

Christian

Seeking

Identity

February 2018

Greetings Family & Friends,

This year we have had an early ministry start as we hosted the CBC Colorado mission team in Salinas, Ecuador. The team truly displayed to the people the “manifold wisdom of God” (Eph.3:10) as they ministered to everyone that they encountered. The team was “fitly joined together” (Eph.4:16) in their ministry and every part (member) perfectly displayed the love of God as they ministered to those that they encountered. This leads me to what our message is in this month’s newsletter, “Unforced Rhythms of Grace” where we look at how sometimes due to misunderstandings, traditions or incorrect teachings we have found ourselves asking “why doesn’t the word of God work in my life?” We do all that we know to do and what we read in the Bible but still we find ourselves in a vacuum zone of nothing is working. We pray that the teaching will be a blessing to you and answer some of the questions that you might have.

God Bless you!
Your friends,
Mickey & Suzan

Unforced Rhythms of Grace

We are living in the last days. The newspaper reads like the Bible. Things are happening all around us; Things that make Christians want to give up and hide their heads in the sand.

Matthew 24:12 *And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.*

It is not just the things of the world that are causing Christians to lose heart. Many Christians are caught in a void where what they know about God is not playing itself out in their lives. They find themselves caught in this in between zone. They have accepted Jesus and they are dedicated to Him. They have studied the word that says that they have become a new creation and yet they are powerless when it comes to walking in the truth that they know. I know because I used to be caught in the same trap.

It seems like the more that I knew about God, the more frustrated I became because walking out what I knew was like trying to catch a hot dog on a stick.

2 Timothy 3:7 *Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

I am convinced that the problem is connected to the general misconceptions that we have about the grace of God. Grace is more than unmerited favor, and it is more than just knowing that God is not holding our sins against us. Although both of these ideas may describe something about grace, neither defines grace.

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According to its Greek definition, grace is the power of influence that the Holy Spirit holds us together with. Grace is the tool that God has given us that empowers us to actually live the life of the new man. It is not our will power that ushers in this new creation life. It is God power working from the inside out in the form of the Holy Spirit that provides us with all the motivation, inspiration, direction and revelation that we need in order to walk out this Christian life effortlessly.



The indigenous bankers that the team ministered to.

Romans 7:6 *But now we are discharged from the Law and have terminated all intercourse with it, having died to what once restrained and held us captive. So now we serve not under [obedience to] the old code of written regulations, but [under obedience to the prompting's] of the Spirit in newness [of life].*

If you find yourselves living in a vacuum in this in-between zone where it is impossible to live out what you think you know, perhaps you too have missed the whole point of grace. Maybe you are trying to muscle out this life of rest that God says is so easy that even a child can't miss it! Ask God to give you a revelation of the unforced rhythms of grace and He will show you how to take a real rest.

Matthew 11:28-30 *"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest.*

Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

To learn more about this, go to our web site www.christianseekingidentity.com and watch the video teachings titled The Edge of Grace and Tearing Down Walls and Building Bridges listed under the What's New section.

These are the topics that we have currently been addressing in the Charis Bible Schools that we have been visiting. These particular videos were made during our recent trip to the CBC school in Greenville, South Carolina.

We just returned from Salinas, Ecuador where we spent 8 days with the Charis Bible College team from Woodland Park Colorado working with Pastor Danny Delgado and his wife Thania. Needless to say everyone had a great time both experiencing and ministering the love of God.

They tasted a little bit of everything. They ministered in 18 different churches and they ministered to people on the streets. They were invited to minister in a prayer meeting held by a group of Indigenous bankers and they prayed for the local mayor. They participated in outreach activities for children and visited a men's rehab center.

We kept them busy, but they also had plenty of time for sight-seeing and relaxing on the beach. They had time to process what they were experiencing and to simply bask in the love ♥ of God.

Every trip and every team is different. We can't wait to see what God has in store for the upcoming teams from Atlanta, Georgia and Toronto, Canada who we will be taking to Panama and Colombia.



Team Ministered in Men's Rehab