

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Grace & Generosity | Pastor Mike McKinney

Monday, Oct. 20 - Sunday, Oct. 26 (Week 6)

In this sermon, Pastor Mike explores the theme of "grace & generosity" through the lens of 2 Corinthians chapter 8:1-7, focusing on the grace of God as the driving force behind true generosity. The sermon begins by highlighting the context of the Macedonian churches, who, despite experiencing severe affliction and extreme poverty, overflowed with an abundance of joy that led to a wealth of generosity. This generosity was not coerced but was a natural outpouring of the grace of God in their lives.

Pastor Mike emphasizes that the Macedonians' joy and generosity were not rooted in their circumstances but in the empowering grace of God, which provided them with strength and joy beyond earthly understanding. He distinguishes between saving grace, which brings us to faith in Christ, and empowering grace, which sustains and strengthens believers in their daily walk.

The sermon challenges us to consider how God's grace can transform our own lives, leading us to experience joy and generosity even in difficult times. Pastor Mike encourages us to seek more of Christ's presence, as true joy is found in Him, and to detach from worldly attachments, reattaching our hearts to the ultimate reality of Christ.

In closing, the sermon invites us to pray for an outpouring of God's joy in our lives and to support one another in our spiritual journeys, trusting in the sufficiency of God's grace.

QUESTION #1 - The sermon distinguishes between "saving grace" and "empowering grace." How would you describe the difference between these two types of grace in your own words?

QUESTION #2 - Can you share a personal experience where you felt you received and experienced empowering grace in your life? How did that experience impact you?

QUESTION #3 - The Macedonian church gave out of their extreme poverty. What does this teach us about the nature of true generosity?

QUESTION #4 - What are some "severe tests of affliction" you are currently facing, and how do they impact your sense of joy?

QUESTION #5 - In what areas of your life do you find it challenging to trust in God's empowering grace?

QUESTION #6 - How can you give yourself "first to the Lord" in your daily life, as the Macedonians did, and what might that look like for you in practical terms?



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