

Grace Unraveled
Grace that Endures
2 Corinthians 13:1-14

We live in a world that believes that most if not all Christians are judgmental. They fail to realize the difference between being judgmental and making judgments. Being judgmental means having an overly critical and condescending spirit. Making judgments is simply applying discernment to certain actions and attitudes in accordance with a particular worldview.

1. By grace we see the nature of the _____
 - A. Human nature is _____
 - B. Christ's presence is _____
 - C. The gospel is _____
2. By grace we see the nature of _____
 - A. In grace we self-_____
 - B. In grace we self-_____
 - C. In grace we self-_____
3. By grace we see the nature of _____
 - A. He extends the _____ of God
 - B. He extends the _____ of Jesus
 - C. He extends the _____ of the Holy Spirit

Grace allows believers to use discernment in a world that is hostile to the gospel. Grace calls us to share the gospel in love even if it causes us hardship. Grace reveals to us the nature and character of God and empowers us to mature in His image. Grace in our lives allows us to speak grace in our words with integrity. Grace is only possible as we live in the ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit. When the world gets us knotted up, God extends to us a grace unraveled.

Reflection

Consider Parkview and the people who gather here. If Paul wrote to our church, what issues might he address? Do you think Paul would address style issues or the sinful attitudes that stem from petty differences? Do you think Paul would have encouraging words for our church or would he have corrective words? Would he find at Parkview a grace that focuses on the gospel? Would he commend us for the strength of Christ and the power of God among us? Pray over 2 Corinthians 13:5 until you are confident that your faith in the gospel of Jesus is authentic.