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Dear Friends in Christ.

Praise the Name of Jesus Who came to us in all grace and truth.

Grace is when God looks at us as though we already are what we eventually will be and He treats us that way. Grace has to do with what we get rather than what we don't get. Mercy on the other hand has to do with what we don't get. God looks upon us as a finished product through the eyes of grace and then begins to work in us toward that end. We receive eternal life up front and then He begins to change our life into the image of His Son Jesus Christ. It always amazes me the He would trust us with such a precious thing while we are still messed up and weak. He can only do that because He sees the end product which is, "Christ in you the hope of glory." Col 1:27 Through grace we are changed. 1Corinthians 15:10 "But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."

One problem we have is that we don't see grace as all inclusive. We understand it's importance in being saved or born again but we don't see it's importance in our day by day living or our daily ministry.

"He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:32.

Not only does God provide everything we need for our own lives by His grace, but He also provides everything we need to be a blessing to others through His grace gifts.

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness." Romans 12:6-8.

Through grace we are equipped to do God's work. Ephesians 3:7 "of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power."

"As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." 1Peter 4:10.

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 2Peter 1:2

Thanks again for all your love, prayers, friendship and support. Your Servant in Christ. ><> Wayne Brooke<><