


UNITY
CHURCH OF BAKERSFIELD
"A POSITIVE PLACE TO GROW!"

Today's Lesson
A Matter of Grace
PowerPoint notes available at:
www.unityofbakersfield.org

A Matter of Grace




Lynn Robinson in her book, *Compass of the Soul* reminds us that: *You come to this life on earth with specific talents and intentions. Through your inner guidance you begin to understand and use these gifts. You come here with an assignment, or a life purpose, if you will.*

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It may be the task of raising a family, transforming a business, communicating your ideas as a teacher, or being a leader in your community. Your task may be a massive one, such as raising the level of constructive communication between warring countries, or awakening a consciousness of love and forgiveness in a segment of the population.

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Whatever purpose your soul has come to unfold, through your Divine Intuition you are given guidance and life experiences that will prepare you to fulfill it.




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*Many people assume that this life purpose is a job or career they are here to fulfill. Sometimes our purpose is not a **thing we need to do** but a **quality we need to develop** in order for our soul to unfold and grow to the next level.*

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The Daily Word affirmation today states:
I honor God's grace by expressing my unique gifts.
What keeps us from expressing those gifts? Do we not believe God's grace is equal to the task at hand because we are not worthy?

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The following are some faith blockers that keep us from accessing God's grace in the performance of expressing our unique gifts.

Life is difficult and suffering is unavoidable.

I'll never get ahead.

All good things must come to an end.

If something good happens, something bad must follow.

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You have to work hard every day in order to succeed.

This is my lot in life. You can't change things.

Money doesn't come easily.

The rich get richer. The poor get poorer.

There's not enough to go around.

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I did something bad in my youth (or past life) and God's making me pay for it now.

I'll never be smart enough, educated enough, old enough, young enough, rich enough, lovable enough, good looking enough, thin enough, lucky enough, or spiritual enough to _____.

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These self-defeating statements have done more to suppress God's grace in our life that we forget it is God's pleasure to let us have the kingdom and all that goes with it.

However, we can regain our perspective by focusing on the qualities we have so that we can allow our, as Robert Browning wrote, "imprisoned splendor" to escape. You may find one or more of the following qualities resonating with you:

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The quality to heal a relationship with another individual or group of individuals.

The quality to develop a specific characteristic, such as love, forgiveness, hope, compassion, patience, courage, or faith.

The quality to invent a service or product that will help assist humankind.

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The quality to create works of art and beauty to help heal the souls of others.

The quality to open your heart after an experience of loss and be a model for helping others do the same.

The quality to display courage, integrity, or honesty during a personal or professional difficulty.

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The quality to foster open and nonjudgmental communication within a family, office, neighborhood, or in the world at large.

The quality to aid in the spiritual development of others.

The quality to create a strong family in order to foster the life purpose of yourself, your spouse, and your children.

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The quality to release a focus on fear, worry, and anxiety and transform it with the qualities of love, patience, and faith.

Susan Jeffers in her book, *Feel the Fear and Do It Anyway*, writes: *We become powerful in the face of our fears when we have a sense that we can make a difference in this world. Step out in faith to do what is yours to do and the universe will provide you with every thing you will need.*

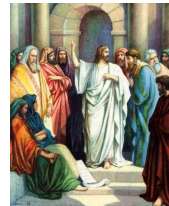
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As Jesus taught time and time again, God was a God of love, of mercy, of compassion and that grace was available to all who wanted it. *If you had known what these words mean, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the innocent.*

(Matthew 12:7)

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And he was quoting the prophet Hosea, (After all there was no New Testament yet.) when we said, *For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.*

(Hosea 6:6)

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What an awesome realization – just step out in faith, allow God’s grace to help you express your gifts by affirming daily:

God's Radiant Activity Continuously Expressed