

# Wretches United in Christ for His Mission

Grace Christian Fellowship

June 28, 2009

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John 20:21

Again Jesus said,

"Peace be with y'all!

As the Father has sent me,

I am sending y'all."

TNIV, Southern version ©

*Lord, help us to be*

*united in you and for your mission!*

## Recent theme(s)

Accountability – \_\_\_\_\_

Communion – \_\_\_\_\_

United Missionally – \_\_\_\_\_

We are...

wretches united

in Christ for His mission

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## Wretches

Turn to your neighbor and say, "You're a

wretch." Tell them, "You're not perfect."

Tell them, "You have sinned this week."

Romans 12:3

For by the grace given me I say to every one of

you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you

ought, but rather think of yourself with sober

judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith

God has given you.

Amazing Grace

Gift of God

(for ourselves/others)

Receive

(and give to others)

Accepted by God

God/others see our failures, but accept us

anyway

Christ-centered

Hebrews 4:15-16

For we do not have a high priest

who is unable to empathize with our weak-

nesses, but we have one [Jesus Christ] who

has been tempted in every way, just as we

are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach

God's throne of grace with confidence, so that

we may receive mercy and find grace to help

us in our time of need.

Eternal

Grace changes our lives, from here on out.

Give 100 chocolates to 1 person

Who gave that to you? (*I did.*) Based on

what you know of me, what do you think

I gave those to you for?

Grace is poured out on us, so we can pour it

on others.

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## United

Turn to your neighbors and say, "Let's stand

shoulder to shoulder."

Zephaniah 3:9

"Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of  
them may call on the name of the LORD and serve  
him shoulder to shoulder."

*Throw balls at people standing apart, then  
standing shoulder to shoulder.*

Who am I?

Really, come on, I'm not perfect, not

even anywhere near being as good as

Mother Teresa.

Does God love me?

Yes!

Who are they?

They're not perfect, nowhere near being

as good as Mother Teresa.

Does God love them?

Yes!

Shoulder to shoulder; sometimes toe to toe.

Last night I was telling Geetha about

something I had done, and she said, "You

can't do that, Rose." Something that I

thought was fine, she pointed out was not.

That really helped me look with fresh

eyes on my actions. That helped me be

more like God.

Forgive – doesn't mean it was okay. Forgive

means to acknowledge that it was wrong, and

but to offer them grace and not forever

punish. (There are consequences (lost trust,

etc.), but not forever punishing.

Forgive, because God forgave you much

more.

Why are we together?

We are... wretches united

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### In Christ

We are set apart, sanctified, made holy IN CHRIST.

John 17:17-19

<sup>17</sup>Sanctify them [set them apart for sacred use, or make them holy] by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

*set apart for sacred use*  
or... *make holy*

Colossians 3

<sup>1</sup>Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God....  
<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature... <sup>9</sup>...since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience....  
<sup>4:2</sup>Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup>And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message... <sup>5</sup>Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup>Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

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### For His Mission

Missional

Genesis 12

The LORD had said to Abram...  
"I will make you into a great nation  
and I will bless you;  
I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing....  
and all peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you."

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Small groups – missional

1 Thessalonians 1

<sup>2</sup>We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. <sup>3</sup>We continually remember

before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

If we have faith, love, and hope; there should be something very different about us.

Our faith produces work, and  
Our love prompts labor and  
our hope inspires endurance.

Mt 5:43-45, TNIV

Mt 4:19-20

<sup>19</sup> "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." <sup>20</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.

Mt 20:26-28

whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>27</sup> and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— <sup>28</sup> just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Luke 19:10 (Zacchaeus)

<sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

Read more...

Luke 9 and 10

## **Colossians 3 and 4 (excerpts)**

<sup>1</sup>Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God....

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature... <sup>9</sup>...since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

<sup>13</sup>Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup>And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

<sup>15</sup>Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing... <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

<sup>4:2</sup>Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup>And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message... <sup>5</sup>Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup>Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.