

Trained by Grace...Trained for Grace!

"You Make Me Crazy!" Series – Part 03

Connect: Describe an event this past week where you experienced someone extending grace (a favor you did not deserve) to you. Do you think their extension of grace to you was a special occurrence on their part or was it born of habit?

Hook: Two men were traveling together through Georgia and stopped at a restaurant for breakfast. One of them had never been in the south before. When their meal was delivered, the one who had never been south before saw this white, mushy looking stuff on his plate. When the waitress came by again he asked her what it was. "Grits", she replied. "Ma'am I didn't order it and I'm not paying for it". The waitress replied, "Sir, down here you don't order it and you don't pay for it, you just get it."

Can you name other things in life that are a lot like "grits" (you didn't ask for it, but you get it anyway)?

How can grace be a lot like grits?

In Titus 2:1-10, Paul writes that various groups of believers should beautify their lives with godliness and good deeds so as to attract others to the Savior. Paul gives instructions to older men and women, younger men and women, and even to servants on how they are to behave in this world. In verse 11, he gives the reason why.

Book:

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,

Titus 2:12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,

Titus 2:13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Titus 2:14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Titus 2:15 Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Look:

The entire chapter is based on this one foundational truth: *"the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people"*.

What is the meaning of verse 11 for you?

How has God's grace appeared?

How does it bring salvation?

Notice that the grace of God is also responsible for certain “training” or disciplines for every believer. READ verses 12-14 again.

Discuss the following:

How does God’s grace train us to renounce ungodliness?

How might God’s grace help us to combat worldly passions?

How will God’s grace help us to live disciplined and righteous lives?

Does God’s grace train us to have a backward and forward perspective? How?

In what ways does God’s grace set us free?

Is there a sense that God’s grace also limits our freedom?

Took:

In what areas of your life do you find it difficult to extend grace?

Are there areas where you find it difficult to receive grace?

Who do you need to extend grace to...even though they did not order it?