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***“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;”
(Titus 2:11–12)***

Without the grace of God there would be no salvation. Likewise, without the grace of God there is no sanctification, no true spiritual growth, no overcoming of sin. When we are born again, we bring into our new relationship with Christ many ungodly habits that must be put off. It is the grace of God, the unconditional forgiveness that Christ purchased for us on the cross, that motivates us to do the strenuous work of putting off the ungodly habits and putting on godly habits. A godly habit is characterized by demonstrating a high regard for God’s glory and God’s will in every aspect of our lives. Are you in the habit of living with a high view of God’s glory and His will in your marriage, parenting, and in your personal walk with God? Are you walking soberly (self-controlled), righteously (uprightly), and godly (sincere devotion) in your home and as you interact with those in your community? We desperately need to repent of our self-dependence and dig into Scripture for a fresh understanding and acceptance of God’s grace. Then we can walk in that amazing grace as we form new, godly habits. It’s never too late to start!

During the months of April and May, we have been privileged to enter into the suffering and perplexing circumstances of pastors and missionaries and their families. Sinful responses to these trials and temptations have brought much emotional pain and division and have resulted in ungodly habits. Sadly, we have witnessed much heartache and every situation doesn’t always turn out as we would like. In these moments, it is vital to remember that God’s good purpose in our trials and even our temptations is to produce good in us. We often forget that Scripture clearly teaches that suffering is non-negotiable in this process. *“Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.”* (2 Corinthians 4:10) This is what grace is for! It is so encouraging to begin to hear comments from various counselees of God’s sustaining and transforming grace. Comments such as: **“My heart is breaking, but I am learning to trust my God in all of this”**; **“This counseling process has been transformative!”**; **“I have been saved for many years and have never grown so much spiritually!”**; **“I have been a missionary for years but am just now learning how to walk in the Grace of God.”** This is a direct result of the formation of godly, habits of grace.

In April, we enjoyed being able to minister at the **Hispanic Bible Conference sponsored by the Campus Church in Pensacola, FL**. We were privileged to meet several Hispanic ministry leaders who are making an impact in the area. The following Sunday, it was an honor to preach in the **Campus Church evening service**. As alumni of PCC, it was so encouraging to see the direction that **Pastor Redlin** and his church staff are leading the Campus Church. The members there have been an encouragement by supporting Selah International financially and with their consistent prayers.

In May, we were invited to another Hispanic congregation at the **Tucson Baptist Church, in Tucson, AZ** to preach for the **“Día del Niño.”** **Pastor Abel Ramirez** is doing a wonderful job as pastor. That evening we were blessed to be able to minister with **Pastor Brent Armstrong in the English-speaking service.**

Pastor Michael Free from Tabernacle Baptist Church in Candor, NC asked Dawn and I to serve in their **Family-focus Weekend Retreat** for their members. We had fun interacting with our dear friends there and the Lord truly spoke to our hearts through His Word. **Colton and Aly Gideons (our daughter and son-in-law)** ministered to the teens and children during the retreat. Being able to focus in for several days on specific topics can be transformative for church families. We covered themes such as **Gospel-centered parenting, Hope for the Next Generation, Building the Home on Biblical Principles, and Restoring Broken Relationships**. If you are interested in hosting a Selah Family Conference, do not hesitate to contact us at info@selahinternational.org

Pastors and missionaries, remember to sign up for the **Selah Refresh Retreat, August 18-20, 2022**, as soon as possible. We had originally scheduled a Selah Refresh Ladies Retreat, but due to many scheduling conflicts with those interested, we will need to postpone that to a later date. Sorry ladies! Men, please visit selahinternational.org and sign up for **the Selah Refresh for Pastors and Missionaries** and the **Golf Add-on**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Only by His Grace, Chris and Dawn