

SURRENDERING YOUR WILL

WK2: Will of Grace, 1 Peter 4-5

04.13.25 | Pastor Randy

SERMON NOTES:

- 1 Peter 2:24, 1 Peter 4:10
 - Definition of true JOY: Justified, Occupied, Yielded
 - Peter knew how a will of greed (self) battled against a will of grace (Jesus). You CANNOT serve both wills; your will MUST surrender to Jesus' will of grace.
 - Palm Sunday is a great example of this principle: the people cried Hosanna on Sunday and Crucify Him on Friday!
1. Serving in Grace: Grace is meant to be shared, not stored!
 - a. Live for Grace: Living grace begins with thinking grace, 1 Peter 4:1-2
 - b. Live in the Spirit: Preaching begins with living, then words follow, 1 Peter 4:6
 - c. Love others, serve others, speak Jesus to others: Attitude affects actions, 1 Peter 4:8-9, 11
 2. Suffering in Grace: True Grace brings the attacks of the enemy; suffering is not a sign that God hates you, but rather the devil hates you because you love God!
 - a. Rejoice in Suffering: Joy in suffering reveals Jesus' presence, 1 Peter 4:12-13
 - b. Do good in Suffering: Don't just endure suffering, glorify Jesus in the fire! 1 Peter 4:16, 19
 3. Shepherding in Grace: As God grows you (in age, wisdom, and authority), then you are called to greater responsibility to set the example of grace for others to follow!
 - a. Joyfully set the example for others to follow: Leading others is a blessing, not a burden, 1 Peter 5:2-4
 - b. Humility is the key that unlocks grace: Jesus exalted is self crucified, 1 Peter 5:5
 - c. Humble yourselves; cast off your worries; be alert to the enemy; resist the devil
 4. Conclusion: Stand firm in true grace! 1 Peter 5:12

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GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. Read I Peter 4:1-11; 3:18; 2:24; Romans 12; I Corinthians 12; Philippians 2. Jesus served others while He ministered on the earth. The Lord of glory and the King of kings served His sinful creation. Wow! How does Jesus call us to serve others as His followers? Are we only to serve those who deserve it or who we think will appreciate it? How do the gifts of the Holy Spirit equip us to serve others, not ourselves?
2. Read I Peter 4:12-19; Psalm 66:10; II Timothy 1:8-14. I Corinthians 10:13. Suffering is a part of following Jesus that we don't like or enjoy. Often, we view suffering as God punishing us rather than opportunities to purify sin and pursue Jesus. How do these passages teach us truth about suffering? What is an example from your life that proves the grace of Jesus? What is one time when the suffering impacted you negatively in your walk with Jesus and how would you handle it differently now?
3. Read I Peter 5; I Timothy 3; Titus 1. Being an elder in the church is a calling of God and not a right or a position to be purchased. An elder is supposed to set the physical example of Jesus so others can see how to live a life of holiness in a sin-cursed world. What are the qualifications of an elder? How are these qualifications put into practice in church? Who is someone that is an elder in a church that has impacted you in a good way to follow Jesus? Now read Titus 2. How are the elders (older in faith and age) supposed to lead the younger ones (in age and spirituality)? We teach at Journey the principle of pouring in/pouring out. Each person should have someone pouring into them spiritually AND each person should be pouring out into someone. Who is pouring into you and who are you pouring out to?
4. Read I Peter 5:6-11. This passage is often referred to as the call to action for EVERY believer. Notice the following words: humble, exalt, casting, sober-minded, watchful, resist, suffered, called, restore, confirm, strengthen, establish. How do these words impact your walk with Jesus and bring truth to your hope in the middle of testing and living? Notice: God confirms that victory is secure when we FOLLOW Jesus through the trials of this life. You cannot live a victorious life following the desires of your flesh, but you must follow the design of your gracious God! Peter is referred to as the apostle of hope. How does this passage confirm that hope?
5. Find one story from Peter's life that either demonstrates the positive illustration of these truths or demonstrates a negative illustration. Example: Luke 22:31-34. Jesus warned Peter about Satan's plan to test him, but Peter trusted his flesh over Jesus' strength, and Peter failed the test by denying Jesus three times.