



When we see grace, God sees faith

Ephesians 2:8 (NKJV) *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God...”*

Words of Ministry

Grace and faith have a very special relationship. Everything we receive from God comes to us “by grace... through faith”. Understanding the relationship of faith to grace will help us to learn how to be people of strong and effective faith.

Have you ever struggled with having faith? Many Christians have. We know that faith is essential to receive from God, but often we feel that we do not have enough faith... especially for something as big as a miracle. We know God’s promises are true, but we wonder how we can have enough faith to make them come true in our life.

The secret to having great *faith in* God is seeing the great *grace from* God. You see, having faith is the result of seeing grace. We will have great faith when we see how great God’s grace is towards us in Christ. God did all the work for us (grace), so we can do all the receiving (faith). There is no difficulty in believing God wants to give us something when we see that He’s done all the work to provide it. Faith, you might say is just our inward response to seeing God’s grace.

Beloved, if you want God’s promises to be sure in your life, you cannot depend on yourself. Faith is not your *effort* but your *response*. If you depend on yourself to have faith — your obedience, goodness, service and effort — you will not be able to receive God’s promises. But when you depend on God’s grace — His unmerited, unearned, undeserved favour toward you — that is when His promises become sure in your life. Faith

will rise spontaneously *in* you when you just look at God’s grace *towards* you.

This was true of the woman with the issue of blood (see Matthew 9:20–22). She did not say to herself, “I must have faith... I hope that I have enough faith.” No, she was only conscious of the grace of Jesus — how He always healed the sick, how powerful He was in raising the dead and how willing He was to use that power to heal people. Her inner attention was placed on **His merits**, not her own. She saw His love and grace and responded to what that did in her heart. As she saw His grace abounding toward the needy she said, *“If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.”* And when she came behind Jesus and touched the hem of His garment, she was instantly healed. At that same moment, Jesus stopped, turned around and said to her, *“Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well.”*

Notice Jesus’ comment. When she commented on how His grace could meet her need, the Lord commented on her faith. When the woman saw His grace, the Lord saw her faith! And this is the way we, too, have faith to receive God’s promises. We look to His grace and that look creates faith in us. Faith is not our effort, but our response to God’s grace. It is always by grace, through faith, that God’s promises become sure in our life.

Grace and faith are like two sides to every miracle of God in your life. God gives us grace and the grace creates faith in us. How simple and powerful this combination is. God wants you to see His grace. And when you see His grace, He sees your faith. God says, *“For by grace are you saved through faith.”* The Greek word for “saved”, *sozo*, doesn’t just mean to save from hell, but also to heal, preserve and make whole. So it is by grace that you are made whole, kept healthy, preserved and delivered. It is by grace through faith that God’s promises become sure in your life.

Beloved, don’t worry if you feel that you lack faith. Begin to look at God’s grace towards you in Christ and He will see that as faith. And because He sees your faith, you will receive the breakthrough you need!