

## God Doesn't Want Your Life

I was enlightened to an amazing truth of the character of Jesus this past Christmas. The morning of Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> we anxiously watched our kids open their presents. Now I love Christmas and I get just as excited as my kids watching them open their gifts. The precise moment that they rip off the wrapping paper and they realize this gift is what they had wanted makes my heart skip a beat with tremendous joy. At the risk of sounding boastful, I felt pretty good watching my kids get excited over a gift I had given them.

That's the moment when Jesus began to show me the comparison between me being a father to my children and Him being my Father. He reminded me that the excitement He feels in giving good gifts to me is even greater than what I feel in giving good gifts to my kids.

The bigger picture is summed up in the widely misunderstood word - "GRACE". Grace means unmerited or unearned favour. For example, my kids didn't do anything to deserve the gifts they opened that day. They received them simply because they are my kids, I love them, and I want to give them good things. I also gave them without expecting anything in return. That is GRACE!

In the same way, our Heavenly Father does not give blessings to you because you deserve them or you have done something for Him. Our Heavenly Father gives us good gifts because we are His kids, He loves us, and He wants to give us good things. God also gives without expecting anything in return. That is GRACE! If God expected you to give something back then His gift becomes something that is earned and is no longer GRACE or unearned favour. A gift that is earned is not a gift at all.

Unfortunately, many Christians believe that God desires or even requires something from you. So in an attempt to receive deeper spiritual blessing from God they will practice all sorts of spiritual rituals. They believe that as we give to God, it releases God to give back to us. What a ridiculous statement and lie that is. You see, the very moment you do something to receive a blessing from God you have removed yourself from God's GRACE. His blessings are not in what we do, but in what He does for us.

Because of this thought one lie we have believed is that God wants us to give Him our lives. Have you ever asked why God would want your life? Does God need your money or what you can give Him? Of course not, the truth is God does not want your life. **What God really wants to do is give you His life.** What a trade! God wants to give you His life! His life is not earned, it's not deserved, but by the Grace of God when you believe in Jesus He gives you what you don't deserve, His Unmerited Favour, His Grace. All the blessings of Heaven are now ours through Christ Jesus. To realize that I don't have to do anything to increase God's blessing in my life, but to know that I am blessed with all spiritual blessings because of Christ in me, that's GRACE!!

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