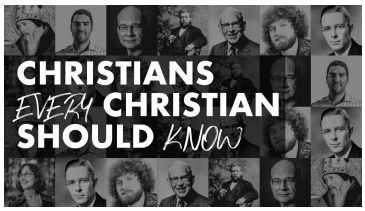
Date: Sept. 1st & 2nd, 2018
Title: John Newton // Amazing Grace
Primary Passage: 1 Peter 1:13-16
Secondary Passage: 1 Timothy 1:15-16
Big Question: How do we keep grace amazing?
Big Idea: We keep grace amazing when we live alive to God through habitual and complete repentance in the pursuit of holiness.
Keywords: Grace, Amazing, Disconnect, Holiness, Confession, Renunciation, Restitution, Truthfulness, Tenderness.



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LIFE Group Application Questions

What stood out to you about John Newton's story?

Read 1 Timothy 1:15-16. What stands out to you about these verses? What makes you struggle to accept this saying for yourself? That "Jesus saves sinners"? Or that "I am the worst?"

Read 1 Peter 1:13-16. Do you believe that holiness is your position? Do you live with holiness as your pursuit?

What is the connection between grace and holiness?

When in your life has grace become cheap, convenient or assumed?

Who has God put in your life to demonstrate His grace through truth & tenderness?

Pray for one another - that grace would remain amazing.

John Newton // Keeping Grace Amazing

September 1st & 2nd, 2018
1 Peter 1:13-16, 1 Timothy 1:15-16
Pastor Ben Hall - Shuswap Community Church, Salmon Arm Campus
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Holiness in the Bible means moral wholeness — a positive quality which actually includes kindness, mercy, purity, moral blamelessness and godliness. It is always to be thought of in a positive, white intensity of degree. - A.W. Tozer

1 Peter 1:13-16, Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

John Newton, 1725-1807
Grew up as a “debauched” sailor...Called out to God for salvation during a storm on a slave-ship... Became a loved pastor of two congregations in Olney and London for forty-three years… A devoted husband to Mary for forty years until she died in 1790... A personal friend to William Wilberforce, Charles Simeon, Henry Martyn, William Carey, John Wesley, and George Whitefield... The author of the most famous hymn in the English language, "Amazing Grace.” ...He died on December 21, 1807, at the age of eighty-two.

I commit my soul to my gracious God and Savior, who mercifully spared and preserved me, when I was an apostate, tate, a blasphemer, and an infidel, and delivered me from the state of misery on the coast of Africa into which my obstinate wickedness had plunged me; and who has been pleased to admit me (though most unworthy) to preach his glorious gospel.

The Repentant Life: From Confession to Renunciation to Restitution to Rest.
Un-Amazing Grace: Cheap, Convenient, Assumed.

Whoever has tasted of the love of Christ, and has known, by his own experience, the need and the worth of redemption, is enabled, Yea, he is constrained, to love his fellow creatures. He loves them at first sight; and, if the providence of God commits a dispensation of the gospel, and care of souls to him, he will feel the warmest emotions of friendship and tenderness, while he beseeches them by the tender mercies of God, and even while he warns them by his terrors...

… (The `wretch' who has been saved by grace) believes and feels his own weakness and unworthiness, and lives upon the grace and pardoning love of his Lord. This gives him an habitual tenderness and gentleness of spirit. Humble under a sense of much forgiveness given to himself, he finds it easy to forgive others."