

Speak grace to the mountain of forgiveness.

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

Today we talked about the covenant exchange and how God will unleash His power on your behalf. He instructs us to speak grace to the mountains of our lives and as we do, together we will level the mountains into plains. Zechariah 4:6,7 Do you see the impact of how speaking grace into your situations can make a difference, namely the place that God is calling you to walk out forgiveness?

Let's name some of the places that you know God is calling you to walk out forgiveness right now:

Now in prayer, as you start this study today, let's begin by speaking grace over these items. Prayerfully bring every situation before the Lord and ask Him to unleash His power on your behalf, that His grace would level the mountains of forgiveness into plains.

One of the biggest mountains that hinder forgiveness is this: I don't want to forgive them. It is really hard to align our feelings with what is right. Our feelings are just that, they are "ours" so we have a sense of entitlement with our woundedness. It is such a trap to break free from, this is where grace can break us free.

Grace is the Band-Aid that covers the wound, and while applied allows forgiveness to bring healing. It is a partnership. It isn't intended to cover for hiding sake; it is intended for healing sake.

When I know God is calling me to walk in forgiveness and I don't have the ability or even desire on my own, I come to Him for the covenant exchange, His strength for my weakness. At this moment the door for grace opens to begin the work of forgiveness in me.

I had a realization as I was working on this lesson today through my spellchecker. It kept highlighting every time I was spelling forgiveness as being spelled wrong and I realized I was typing it this way: forgiven~~ness~~, do you see it? Forgiven/ness maybe it isn't a typing error. Maybe that is where grace takes hold of us, when we stand in the place of our forgiven/ness instead of the place of our woundedness.

James 4:6,7 "But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

More Grace, not a predetermined allotment of grace, more grace. Can you wrap your head and heart around that? Wherever you have need of it, there is an ample supply for you. If I were to make bullet points from this scripture it would be this:

- Grace
- Humility
- Submission to God
- As I resist, the devil will flee

We find in the Strong's Concordance the word *grace* that is used in James 4 in the greek is *xáris* ("grace") answers directly to the Hebrew (OT) term *Kaná* ("grace, *extension-toward*"). Both refer to God *freely extending* Himself (*His favor, grace*), *reaching* (*inclining*) to people because He is *disposed* to bless (be near) them.

What stands out to you when you see this definition of grace? Write your response below:

Look up the following scriptures today on grace and write them below:

2 Peter 1:2

Psalm 84:11

2 Timothy 2:1

Praying with you and for you as we bring our humanity to God in an exchange for His grace in every situation. Speaking from my place of "forgiveness" today, I am anticipating the echoing sound of grace throughout our region!