

SUSTAINING GRACE

Good News About Grace - part 3

"God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished. . ." Phil. 1:6 (NLT)

"...My purpose in writing is to encourage you and assure you that the grace of God is with you no matter what happens." 1 Pet. 5:12 (NLT)

GOD'S SUSTAINING GRACE . . .

1. It Helps Me Keep Standing Through Temptation

"Watch out for attacks from the Devil, your great enemy. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for some victim to devour. Take a firm stand against him, and be strong in your faith." 1 Pet. 5:8 (NLT)

"The temptations that you have are the same ones that all people have. But you can trust God. He will not let you be tempted more than you can stand. When you are tempted, God will also give you a way to escape. Then you will be able to stand it." 1 Cor. 10:13

2. It Helps Me Keep Standing When I'm Tired

"It is God who gives us. . .the ability to stand firm for Christ. He has commissioned us, and he has identified us as his own by placing the Holy Spirit in our hearts..." 2 Cor. 1:21-22 (NLT)

"Noah found GRACE in the eyes of the Lord." Gen. 6:8

"For God is at work within you, giving you the will and the power to achieve his purpose." Phil. 2:13 (Ph)

3. It Helps Me Keep Standing When I'm Troubled

"So don't worry, because I am with you. Don't be afraid, because I am your God. I will make you strong and will help you; I will support you with my right hand that saves you." Isa. 41:10 (NCV)

"God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble." Ps. 46:1 (NLT)

II. How To Receive God's Sustaining Grace

1. Call Out For God's Help

"God gives grace to the humble. So give yourselves completely to God...Draw close to God, and God will draw close to you." James 4:6-8 (NCV/NLT)

2. Fill Your Mind With God's Word

"I am...completely discouraged; revive me by your Word." Ps. 119:25 (NLT)

3. Accept Support From God's People

"By helping each other with your troubles, you truly obey the law of Christ." Gal. 6:2 (NCV)

4. Hold On To God's Promises

"He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint." Isa. 40:29-31 (NIV)

"So we don't look at the troubles we can see right now; rather, we look forward to what we have not yet seen. For the troubles we see will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever." 2 Cor. 4:18 (NLT)

"I begged the Lord three times to take this problem away from me. But He said to me, 'My grace is enough for you. When you are weak, then my power is made perfect in you.'" 2 Cor. 12:8-9