some people:

- See no need for grace
- Take grace for granted
- Know the need but can't accept the fact of "falling short"

- b. Confess and repent of sin

- *1 John 1:9*

- *James 5:16*

- *Psalms 66:18*

Why is this so important? Is it something God needs?

c. Constantly reaffirm/remind myself of God's grace

d. Learn to live in conscious fellowship with God

### **III. Expressing God's Grace – *Matthew 10:8***

So, how has grace changed your life?

*Acts 20:32*