

STAND IN GRACE

ROMANS 5:3-8

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: Justified by faith, you have Christ's righteousness! You, by faith, now stand in grace. Grace is God's divine power and unmerited favor accessed by you through faith. (Read **Romans 5:1-2**.)

YOU HAVE GRACE WITH NO GUILT. When suffering comes, grace, given to you by God enables you to go through difficult times. Suffering endured by grace makes you more and more like Christ, and for that you can rejoice. (**Romans 5:3, fn 5:3,4, fn 5:1-5, Matthew 10:29-31, fn 10:29-31, II Corinthians 4:16-18, fn 4:16, II Corinthians 12:7-10, fn 12:10, Romans 8:31-39, fn 8:34, fn 8:35, 36**) *What troubles are you presently experiencing, and how could God's grace help you to endure them?*

YOU HAVE GODS LOVE. God has poured (like a Niagara flood) His love into your heart by the Holy Spirit to enable you to experience and share His love in you in all circumstances. (**Romans 5:5, fn 5:5, 6, John 7:37-39, fn 7:38, I John 4:7-19, fn 4:9, 10, fn 4:19, Luke 7:44-50, fn 7:44ff, fn 7:47, Galatians 5:6, fn 5:6**) *How could God's grace help you to love difficult people by faith?*

YOU HAVE HIS LOVE DEMONSTRATED. As God looked down through eternity, you were "in His heart." Jesus demonstrated God's love for you by dying on the cross just for you. Someone may die for a person he considers worthy, but Jesus died for you when you were a sinner. (**Romans 5:6-8, fn 5:6, fn 5:8, John 3:7, 8, 16, fn 3:16[1st], John 10:11-18, fn 10:11, 12, Ephesians 2:3-5**) *Why is it important for you to look at the cross and understand Christ's love for you and stand in grace?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.