

Call of Grace Ministries

Come unto Me. . .I will give you rest

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***“. . .but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,
¹⁶because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.””***

1 Peter 1:15–16 (NKJV)

Holiness is often defined as being set apart by God for His use. This definition can apply to funds, objects, and people. Peter reminds us, however, that God expects more of His people than just to be available to be used by Him. “*be holy in all your conduct*”, *He wrote*. Moved by the Holy Spirit, Peter reminds us that even as we are set apart for His use, we are to set ourselves apart, with regard to our thoughts, our words, and our actions, from the society in which we live. The Lord’s character is one of perfect ethical and moral purity and He commands us, as best we can, to emulate Him. Scripture leaves us no doubt in our manner of conduct; we are to be seen and heard as different from the world!

Is such conduct easy? If we are honest with ourselves, the answer is, “No.”. Yet, “*with God*”, Jesus tells us, “*all things are possible.*” (Matt 19:26). How then can this occur? Peter has given the key for such behavior. Having reminded His audience (including us) of the greatness of our salvation and the need to persevere in faith in spite of temptation and trial, Peter writes, “*Therefore, gird up the loins of your mind. . .*” (1 Pet 1:13). In other words, “*Prepare your minds for action.*” The imagery here is one of getting ready to work. The back hem of a robe would be pulled through the legs and tucked into the belt in front. This would free up the legs to move and keep the robe from getting caught on things, allowing the person to work without impediment. In a similar manner, we are to prepare our minds for the task of being holy in conduct then allow this change to be reflected in our conduct: all that we think, say, and do. In this passage, Peter urges us to be obedient children and not let ourselves be shaped by worldly wisdom and lusts. Paul exhorts the same thoughts when he wrote, “*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. . .*” (Romans 12:1–2).

This renewing/transformation of the mind is only available to us as we spend time studying the Bible: God’s holy word to us. In the Bible, we see illustrated how we are and how God would have us to be. We also read of the power available toward us and in us to change us for His Glory, IF we will place ourselves on the altar for Him. Is such submission easy for us? No. Yet it is necessary for the new creation Christ has made us to truly flourish. *Are you flourishing?*

It is our prayer for His Church that we will “stand up” and “stand out” in the holiness in which the Lord has called us to walk for His glory!

Cindy and I want to thank you for your generous donations toward our Ministry to a Ministry campaign for Vieux Carre Baptist Church. We arrived in New Orleans with a van load of clothing, hygiene supplies, and high protein food. After we had unloaded the van, we noticed their storage pantry was practically as bare as Mother Hubbard's cupboard! They were completely out of some of the items we brought down on the van; items the Lord provided through you! We are truly grateful for your partnership in this facet of our ministry. We collect for the Ministry to a Ministry campaign year-round. If you, your Sunday School, or your church would like to aid us in this, please contact Cindy or myself.

We got back from New Orleans in time for me to repack the van and head out for the first Memphis in May mission: the Beale Street Music Festival Outreach. This event occurs the first weekend in May. Eight men comprised our mission team. Our second Memphis in May Mission was two weeks later at the World Championship BBQ competition. Our team for this outreach consisted of seven men and five women. On each of these missions, we spent two days on Beale Street sharing the love and mercy of our Lord inherent in the Gospel message. The Gospel was shared through preaching, one-on-one conversations, and the well over 5,000 tracts that were distributed. Over these days, three men made decisions for Christ! Please be in prayer for them to continue on the path they have chosen that they may grow in the knowledge and grace of our Lord. As well, please be in prayer for those who heard, saw, or received a touch from the Lord; may the Lord continue to grow the planted seed to harvest!

This past weekend was spent on mission in Indianapolis to witness to the crowds during the 500 Festival. During the day, we were downtown sharing Christ with those who attended the Memorial Service and the 500 Festival parade. At night we were beside the race track, witnessing to the crowd of race fans that gathered to party Friday and Saturday night before the Indianapolis 500. Conversations were had with both Christians and the lost. As well, over 2,000 tracts were distributed. Please be in prayer for those whom the Spirit touched with conviction, among whom are Jeff, Kyle, Jacob, and a young man who responded with further rebellion at the Holy Spirit's conviction. The Lord knows their need(s).

Cindy and I want to thank Leawood Baptist Church for allowing us to use their facilities to house those who joined us in Memphis. I would also like to thank Steve and his wife for the use of their home in Indianapolis. May the Lord continue to bless you and expand the territory of your ministry for His Glory!

Upcoming Missions

Crossover NOLA – June 4th-9th

Various local outreaches

We also request your prayers for the following:

- Please stand in the gap for your Brothers and Sisters that we, as His people, would act with faith on the promise in 2 Chron 7:14.
- Pray for our nation's leaders at every level.
- Please pray for the enemies of our nation both within and without. Jesus desires to change their hearts also.
- We ask that you pray for the ongoing ministry of Call of Grace

Is there something we can pray for you? If so please let us know.

Thank you for your prayers and support. We are grateful to the Lord for you. Everything the Lord calls us to do is done with your help. If He calls you to go on mission with us, wherever we go, or to help support a mission or any part of our ministry, please let us know. Likewise, if you or your church believe we could be of service to you as regards your evangelistic efforts, please contact us.

Until Jesus comes,

Dennis & Cindy

~Cindy's Bottom Line~

The pursuit of holiness must begin with a right relationship to God. That relationship can only come from accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior. As a born-again believer, we are called to live a life that does not “blend” in with the world but instead stands out for the Glory of God!

Call of Grace Ministries is a 501(c)3 ministry and your contributions are tax deductible. All donations to Call of Grace are used for ministry expenses. We go as God provides and your support of this ministry is a blessing to us as we move forward in the Lord's call.