

Chinese International Missions, Inc.

01.01.2018

God's Grace — Dead or Alive

1. The deceased life before

Dr. William James, the renowned American theologian and psychologist's famous words, "What we have done in our life has been stereotyped, everything is just the sum of habits." He continued to say, "according to the results of behavioral science studies: actions that are taken repeatedly for more than three weeks will become habits: actions that are taken repeatedly for more than three months will become perpetual habits."

In my growing up, I was sleeping by a mah-jong table every night, my parents loved to gamble. Ever since I was in second grade, I was often recruited bv our neighborhood aunts to join in this gambling pastime! My parents fought often and I took after them quite well in that regard. I've dated a few girlfriends but because they were not able to win any arguments over me, they left! Later on I started smoking, drinking, fooling around so much so that they all became my habits. I naturally went on the path of joining a gang. And since our gang leader is somewhat paranoid of being killed, he allowed us to paddle drugs to bolster his standing in the gang. After a while, I started smoking them as well! From then on I was living a life dead in my sins!

2. The grace of Christ's love allowed us to live again

Ephesians 2:4-5 "But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions." [It is by grace you have been saved]. This also collated with what's added in vs. 8 of the scripture. The grace of Christ's love refers to Christ became a sacrifice for our sins, paid the wages of sin for us with His death, and pardoned our sins and raised us up from the dead to live a new life. But as I recalled the first three years after my conversion, I was still experiencing His grace and His love from a subjective view. It was in 1993 that when He allowed a believer boss who acknowledged me and hired me, even invited me to live in his house, lead me to a church and said to me, "Jesus loves you!" Then, because of non-customer payments, I was US\$120,000 in debt. But through the intercessions from brothers and sisters, I miraculously received the entire amount back. The lawyer that worked with me at the time was also a brother in Christ. He very earnestly said to me, "Jesus loves you!" Last, there was this sister-in-Christ who had suffered a stroke for 12 years. I saw her husband's and her

Rey. Douglas Wu

children's unceasing love! One time I saw the whole family hoisting her wheelchair and bringing this sister on a safari vacation. Watching their efforts, I asked her husband, "How can you all have such great love!" One of their children responded, "**Because Jesus loves us!**"

brothers Dear and sisters, someone who grew up with such my upbringing, because of Jesus' love that I received a new life and was accepted by others; married my wife and started a family; even inflicted with the Hepatitis B, C, and D virus some 20 years ago and yet still received the healing and from recoverv Him. subjectively I know that it's all because Christ' love that came upon me. But that's not all! Even objectively the Holy Spirit also opened my heart eight years after I accepted Christ and was receiving seminary training. During my studies there I was able to go on an Israel study tour. From the book of Genesis to the book of Malachi, as well as the fulfilled scriptures recorded in the New Testament and the iron proof of archaeology, such as the Dead Sea Scroll and the Caesarean Amphitheater, I lived the promised scriptures. Reading the literature and seeing the

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PRAYER REQUESTS

- Rev. Douglas Wu's furlough to the U.S.
- 2. Pray for Alex and Nicole Ko to partner well with 7. Rev. Wu as they began serving at the Pretoria church.
- 3. Pray for Rev. Wu as he seeks God's leading in new territories for the Gospel in South Africa.
- 4. Ask the Lord to help brothers and sisters to lean on Him in this political and civil instability situation in South Africa, that everyone will have safety in travels and at home.
- 5. The civil environment in Brazil is in chaos. Pray for the Chinese who do not feel any sense of shelter in their material or personal 11. Prav for the various ministries safety. Intercede for them to have peace, joy, and fullness in Him.

- 1. Pray for the arrangement of 6. Pray for the three weeks of summer school curriculum at Happy Kids and Happy Teens in January.
 - Intercede for the Belo Horizonte church that God will equip them with children Sunday school teachers. Pray for encouragement and support for those young adults who are called to serve.
 - 8. Ask God to lead the Salvador church believers to learn to care for each other.
 - 9 Pray for the Recife church brothers and sisters to commit to study the Bible and to get closer to God.
 - 10. Intercede for the believers in 15. Please the Brasilia church that they will persevere in their faith and are willing to learn to share the Gospel together.
 - in Ghana and Togo. Ask the Lord to raise up more believers

to join in these cross-cultural STM trips to share the gospel with the West Africans.

- 12. Pray for anesthesia equipment needed at the hospital in Kpandai, Ghana. Ask God to provide sufficient funding for the purchase.
- 13. The world is full of unrest. Ask God to bless us with peace in Christ and to be His faithful stewards.
- 14. Ask God to continue His blessings on CIM in opening up more ministry fields in the future and preparing more new coworkers to join in the serving.
- intercede for the logistics in preparing the 2018 Short Term Mission teams to Brazil, South Africa, and West Africa.
- 16. For CIM's financial needs in all ministries, asking God to provide abundantly.

biblical objective facts all the more solidly allowed me to experience that this is the grace of Christ's love. Therefore my own subjective experience, in addition to objective facts, allowed me to come to life again from the previous one where I was dead in my transgression!

3. A life full of grace to proclaim His Gospel

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork. created in Christ Jesus to

do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Therefore, a life that is saved from grace has to go and proclaim God's Gospel.

Someone once asked me why did I have to go and share the Gospel in South while Africa, even that acknowledging Ι accepted Christ in South Africa and that's all good. I have a better reason than that.... I got married, bore children. established a Christian family and South

Africa is my spiritual home! But what I have to be really thankful for today is Galatians "I have been 2:20that, crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Today I play a part in the service of sharing the Gospel is all because of the grace from Jesus Christ. I can only hope that I can live in His grace and love forever and ever.

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Income Expense Balance \$6,780 \$1,605 \$5,175 General \$10.275 \$20.788 -\$10.513 Missions \$17,055 25,963 -\$8,908 Total

FINANCIAL REPORT

If you would like to contribute to CIM ministries online via credit card, please go to our web: www.cimusa.org Please make checks payable to "CIM" and mail to: P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA Thank you!

