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Luke 4:18-19 The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Grace means three things:

1. God's grace means that our salvation is based on God's promise not my performance.

Ephesians 2:8-10(NLT) God saved you by his special favor (grace) when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece.

Isaiah 64:6 (ESV) All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

Titus 3:3-7 (NIV) At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

2. God's grace means that we don't have to worry that our sins are too great to be forgiven.

Romans 5:20 (ESV) But where sin increased, grace increased all the more.

1 Timothy 1:13-15 (NIV) Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in

ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst.

Ephesians 2:3 (NLT) All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else.

Psalms 38:4 (ESV) For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.

Psalms 103:3 (NIV) He forgives all my sins.

Acts 3:19 (NIV) Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Psalms 103:12 (NIV) As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

3. God's grace means that we don't have to live the Christian life by our own effort.

Galatians 3:3 (NLT) Have you lost your senses? After starting your Christian lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort?