

Call of Grace Ministries

Come unto Me. . . I will give you rest

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“They remembered that God was their rock, the Most High God their redeemer.”

Psalm 78:35 (ESV)

The solemn truth of the Gospel is that, in spiritual things, you get what you set your heart on. Set your heart on knowing God and He will reveal Himself through His Word; set your heart on serving Him and you will not lack the opportunity to do so. But set your heart on nothing of spiritual consequence, and that is precisely what you will receive --- *nothing of spiritual consequence*. Set your heart on your own ambitions, and they will, very likely, be fulfilled. God may give you your heart's desire. He did exactly that for His people in the wilderness. He saved them for His own sake and glory, and led them through the desert, yet, “they soon forgot his works; they did not wait for his council. But they had a wanton craving in the wilderness, and put God to the test in the desert; *he gave them what they asked*, but sent a wasting disease among them” (Psalm 106:13-15, ESV, emphasis added).

All that, despite Moses' warning to them: “And if you forget the Lord your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you will surely perish. Like the nations the Lord makes to perish before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the Lord your God” (Deuteronomy 8:19-20, ESV).

Think for a moment about where your life has led you thus far? What ambitions and aspirations have been fulfilled? Has the Lord given you many of the things you longed for --- materially, personally, socially, professionally? But now, meditate on this: *Do you have the Lord Himself with these things, or do you have them without Him?* Have you forgotten the Lord?

The man or woman who has a heart for God will be someone who is determined to remember the Lord.

[Sinclair Ferguson, in *A Heart for God*]

[Taken from the devotional, *How Great is our God*, NavPress, 2011]

***May our hearts always be inclined to the Lord
as the Day of His Appearing approaches!***

Spring is on the way! Are you noticing the change? Cindy and I are and are looking forward to longer days, warmer weather, sunshine, and even the occasional lightning-filled storm (Cindy's favorite). We are even looking forward to grass that's green and growing, although that may just be me; Cindy mows the grass as a blessing to her hubby who deals with allergies!

Even as we await the Lord's season known as Spring, we look forward to another year, Lord willing, of knowing and serving Him! Like the days in a season, ministry can appear to be the same from day-to-day, yet it is not. Ministry is about the Lord and people. And while the Lord “changes not”, people's perspectives can change with every new trend or concept embraced by society. While this is particularly true on the street, it can be true within our churches as well. You've probably heard about the doctrinal changes in that “other church” either nearby or far away. All of us must be diligent in defending the faith passed down from age-to age to avoid being “that church”.

How can we do that? First, be in prayer for your pastor, your worship minister, youth minister, deacons/elders, teachers and other servants in your church. Honor both your Lord and your pastor by receiving the word imparted with the study we are called to by the example of the Bereans (Acts 17). And finally, all of us must be prepared to speak out in truth (John 17:17) with love as we stand in the victory and promises of God we have received through the Lord Jesus! As the World grows ever darker, the light of God's people must shine ever brighter. And, now, we are the torch-bearers moving forward toward the Day. May we honor our Lord by lifting it high.

We are in preparation for the Mission to Mardi Gras (Feb. 8th – 13th). This year, twenty-six men have answered the Lord's call to proclaim the mercy and love inherent in the Gospel message to those who will be on the streets of the French Quarter in New Orleans. We ask that you help us prepare by beginning your intercession for us now and continuing through the mission. It is a blessing to all who go on this mission to know others are on the front-line in prayer for what the Lord will do. Thank you!

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.
- 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. Everything the Lord calls us to do is done with your help and we are thankful to the Lord for your service to Him with us. 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 as you reach out to your community, please contact us.

Until Jesus comes,

Dennis & Cindy

~Cindy's Bottom Line~

Perhaps the most important words we can recall and rely upon are found in Isaiah 45:22.

“Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.”

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.

Call of Grace Ministries

Mission to Mardi Gras 2024: Feb. 8th – February 13th *Please be in prayer now for the mission*

Civil Authorities

- Pray God's blessing over the police and EMS services.
 - Pray for the health and safety of all civil servants.
 - Pray the Lord will prompt them to ask questions regarding our presence, that we might share Christ.
 - Pray for the medical gifting of the Paramedics and EMTs.
 - Pray that the police will act wisely in every situation.
- Pray that the Lord would convict the civic leaders of the evil that is inherent in Mardi Gras, that they might choose not to condone it regardless of economic gain.

The Crowd

- Pray for the health and safety of the people.
- Pray that the people will be receptive to the Lord's ministry to them through His ministers.
 - Pray that the people will take a tract.
 - Pray that the people will read the tract with understanding.
 - Pray that the people will respond to God's word as it is preached.
 - Pray for conviction and repentance through the Holy Spirit's ministry to them.

The One-on-One

- Pray that the Lord would protect the conversation from distractions.
- Pray that those on mission will speak as the Lord directs in the conversation.
- Pray that the Lord will overcome barriers to communication.
- Pray that the Gospel will be received with understanding when shared.
- Pray the Holy Spirit's conviction will lead to brokenness and bring them to repentance, resulting in salvation.

Those Who Go on Mission

- Pray for the wives of those who go: that they will rest in the Lord's comfort and peace while the two God made one are separated.
- Pray God's protection over the family, both immediate and extended, and the households of those who go.
- Pray that we will submit to the Lord's conviction to remain a clean vessel.
- Pray that we will listen for the Holy Spirit's guidance at all times.
- Pray that we will respond in all situations with grace.
- Pray that we will be bold and compassionate in sharing the Gospel.
- Pray that we will be obedient to be a blessing in all situations.
- Pray that we will rest in the obedience of going.
- Pray for our health and safety from the time we leave until we return home.
- Pray that we will be changed by the mission to the Glory of the Lord!

Pray that it is the Lord's Time for a Great Harvest in His Field called New Orleans!