

CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

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It's Free!

Have you ever been to a game where the mascot uses a "T-shirt Cannon" to shoot T-shirts into the crowd? It's part of the management's way to rev up the crowd for the game and get the enthusiasm going. Everyone wants a T-shirt with their home team logo on the front!



Did the management have to do this? Did everyone get a T-shirt? The management was giving the gifts for free. All you had to do was be the lucky one to receive it.

As a Christian we have a gift given to us for free. It is the completion of the plan God had in mind when He sent His Son Jesus to live, die, and be resurrected for us. Jesus was the ultimate sacrifice for the sins of the world. And because Jesus completed this promise, our free gift is the forgiveness of sins, faith, and eternal life with Him in heaven. Wow!

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast, For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for

good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:8-10).

The grace talked about in verse 8 is the free gift, just like those T-shirts, but God gives His grace freely to everyone who has faith in Jesus as their Savior. Even though we are undeserving, God offers His love and forgiveness of all our sins, even for our darkest secret sins! Check out Romans 3:23-25. *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.*

As we know Jesus better, we can depend on His faithfulness. *Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need (Hebrew 4:16).*

We can draw near to God because our sins are forgiven and we are righteous in God's eyes. All because of our gift of faith in Jesus' work of redemption.

When we are troubled with issues of family, health, work, or personal issues, we can rely on God to be with us. His grace includes standing with us at all times. We can be assured of this through His word,

the Bible, and by giving us help and love from our spouse and family, Pastors and our fellow Christians.



What a magnificent God we have. His free gift of forgiveness and faith is given to all. We don't have to HOPE that we get the gift, like those in the stadium waiting for a T-shirt to come zinging to their hands. We receive His gift of forgiveness and faith through Jesus.

What a joy we have to wake up each and every day knowing God loves us so very much. Better than any t-shirt gift I've ever had! Let us share God's mighty gift with others. We can guide others to know Jesus through our words, actions, and deeds.

"Preach you the Word and plant it home and never faint; the Harvest Lord who gave the sower seed to sow, will watch and tend His planted Word.

(LSB pg 586 "Preach the Word" Public Domain).

How can you share the



The story of Jesus and His love?

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