 **CHRIST COMPANION BIBLE CHURCH**

**Weekly Bible Study**

***Branch: HEADQUARTERS Date: 09/01/2024***

 **EMPOWERED, BY THE GRACE OF GOD. PART 2. STUDY 2.**

**Text**: Romans 6:1-15.

**Memory Verse**: *And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.* 2 Corinthians 12: 9

 Grace is a free gift that we receive from God for the purpose of pursuing and perfecting His good will in our lives. Do you know that there are parts of the world that do not receive light from the sun for weeks, despite the fact that the sun is there beaming and shinning all the time? The grace of God can be withheld from individual or group of people when it is abused or ingloriously taken for granted!

 **THE GRACE OF GOD IS NOT TO BE ABUSED. ROMANS 6:1-5. NUMBERS 3: 4.**

The grace of God is effective when a believer lives and operates based on the principle of God's kingdom, according to Romans 14:17. This is by having:

1. *Peace with God.*
2. *Righteousness of Christ and*
3. *Joy of the Holy Ghost.*

 This implies that:

 First, you maintain a close walk with God daily with nothing like guilty conscience allowed to stand in between you and God.

 Secondly, you ensure that you walk uprightly in your relations with fellow human beings in love and in all fairness. Doing that which is just and right will definitely boost the grace in your life. Psalm 84:11.

 Thirdly, Know the Holy Spirit as the masterful dispenser of the grace of God, and that when you walk and live justifiably with Him, He will lift you from one realm of grace to another higher level. Thus, the result of His wonderful communion is joy unspeakable, full of glory all the time!

 Thus, divine strength and energy are released into your life, whereby you are empowered to do unimaginable exploits to the glory of God's majesty! The results are growth, fruitful service, and bestowal of divine rich blessings!

 To come short of these rich experiences in Christ by ignoble dealing like Nadab and Abihu(who brought strange fire before the Lord ) is heartbroken, both to God and the individual concerned. Such must be avoided at all cost.

 The days and years ahead promise exciting exploits! Do not abuse the grace you have in Christ.

 **THE FOOLISHNESS OF ABUSING GRACE IN CHRIST. 1SAMUEL 16:1.**

 Abuse of the precious offer of grace will build obstacles on your path. This will either limit your possibilities in Christ, delay your rising or completely rob you of the privilege of fulfilling God's ultimate purpose here and hereafter like Saul!

 Let's look at few examples of such individuals and the regretful consequences that follow:

i. Nadab and Abihu. Numbers 3: 4. They brought strange fire before the Lord, and their Bishopric was lost to others!.

ii. Esau. Hebrew 12:16,17. He has a misplaced sense of value! He set temporarily carnal things above long lasting divine inheritance. He learnt and repented too late.

iii. Ammon. 2Samuel 3;2. This man by grace was positioned for the throne as the first son of David! He abused this grace by fleshly gratification in raping Tamar his half Sister. He lost all his latent privileges to lust and indecency.

iv. Judas Iscariot Act 1:15-20. Greediness, betrayal, love of money and spiritual blindness to the riches of grace became his ruin.

 Today, as wise pilgrims, ensure that you shun sin in your attempt to live, abound and enjoy the grace of God:

i. Hate sin and flee all appearances of evil. Hebrew 1:9.

ii. Develop deep affinity for holiness as evidenced by agape love in bearing fruits of the Holy Spirit.

iii. Receive not the grace of God in vain. Exercise your spiritual gifts in evangelism and services to the body of Christ.

 Above all, take communion of the Holy Spirit primer, and follow His leading passionately. 2Corinthians 13:14.

 When you do these and follow constantly with the revelations from the Lord, grace is sure to abound upon your life lavishly, even, to the very end of your race. Jude 24. Amen.

**HYMN : AMAZING GRACE (CHS 43)**

1. Amazing grace! how sweet the sound—

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost but now am found,

Was blind but now I see.

1. ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

And grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed!

1. The Lord has promised good to me,

His word my hope secures;

He will my shield and portion be

As long as life endures.

1. Through many dangers, toils and snares

I have already come;

‘Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,

And grace will lead me home.

1. When we’ve been there ten thousand years,

Bright shining as the sun,

We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise

Than when we’d first begun.