**CHRIST COMPANION BIBLE CHURCH**

**Weekly Bible Study**

***Branch: Headquarters Date:16/01/2024***

**EMPOWERED BY THE GRACE OF GOD (Part 3) Study 3.**

**Text: Hebrew 4:16; Titus 2:11-14.**

Memory Verses : **2 Peter 3:18 - *But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour******Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. Genesis 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.***

 Grace makes the impossible possible! All you need is to seek and find access to the abundant supply of the grace of God!

 It is important to note that God is always ready to supply the grace, so much as to match the needs and the task He places in your hand.

 This is in accordance with the word of God in Ephesians 3:20 KJV, which says:

***"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us"***.

 The power referred to, in the above scripture is the grace of the all-sufficient God that works beyond human understanding in His saints!

 Just like Paul and other Apostles attested to the exceeding riches and the power of this grace, everyone in Christ today can have similar experience of the abundant work of grace in their lives.

 Maximizing Grace For Uncommon Exploits. 1Corinthians 15:9,10; 2Corinthians 11:22,23.

 Grace is like electric current. Its presence and effect is noticed and felt when put to work. Grace averses idleness.

 In order to ensure and achieve wonderful outcome of grace as Christ's workmanship created for uncommon exploits, we need to understand the dynamics and principle that enhances its best performance.

 Let us consider the following points so as to maximize the grace of God in our personal life, services to God and fellow humans:

**1. Acknowledge that the grace comes from the Lord. Romans 15:13-16.**

Prophet Zachariah says, it is not by power, not by might, but by my Spirit says the Lord.

 ***When God is recognised as the source of your empowerment, you will guide your walk and relationship with Him jealously!***

 Humility will be your watchwords, knowing fully that you received empowerment from God.

**2. Be given totally to a type of lifestyle and activities that advance, boost and promote the grace of God actively towards you.**

See Daniel 1:8-22. Daniel’s decision to abstain from sin, consecrate and devote his talent to God, graciously seeking in all things to glorify God was the root source of exploits he achieved. This principle remains applicable today.

**3. Grace blossoms when love of Christ is the motivating force and guiding rule in all your pursuit, actions and services.**

 This was very glaring in the life of Nehemiah. See Nehemiah 1:1-4; 2:1-7.

 His love for God and his people made him to give everything (even sacrificially) to advance the interest of God's Kingdom in building the broken wall of Jerusalem. Beyond his best service, the grace compensated for his inadequacies.

 As a result, God good hand came upon him. The grace of God was released above measure, and consequently, the fallen wall was built despite oppositions! Nehemiah 2:18; 6:15,16.

**4. Totally depend on God for grace to help in meeting needs. Hebrew 4:16.**

 God’s wisdom and instruction is "Let us come to the throne of grace". As humans, we know that we need energy for living, which can only be supplied by food intake, that is why we do everything possible to ensure our daily food.

 In the same way, when you know that your spiritual wellbeing depends on the flow of God's grace, you will abide steadfastly in the Lord. Two things are important:

*i. Pray earnestly for it.*

*ii. Digest and assimilate the word of God on daily basis. Heed its instructions and live by the godly principle.* There is a direct relationship between being filled with the word of God and abounding in the grace of God! See John 1:13,14.

**5.. Discover your calling, gifting and your place in the body of Christ and seek to fulfill it. Romans 12:6-9.**

 The teeth cannot rival intestine, rather they function to complement each other as they both work for common good! And so, we are members of same body in Christ. We are differently gifted and talented, we are all important in the calling of grace.

 God expecst all of us to give our best as steward of the grace of Christ. 1Peter 4:10,11.

**6. Be a blessing to others.**

Know that it is more blessed to give than to receive. The word of Jesus has its full application here: Luke 6:38 KJV

***"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again"***.

 The beauty of rain is in the showers! Cloud without rain makes no sense to anyone.

**7. Rejoice in your portion in the Lord like Mary:**

Luke 1:46-48 KJV

"***And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, [47] And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. [48] For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed"***.

 Heart filled with the grace will always experience exploits, joy and progress without limit.

May this be your portion this year in Jesus name.

**HYMN: HIGHER GROUND (CHS 201)**

* + - 1. I'm pressing on the upward way,

 New heights I'm gaining ev'ry day

 Still praying as I'm onward bound,

 "Lord, plant my feet on higher

 ground."

*Lord, lift me up and let me stand*

*By faith on heaven's tableland;*

*Where love, and joy, and light abound*

*Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.*

* + - 1. My heart has no desire to stay

 Where doubts arise and fears dismay;

 Though some may dwell where these

 abound,

 My constant aim is higher ground.

* + - 1. Beyond the mist I fain would rise,

To rest beneath unclouded skies,

 Above earth’s turmoil peace is found,

 By those who dwell on higher ground.

1. I long to scale the utmost height

Though rough the way, and hard the fight

 My song, while climbing, shall
 resound,

 "Lord, lead me on to higher ground."

1. Lord, lead me up the mountain side

 I dare not climb without my Guide

 And heaven gained, I’ll gaze around,

 With grateful heart from higher

 ground.