

How to Walk In Grace

By Dr. Steve McVey

Every Sunday millions of church-going Christians sing the words to the world's most popular hymn, "Amazing Grace." So popular is this hymn by John Newton that many *unbelievers* know the words—and even secular recording artists have often made it part of their repertoire.

If you're like most believers, you first became aware of God's amazing grace when you were first saved. You responded to God's offer of salvation by grace and entered into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. The result was great joy as you found that Christ did indeed offer an abundant life to those who believe in Him.

But then, also like most believers,

that initial joy may have slowly disappeared as you began to get busy living the Christian life. Or as you simply went about doing the every day things common to us all. God's grace was still there for you, but your awareness of it may have become a mere doctrinal understanding rather than a daily experience that you would label "amazing."

What is the secret to walking in grace every day? How can one reclaim the victory first known when he became a believer? Consider three truths which can put you back on a successful grace walk.

Grace Is Grounded In A Person,

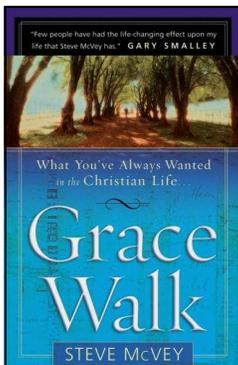
Not A Performance

Jesus Christ is grace personified. He is much more interested in intimacy with you than in having you try to improve your behavior. Christianity doesn't revolve around certain religious practices, but to the contrary, focuses on a personal relationship to Christ. If you want to walk in grace, pray for Christ to reveal Himself to you. Then set your attention on Him instead of on trying to change your behavior. (See Colossians 3:1-3) *He* will change your behavior as you increasingly love Him.

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To learn more...

The principles in this fact sheet are excerpted from Steve McVey's book, *Grace Walk*



Steve McVey was a successful pastor, but knew something was missing in his Christian walk. The harder he tried to please God, the more unfulfilled he felt. In terms of denominational evaluation, he had been a successful pastor for 17 years. He felt that he was on his way to all that is bigger and better.

Moving to a new church, he labored to make it grow and prosper. Steve soon discovered that those things that brought success at his previous church, didn't work at his new pastorate. What

had gone wrong?

*In his book, *Grace Walk*, you will learn how Steve discovered a much better way to live. He found fulfillment by putting his own self-sufficiency aside and allowing Christ to live through him. You will discover how walking in grace is quite different from Christian legalism. Abiding in Christ is much more than a pleasant phrase... it is a lifestyle of daily identity in Jesus Christ.*

Does this approach suggest that behavior is unimportant? Not at all, but experience has proven to most of us that we simply don't have the ability to change ourselves. Only God can do that, and He *will* change us as we trust in Christ.

Grace Causes Us To Focus on Living, Not on Laws
Modern religion attempts to regulate behavior through religious rules, but the Bible says that Christ came to deliver us from the law. (See Galatians 3:13) The essence of grace is that Christ has given His life *for* us so that He could give His life *to* us, then live His life *through* us. Jesus didn't come bearing a list of rules for you, but a life of rest!

He said in Matthew 11:28, "Come to me, those of you who are tired, and I will give you rest!" When we rest in Him, Christ will express His life through us so that

we live a godly lifestyle without focusing on the rules of religion.

Grace Means That God Has Given Us Everything We Need For Our Daily Lives

Ephesians 1:3 teaches that God has given us every spiritual blessing in Jesus Christ. To walk in grace means that we simply appropriate by faith that in Him we lack nothing. Do you need peace? Acknowledge that He *is* your peace. Do you feel powerless? *Christ* is your power. "In Jesus Christ dwells the fullness of God and you are complete in Him!" (Colossians 2:9-10)

Walking in grace simply means that we trust Christ to be who He is in us and through us. Empty religion makes it hard, but Jesus said, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light."



Hi, I'm Steve McVey, President of Grace Walk Ministries, and we are thrilled that you have let us send you these proven, biblical principles that will help you understand God's grace in your life.

Grace Walk is a teaching and training ministry which exists for the purpose of sharing the life of Jesus Christ with others. Our mission is to help Christians discover the freedom of their new life in Christ. To this end, we use conferences, mission trips, Bible studies, books, newsletters, audio and video tapes, television, radio and the world wide web.

Again, thank you so much for this opportunity to serve you. There's lots more in store at our web site. Be sure to visit us there at www.gracewalk.org. We hope you'll drop by for a visit and that you'll tell a friend about us.

In Him,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve McVey".



Grace Walk Ministries
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www.gracewalk.org