

“ACT-OLLOGY”

1 Peter 4:10-11

Someone said, “*Grace is downright scandalous because grace costs the giver everything and the receiver nothing.*” That’s true! When we encounter the transforming grace from God, it is demonstrated in how we respond to the needs of others. Today, we examine four characteristics in the life of a grace-filled servant of God.

1. Generosity

“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.” Acts 4:32-35

- An appreciation for grace creates an attitude of giving!

2. Flexibility

“Now those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews. Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus.” Acts 11:19-20

3. Liberty

“Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant - not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life....Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” 2 Corinthians 3:5,6,17b (NASB)

4. Mercy

“I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength to do His work. He considered me trustworthy and appointed me to serve Him, even though I used to blaspheme the name of Christ. In my insolence, I persecuted His people. But God had mercy on me because I did it in ignorance and unbelief. Oh, how generous

and gracious our Lord was! He filled me with the faith and love that come from Christ Jesus.” 1 Timothy 1:12-14 (NLT)

CONCLUSION

“So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.' ” Luke 17:10

- You know you're a servant by how you act when you're treated like one.

PRIMARY RESOURCES USED FOR THIS SERMON INCLUDE:

Grace Awakening by Charles Swindoll
What's So Amazing about Grace? By Philip Yancey
The Grip of Grace by Max Lucado