

**November 06, 2016**

**Series: Grace**

**Sermon Title: *Justifying Grace***

**Key Scriptures:**

**Acts 20:20-23 (NRSV)**

**<sup>20</sup>I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house, <sup>21</sup>as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about *REPENTANCE TOWARD* God and faith *TOWARD* our Lord Jesus. <sup>22</sup>And now, as a *CAPTIVE TO THE SPIRIT*, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, <sup>23</sup>except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me.**

**The Key:**

**Justification changes a person's relationship with God and relationship with God changes the person.**

**REPENTANCE-Turning from sin**

**Acts 20:21 (NRSV) <sup>21</sup>I testified to both Jews and Greeks about *REPENTANCE***

**Acts 11:17-18 (NRSV) <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the *REPENTANCE* that leads to life."**

**Acts 13:23-24 (NRSV) <sup>23</sup>Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised; <sup>24</sup>before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of *REPENTANCE* to all the people of Israel.**

**Acts 19:4 (NRSV) <sup>4</sup>Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of *REPENTANCE*, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus."**

**REORIENTATION-Turning to God**

**Acts 20:20-21 (NRSV) <sup>20</sup>I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house, <sup>21</sup>as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about repentance *TOWARD GOD* and *FAITH TOWARD* our Lord *JESUS*.**

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to ENGAGE people through relational ministry,  
to EQUIP disciples for Christ and  
to EMPLOY their gifts through missions.

Acts 26:19-20 (NRSV) <sup>19</sup>“After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, <sup>20</sup>but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should *REPENT* and *TURN TO GOD* and do deeds consistent with *REPENTANCE*.

John 3:7 (NRSV) <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘*YOU MUST BE BORN FROM ABOVE*.’

### RELINQUISH-Turning over control

Philippians 1:6 (NRSV) <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the *ONE* who *BEGAN* a good work among you will bring it to *COMPLETION* by the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 2:12 (NRSV) <sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, *WORK OUT* your own *SALVATION* with fear and trembling;

Romans 4:4-5 (NRSV) <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who *JUSTIFIES* the ungodly, such *FAITH* is reckoned as *RIGHTEOUSNESS*.

Romans 8:1 (NRSV) <sup>1</sup>There is therefore now *NO CONDEMNATION* for those who are *IN CHRIST JESUS*.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NRSV) <sup>8</sup>For *BY GRACE* you have been saved *THROUGH FAITH*, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

### Challenge Questions:

What sins will you confess to someone this week?

How can you fix your life on the things of God?

How can you give God greater control in your life?

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