

# Receiving Grace

sIn:

Is all about Me, Myself, and I;  
Misses the calling of my life;  
Offers me freedom or power but ends up bringing bondage;  
Diminishes life;  
Alienates me from God/others;  
Is an obstacle to loving relationships.

Obstacles to our relationship with God

Obstacles to our relationship with People

Obstacles to our relationship with ourselves

How do we overcome the Obstacles?

**In Christ: Our relationship with God is Restored**

God enters into the darkness of our lives.

"The only eyes in the universe that can see you to the bottom love you to the skies." -Tim Keller

God gives us forgiveness and love.

*Hebrews 4:14-17 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

*Colossians 1:13-14 For **he has rescued us** from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have **redemption, the forgiveness of sins.***

God gives those who believe in Christ the life of Christ in them, the Holy Spirit, the power to walk a new path.

**Through Christ: Our relationship with People is Restored**

As we allow ourselves to be loved,  
We can receive and give love to others.

*Ephesians 5:1-2 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

Christ overcomes every obstacle to relationship.

Grace overcomes sIn.

*Romans 8:37-39 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*