

Chapter 1 : "The Lord Is Gracious" © Heartlight®

It was the hall-mark of his aristocratic birth, the natural outcropping of many generations of fine breeding, an hereditary instinct of graciousness which a lifetime of uncouth and savage training and environment could not eradicate.

The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom Psalm The Lord is gracious. His compassion draws us to Him. His compassion touches our hearts. His compassion proves we are loved. His compassion reaches to the depths of our hearts. His compassion compels us to love Him and follow Him. The splendor of the fall colors takes our breath away. He is slow to anger. How quickly He could condemn us! He would be justified if He chose to reject us and turn away from us. We would deserve it if He unleashed His anger upon us. We could not defend ourselves if He were to decide to put us on trial. His patience is unfathomable. We deserve His anger. We deserve His wrath. We deserve His judgment. We are saved because He is gracious and slow to anger. He is rich in love. Because He is rich in love we have hope. Because He is rich in love we have peace. Because He is rich in love we have joy. Because He is rich in love we have salvation. Because He is rich in love we have an eternal. Because He is rich in love we have a Savior. Because He is rich in love we have been redeemed. Because He is rich in love we can experience His love. Because He is rich in love have no fear of judgment. Because He is rich in love we can know His gracious nature. Because He is rich in love we can know we have a home with Him. Look around you at the world He has created. The change of seasons reminds of His graciousness. The grandeur of a mountain reminds us of His graciousness. The beauty of the ocean reminds us of His graciousness. His mighty acts remind us of His graciousness. The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. Let us, His creation, praise Him, extol Him, tell of the glory of His kingdom, and speak of His might, so that all men may know of His mighty acts and the glorious splendor of his kingdom.

Chapter 2 : God is Gracious

his graciousness and wit kept his fellow diners entertained throughout the meal Synonyms of graciousness affability, agreeability, agreeableness, amenity, amiability, amiableness, geniality, good-naturedness, good-temperedness, niceness, personableness, pleasantness, sweetness.

It is His character to love even if love is not returned to Him. He will give us good things because of His goodness. God is gracious because He is our Creator. By this we mean that God deals with his people not on the basis of their merit or worthiness, what they deserve, but simply according to their need; in other words, he deals with them on the basis of his goodness and generosity. Think of a parent. A father and mother will give good things to their children because they want to nurture their children. They provide shelter, food, and clothing because they know that it is necessary for the well-being of the children. They also give them gifts out of love for their children. God does the same thing. He has provided everything for humanity in order for them to grow and prosper. He goes beyond just subsistence. He personalizes each and every gift. When is God gracious? God is gracious all the time, even when we are disobedient to Him. It is His character to be gracious and He "does not change like the shifting shadows" James 1: He extends His mercy to us until the final moment of our lives. He wants none to perish because He created us to live in eternity with Him. God had so much compassion on humanity that He sent His only Son to die for the disobedience of all mankind. God is gracious in our times of need, sending provision for us: And we boast in the hope of the glory of God" Romans 5: Helping our brothers and sisters in this world to find peace, comfort, and strength in times when desperation threatens to overwhelm them. This is the response that God desires us to have for each other. As we seek God for who He is, we gain understanding and wisdom. He then begins to mold us into a likeness of His son, Jesus.

"BLESSINGS ARE IMMEASURABLE You can Lose a child Or a parent, The love of your life, A good job, A game, A deal, A bet, An idea, Your favorite thing, Money.

Related Media Too often we meet folks who are anything but kind and gracious. Unfortunately, such people have never come to grips with the biblical standard of graciousness. The Scriptures, however, point out that human beings should live in accordance with that standard. Indeed, God himself is gracious. For example, from early times he showed his graciousness to Sarah by giving to her the ability to conceive and give birth to a son, even when she was well along in years Gen. The psalmists often mention graciousness as evidence of good manners. Thus, as David mentions in his well-known prayer psalm, as he faced arrogant, godless men, he called out to the Lord: You, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, Slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Turn to me and have mercy on me; Grant your strength to your servant And save the son of your maid servant. He made known His ways to Moses, His deeds to the people of Israel. He will not always accuse, Nor will he harbor his anger forever. Glorious and majestic are his deeds, And his righteousness endures forever. He has caused his wonders to be remembered, The Lord is gracious and compassionate. In another psalm of David Ps. Especially to be noted once again is his declaration that, The Lord is gracious and compassionate, Slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; He has compassion on all he has made Ps. Thus Joel Joel 2: God is consistent in his character: The psalmist knew that the Lord was his true source of help. But not only is God gracious and compassionate, he is also forgiving. And be thankful, let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonition one another with all wisdom. In so doing, we also may sing songs with gratitude. If our lives were but more simple, we should take him at his Word, And our lives would be all sunshine, in the sweetness of our Lord. Who paid the price for pardon and redemption When on the cross His life He freely gave. Zondervan, ,

Chapter 4 : How A Little Graciousness Can Do Wonders For Your Career

His Graciousness The Prince. K likes. Public Figure. "The church should be front and center in speaking truth to power and being an open door to reconciliation.

Or put another way no one is gracious with anyone else. This book is easily accessible for all readers, but I think it will find a nice niche in the Christian Living section, where people no matter whether they have had a seminary education or have had a Sunday School education, all will find this book immensely helpful and fruitful. The book has two sections the first lays out the Biblical mandate for graciousness in all walks of life. No matter what the person has done or not done to you, no matter where that person is or is from, no matter whether they love or hate you, all are worthy of our graciousness. The second section deals with practical ways to live this concept out. I found this section to be one part encouraging, one part enlightening and one part convicting, making a well rounded approach to the living out of the commands to be gracious. In conclusion, I give this book five stars, it is an easy read in that it is accessible, but it is a difficult read because it will not allow you to skate on by and keep the same level of ungraciousness yep I made that word up that is so common in our world today. He asks readers to consider an area in which they might need help he includes examples such as finances and golf. Readers are then asked to consider wh The premise of Graciousness: Readers are then asked to consider what it might be like if the expert in that area happened to approach them and offer to come to their home and extend help in that area. He states that Christians, especially those who hold to reformed doctrine, tend to speak truth in this manner often. Those who identify as Calvinists are even known for going through the cage stage, a time in which they become so zealous for truth but lacking in love that they are akin to cage fighters. I really appreciate that Graciousness: Tempering Truth With Love is full of Scripture and draws many examples from the Bible as to how Christians ought to speak. One of my favorite points that Pastor John makes is that gracious speech is a way to demonstrate trust in God as we hope for others to realize certain truths or even come to salvation. I was sad and discouraged by this and to see it mentioned in this book made me realize it probably happens more often amongst believers than we realize and it welcomes the opportunity to speak the truth in love as we remind others that God alone is the one who truly changes hearts. Another point of the book that I enjoyed is the brief commentary Pastor John offers on Ephesians 4: In addition to being encouraging, Graciousness: Tempering Truth With Love is also very practical. A helpful aspect of this book, that Pastor Crofts includes examples of how we as Christians can approach certain conversations in such a manner that glorifies God and shows love toward those we are sharing truth with. As Christians, the heart behind our speech ought to be peacemaking as we consider the peace Christ made with God on our behalf at the cross. Our hope and deepest desire ought to be for others to come to this knowledge or to grow deeper in it and one of the best ways we can further this Gospel goal is by speaking the truth in love. My heart was greatly encouraged by Graciousness: Tempering Truth With Love. This is a helpful book for Christian on speaking the truth in love. The author John Crofts is a pastor in Georgia and has written for us a helpful resource for Christian holy living and for biblical counseling. I also think this book is useful for those who might not be thinking they are in need of counseling; Christian pastors and those involved with ministry would benefit it from it if they read this work and apply it and thus become more effective Do you speak the truth graciously with others? I also think this book is useful for those who might not be thinking they are in need of counseling; Christian pastors and those involved with ministry would benefit it from it if they read this work and apply it and thus become more effective in how they minister and speak truth to others. The book consists of ten chapters. I felt the first two chapters were foundational: The second chapter of the book also defined biblically what the author means by graciousness. Then chapters three through five looks at examples beginning first with the greatest example of graciousness: Then chapter four looks at the example of Paul and chapter five looking at a negative example with the church at Ephesus. Finally the book ends with the chapter on the Gospel and It did feel the book started out slow but it got good as one continued reading. I personally felt it started getting good beginning with chapter three with the discussion about the example of Jesus in being gracious towards others. Truly Jesus is the greatest example. I

also appreciated this exposition for while the author does not state it 2 Corinthians 3: Studying Jesus and His graciousness leads one to appreciate Jesus more and we are transformed as a result of it. There are a lot of helpful suggestions and counsel on how to cultivate graciousness. I appreciated the author discussing about putting off the sin of harshness is required before one can put on graciousness. Crott also had a good analogy here of putting on a new sports coat can only happen if one first remove the coat one is presently wearing. A helpful work with the brevity and vocabulary being accessible for the general Christian adult reading audience. I recommend this work. Also its paperback size and simple but nice cover also makes this appealing enough as a gift to be purchased for others. I received this book for free from the publisher Reformation Heritage Books through Cross Focused Reviews in exchange for my honest opinion. The thoughts and words are my own and I was under no obligation to provide a favorable review.

Chapter 5 : Graciousness Quotes (79 quotes)

IN response to the letter from Gavin Hughes, (Viewpoints, September 1,): Anyone who has fully understood the words of the national anthem and can still dare to see graciousness and nobility in any member of the Royal Family, must have more of a worn set of lamps than poor old Ben Turpin.

Classification[edit] Many Reformed theologians distinguish between the communicable attributes those that human beings can also have and the incommunicable attributes those that belong to God alone. The attributes of God may be classified under two main categories: His personality attributes, like holiness and love. Eternity[edit] The eternity of God concerns his existence beyond time. Drawing on verses such as Psalm Goodness[edit] The goodness of God means that "God is the final standard of good, and all that God is and does is worthy of approval. Many theologians consider the goodness of God as an overarching attribute - Louis Berkhof , for example, sees it as including kindness, love, grace, mercy and longsuffering. Graciousness[edit] The graciousness of God is a key tenet of Christianity. The descriptive of God in this text is, in Jewish tradition, called the " Thirteen Attributes of Mercy ". Holiness[edit] The holiness of God is that he is separate from sin and incorruptible. Noting the refrain of " Holy, holy, holy " in Isaiah 6: Sproul points out that "only once in sacred Scripture is an attribute of God elevated to the third degree The Bible never says that God is love, love, love. It is thus contrasted with his transcendence , but Christian theologians usually emphasise that the two attributes are not contradictory. To hold to transcendence but not immanence is deism , while to hold to immanence but not transcendence is pantheism. According to Wayne Grudem , "the God of the Bible is no abstract deity removed from, and uninterested in his creation". Herman Bavinck notes that although the Bible talks about God repenting, changing his purpose, and becoming angry, "Scripture testifies that in all these various relations and experiences God remains ever the same. Prominent adherents of open theism include Clark Pinnock , John E. Sanders and Gregory Boyd. Impassibility[edit] The doctrine of the impassibility of God is a controversial one. The Westminster Confession of Faith says that God is "without body, parts, or passions". Although some take this to mean that God is "without emotions whether of joy, sorrow, pain or grief", most interpret this as meaning that God is free from all attitudes "which reflect instability or lack of control. Carson argues that "although Aristotle may exercise more than a little scarcely recognized influence upon those who uphold impassibility, at its best impassibility is trying to avoid a picture of God who is changeable, given over to mood swings, dependent on his creatures. Carson affirms that God is able to suffer, but argues that if he does so "it is because he chooses to suffer". It means that God is unable to sin, which is a stronger statement than merely saying that God does not sin. Robert Morey argues that God does not have the "absolute freedom" found in Greek philosophy. Acatalepsy The incomprehensibility of God means that he is not able to be fully known. Louis Berkhof states that "the consensus of opinion" through most of church history has been that God is the "Incomprehensible One". Berkhof, however, argues that, "in so far as God reveals Himself in His attributes, we also have some knowledge of His Divine Being, though even so our knowledge is subject to human limitations. Infinity permeates all other attributes of God: The relationship between the infinity of God and mathematical infinity has often been discussed. Trinity and love and omnibenevolence 1 John 4: Carson speaks of the "difficult doctrine of the love of God ," since "when informed Christians talk about the love of God they mean something very different from what is meant in the surrounding culture. The love of God is particularly emphasised by adherents of the social Trinitarian school of theology. Wright argues for a biblical basis for Mission that goes beyond the Great Commission , and suggests that "missionary texts" may sparkle like gems, but that "simply laying out such gems on a string is not yet what one could call a missiological hermeneutic of the whole Bible itself. Jesus says in Matthew Lewis clarifies this concept: You may attribute miracles to him, but not nonsense. This is no limit to his power. Omniscience[edit] The omniscience of God refers to him being "all knowing". Berkhof regards the wisdom of God as a "particular aspect of his knowledge. Oneness[edit] The oneness, or unity of God refers to his being one and only. This means that Christianity is monotheistic , although the doctrine of the Trinity says that God is three persons: Father , Son , and Holy Spirit. Yahweh our God, Yahweh is one. The Apostle Paul

also affirms the oneness of God in verses like Ephesians 4: Providence[edit] While the providence of God usually refers to his activity in the world, it also implies his care for the universe, and is thus an attribute. A notable occurrence of the word is in Romans 1: Martin Luther grew up believing that this referred to an attribute of God - namely, his distributive justice. More recently , however, scholars such as N. Wright have argued that the verse refers to an attribute of God after all - this time, his covenant faithfulness. It is thus related to the unity of God. Grudem notes that this is a less common use of the word "simple" - that is, "not composed of parts". It refers to God being in complete control as he directs all things - no person, organization, government or any other force can stop God from executing his purpose. This attribute has been particularly emphasized in Calvinism. The Calvinist writer A. Pink appeals to Isaiah For this is what the high and exalted One says - he who lives forever, whose name is holy: God is understood to be a unity of Father , Son , and the Holy Spirit. Greg Bahnsen says, Only with an inerrant autograph can we avoid attributing error to the God of truth. An error in the original would be attributable to God Himself, because He, in the pages of Scripture, takes responsibility for the very words of the biblical authors. But again he listened to me. In the New Testament , Jesus says in John 3:

Chapter 6 : Graciousness Synonyms, Graciousness Antonyms | Merriam-Webster Thesaurus

*Perhaps the simple answer is - to be more like Jesus in His example. The book is a short read but one to be r
Sometimes my words can get me into trouble. But communicating graciously involves more than just our words.*

Here is wisdom for your success – inspired advice to take you to the top. In just a few words, the God of heaven outlined how a few special men rise above average men to be great. God and Solomon want you to prosper. A man with a pure heart has gracious speech, so that great men choose him as their friend. It begins with a pure heart – one free from all bitterness, envy, guile, hypocrisy, malice, pride, or selfishness. Such hearts use gracious words – acceptable, agreeable, courteous, forgiving, gentle, kind, merciful, and pleasing words. The combination is so delightful and rare that noble men are instantly and deeply drawn to it. Graciousness is the most beautifying character trait. A gracious person is often described as a beautiful or charming person. Whether man or woman, graciousness makes a person delightful, pleasant, and winning. It is a rare and sweet pleasure to meet one. And this trait is most clearly shown by excellent speech. You will meet only a few in life; they will have great reputations; they will warm your soul; you will crave their company. If you want to advance, to grow and prosper, in your profession and all relationships, then you should memorize this proverb and practice it every day. Loving pureness of heart is something you do every waking minute; gracious speech is guarding every word when speaking. You should seize the valuable wisdom offered to you in this proverb, and by consistent practice of its two simple rules, you will reap the promised reward. How did Joseph at only thirty years of age rise to the right hand of power in Egypt, though he was not an Egyptian and was in prison for attempted rape? He did it by pure motives and wise speech, no matter the audience or circumstances Gen Pharaoh loved him and gave him honors, rewards, and privileges. The proverb is true. How did Daniel around twenty win the loving favor of one of the greatest and harshest kings, the Chaldean Nebuchadnezzar? He followed the same plan of pure motives and gracious speech of Joseph Dan 1: He was honored by Nebuchadnezzar, by his descendants, and by his successors Darius and Cyrus the Persian for over 70 years. Consider that Solomon, a king, admitted weakness for gracious men. Though David was a lowly shepherd and also a threat to his future reign, Jonathan loved him as his own soul. Enemy kings, mercenaries, and foreign kings loved David. Saul in his right mind loved David I Sam Hiram, king of Tyre, one of the wealthiest of nations, always loved David I Kgs 5: Herod Antipas appreciated and favored John the Baptist, in spite of John rebuking his actions, though his adulterous wife eventually secured his murder Mark 6: Paul also found favor with Roman governors, captains, centurions, and kings by the same formula of Joseph, David, and Daniel Acts Do you grasp the power of this rule from the mouth of God and pen of Solomon? Do you see the Bible examples of its fulfillment with the most powerful men on earth? Keep your heart with all diligence, for your speech and conduct in life comes from this fountain and source Pr 4: Let your speech be always gracious, nurturing and lifting those around you Col 4: Do not allow critical, hard, or negative words out of your mouth foolishly. Do not be demanding, harsh, proud, or severe unless rare circumstances call for it. How can you stop offensive speech and body language that costs you favor and honor with men and women? Think only pure thoughts about all persons in your heart. Solomon said a gracious woman is always revered Pr If a woman has few friends and is generally disliked, she needs graciousness. It is her odiousness – the opposite of graciousness – that offends others Pr A virtuous woman speaks very cautiously and discreetly, and then only with kindness Pr She says only acceptable things, and she only says them at acceptable times. The meek and quiet spirit of good women, which God and men admire, is a large part of graciousness I Pet 3: An unwanted woman must examine herself through the ears of others. Two things she can do are to reject all critical and negative thoughts and cut her words in half. Her words and manners keep reminding you of the hairy pig wearing the little piece of gold. When an average or ugly woman does not have gracious discretion, words fail to describe the ugliness of this creature. Solomon also taught that wise men speak graciously, but fools destroy themselves with their words Ec A froward man is difficult, harsh, obnoxious, perverse, and unreasonable; he is the opposite of gracious. Kings delight in righteous speech Pr Solomon highly praised pleasant words Pr Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of graciousness. David prophesied of His gracious lips

Ps When He first spoke in His hometown of Nazareth, the skeptics were amazed at his gracious speech Luke 4: Even his enemies had to admit that no man had ever spoken like Him John 7: Scripture is full of His gracious words, coming from the purest heart John 4: Graciousness begins with a pure heart. Bitterness, envy, or strife in the heart is from hell, and leads to all sort of confusion and evil Jas 3: If your heart is cheerful, contented, forgiving, kind, and thankful, you will think gracious thoughts. You must reject all sinful thoughts of bitterness, envy, evil surmising, malice, or revenge. A pure heart produces gracious speech. He told the Ephesians to avoid all corrupt speech and focus on words that build others up; he said that a tenderhearted spirit based in kindness and forgiveness was right, but that bitterness, wrath, malice, and evil speaking were wrong Eph 4: If you think kindly about others, rule your spirit, and guard your tongue, you will be gracious. Reader, lay hold of wisdom. This proverb is pure gold. If you seek to grow in favor with God and men, there is no better way than graciousness. By starting with your heart and thoughts about others, you will have the internal fountain for gracious words. The perfect place to practice is at home with spouse, parents, children, or siblings, where you are generally the least gracious. With the blessing of God, the king will soon be your friend. What else can you do? Listen more; talk less Pr Promote others Phil 2: Learn to live charity I Cor Avoid folly Eccl Hate jesting Eph 5: Be cheerful Pr Be content Heb Exalt mercy Jas 2: Develop pitiful compassion I Pet 3: Eliminate moodiness Pr Make peace Jas 3: Only say what is acceptable to others Pr Praise others Pr Hate the limelight Num Despise envy Pr Do not be a busybody I Pet 4: And pray for it! David had a pure heart, because he asked the Lord to search and perfect his heart Ps Pray for a greater measure of the Spirit of God in your life, so that you will bear the gracious fruit of the Spirit Gal 5: Any man or woman bearing love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance will be gracious. He will be incredibly gracious. She will be a new creature. Forget what you think about yourself. Graciousness is what others feel about you – God and good men. Most odious people think themselves gracious, and most gracious people think themselves odious. It is this arrogance of spirit or humility of spirit that makes a person odious or gracious. Others certainly do not miss your abrasive and irritating words and manners. If you have few friends, especially noble men and women, craving your presence, you are likely odious.

Chapter 7 : Attributes of God in Christianity - Wikipedia

His graciousness can heal even our bitterness, as we'll see in chapter 2. I like how one writer draws God's graciousness out of even Mara, in OT not just the definitive place of grumbling bitterness, it was also the place where God's grace to grumblers was.

Any aspiring lady or gentleman would do well to take it to heart: But graciousness reflects a state of being; it emanates from your inventory of self. Start with what you already possess. You, for instance, have a job. Live up to that. Instead, Chiarella says be interested in the world around you and the people there. His advice is gorgeous in its simplicity: Remember where people were born. Give a proper handshakes with these five qualities. Square your shoulders, make eye contact, use a proper grip, leave your elbow at a right angle, and smile. Present yourself with more than your clothes. Remember to stand when someone enters or leaves the room; when they do, you look them in the eye. If there are any, you make them warmly. And truly hold a conversation. The German word for conversation is Unterhaltung, which directly translates as holding-under: A conversationalist shows appreciative, career-launching kindness. Chiarella traces the subtleties: Be attentive to what people say. You always have time. You own the time in which you live. You grant it to others without obligation. That is the gift of being gracious. What are the rewards for graciousness? Let us know yours in the comments. Flickr user John Bell] advertisement.

Chapter 8 : Gracious | Define Gracious at calendrierdelascience.com

Sometimes it can seem like the safest thing to do with a new Calvinist is lock him in a cage for a few months (perhaps even a couple years), until his spiritual maturity can catch up to his newfound theology.

Chapter 9 : Grace and Graciousness: Part of the Godly Man

Graciousness isn't high on the list of modern values. But it ought to be. The Three Graces of Greek and Roman mythology were sister goddesses who dispensed charm, good humor and beauty.