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WOMEN'S RETREAT

Grace In The Wilderness

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. 2 Peter 1:5-7

Unmerited Favor

Unmerited Favor



GRACE

SCHEDULE

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Our Faith is our Grace (unmerited favor)
in the Wilderness

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**His Goodness through Faith is our Grace in
the Wilderness**

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**Our Knowledge of God and Ourselves
through Faith is our Grace
in the Wilderness**

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**Our Endurance through Faith is our Grace
in the wilderness**

FAVOR

FAVOR

GRACE

Session 1

GRACE

Unmerited Favor

1 Peter 1 : 1-7

**Who are being Guarded
or Garrisoned by God's
Power Through Faith**

1 Peter 1:5

defend, guard, protect, preserve, fortify,
barricade, shield, secure

Our **Faith** is our **Grace** (unmerited favor) in the **Wilderness, Yet it is also** **What is being Tested**

Faith: complete trust or confidence in
someone or God

Vulnerable

The enemy's strategy is to
direct pain to cause you to slowly
disengage (lose trust) with
God and others.

Unmerited Favor

Unmerited Favor

God wants our faith to be **strong** so that He
can move freely **through** our hard situation
bringing Glory to God. Faith is tested not
produced by trials.

HISTORY

Peter

Title – Fisherman, Disciple, Apostle, Author, Husband

Personality – Out-spoken, flamboyant, raw, unfiltered, bold, brave, moldable and corrected often.

Time – Written between 65–68 AD - Peter was martyred, hung upside down on a cross in Rome around 68 AD by Nero. Peter references his approaching death in 2 Peter 1:14 “since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me”. It was possibly written right after or before Paul died (beheaded in Rome) and what prompted him to write first and second Peter.

Writing To – Persecuted Christians (Jews and Gentiles), pilgrims of dispersion and God’s elect, living in five regions of Asia Minor (Turkey) and exhorts the readers to stay true to the example of Jesus Christ during persecution and the hope set before them. They are warned to not follow false teaching but stay true to what has been taught to them, to persevere to the end.

Persecution – Nero lost all sense of right and wrong and listened to flattery with total credulity. He was said to have seized Christians as scapegoats for the fire that burned down the city of Rome so he could rebuild it. Christians were burned alive, seemingly motivated not by public justice but by personal cruelty.

Unmerited Favor

Unmerited Favor

GRACE

Faith is More Precious than Gold

“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ” 1 Peter 1: 6,7

**Our Faith is like a
Muscle that needs
to be Used to grow
Stronger**

THE SPIRIT

Add = danced with joined hands

Led to embrace the whole Gospel

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.

2 Peter 1:5-9

The Holy Spirit does this work within us as we grow through the wilderness. Goodness, Knowledge of us and God, Self Control, Perseverance and Love ARE being Worked into our Character. Humbly Surrender to His Plans and Workings. **Value Your Faith!**

Faith Comes by Hearing The Word of God

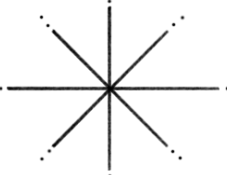
“So faith comes by hearing (what is told), and what is heard comes by the preaching (of the message that came from the lips) of Christ (The Messiah Himself).” Romans 10:17 Amp

The Holy Spirit is our helper and will bring His word to

remembrance. “But the Comforter (Counselor Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, Standby, the Holy Spirit) Whom the Father will send in My name (in My place to represent Me and act on My behalf), He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.” John 14:26 Amp

More FAITH is not “bigger faith” but more acting on the principles of His word in faith - faith that is continually used.

“...If you have faith that is living like a grain of mustard seed, you can say to this mountain move from here to a yonder place and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you.” Matt 17:20



Testing of our Faith and Glory go together

Biblical faith takes into account the **ability** of God through whom **all things are possible**. It also takes into account the **sovereignty** of God. God is not controllable but is in control. Our journey includes storms as well as still waters. His Glory (presence) brings Peace in the Storm. It is why we are blessed when going through various trials. We get to experience His Nature through struggles increasing our understanding of Him. 2 Peter 1:4

FAITH IS INTENTIONAL
AND
TRUSTS IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD

“Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.” Isaiah 60:1



BREAK OUT SESSION

1

Connecting God's Ability and Provision with Our Current Situation

1. Write out a sentence reflecting a negative thought or overwhelming feeling that makes you feel anxious and stressed.

2. Write A New Faith Statement to Replace Your Old Thought Process. Be Specific.

Example: "Thank You Lord that you have given me, patience and understanding to parent my children well today."

Say this new statement out loud. Meditate on what it's saying, believe it and receive it.

3. How is faith through the power of God shielding you?

What is it Shielding?

Exercise it daily!