

# STEWARDS OF GRACE

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Shofar Tableview

14<sup>th</sup> October 2018

# Shofar Tableview 2018

- # knownforlove
- Fishers of men
- Kinsmen redeemers
- Love is the door
- We are light and salt
- Cell leaders meeting

# Only God can save

- The love of the Father draws  
(John 6:19)
- Jesus the only Way  
(John 14:6)
- The Holy Spirit convicts  
(1 Thessalonians 1:5)

# .....but we are His co-workers

- Bronwyn:
  - Grandmother prayed
  - Crisis
  - Teacher at school told them about Shofar
- Jenny:
  - Crisis and convent
  - Stranger gave her a bible
  - Fellow nursing student invited her to Christian meeting

# We are God's stewards of Grace

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

(1 Peter 4:10)

# What is grace?

- Unmerited favour of God
- God giving us the opposite of what we deserve
- Grace is love that cares and stoops and rescues (John Scott)
- Human society runs by ungrace
- Grace is by definition unfair (David, thief on cross, me)
- We are taught grace by circumstances

# The example of Jesus: Grace and Truth

.....the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John 1:14)

Tax collectors/ prostitutes/ poor/ sick/ hungry etc

# Need a new revelation of God's grace in our lives

- For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2: 8-9)
- The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 1:14).



Need to be truthful about ourselves-  
where we come from, where we are,  
where we are going

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance:  
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom  
I am the worst.

(1 Timothy 1:15)

*Christian hypocrisy: acknowledge Jesus with mouth but  
deny him with lifestyle.*

# Do sinners welcome the Good News?

I am sending you out like sheep among **wolves**. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.  
(Matthew 10:16)

*Religious inoculation*



# Bestowing grace: parable of the Good Samaritan

- <sup>30</sup> In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; **and when he saw him, he took pity on him.** <sup>34</sup> **He went to him** and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii<sup>[e]</sup> and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’ (Luke 10)

# Conversation should be full of grace....

<sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. (Colossians 4:6)

<sup>29</sup> Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. (Ephesians 4:29)

<sup>11</sup> But when they arrest *you* and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, [\[d\]](#)or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. (Mark 13:11)

# Grace to the one that is different

- <sup>19</sup> Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. <sup>20</sup> To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. <sup>21</sup> To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. <sup>22</sup> To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. **I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.** <sup>23</sup> I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. (1 Corinthians 9)

# We need more grace to be stewards of grace

But He gives more grace. Therefore He says:

“God resists the proud,  
But gives grace to the **humble**.” (James 4:6)

# We are God's stewards of Grace

- People in Western world have become “hard” for the gospel of Jesus Christ
  - Christian hypocrisy: talk and walk differ
  - Religious inoculation: dead religion
- Our most powerful weapons to “soften” their hearts are
  - To be like Jesus: full of Grace and Truth
- Let's pray for daily opportunities to share God's grace and truth in our homes, neighbourhoods and the market place.