

# CHAPTER 4

## Do You Know You Are to Live in a Grace-Faith Relationship with God?

### Foundational Review

Although this is one of the longest chapters in the book, this chapter contains the heart of the answer to our big question: “Do you know who you are?” Also please note – we are using Scripture continually, because Scripture is the foundation of our studies. Chapters 4-6 are a unit on the relationship with God – one in this session, one at our next session, and one at the third session.

### A Relationship

#### QUESTION #1:

What is a relationship? What essentials are needed to establish a relationship?

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#### QUESTION #2:

In any relationship, what are the two view-points?

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### Grace-Faith Relationship: Basic Definitions

#### ■ Grace

#### QUESTION #1:

READ Eph. 2:4-7. Describe Grace using scripture ONLY.

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#### You Are:

- A Saint (Ephesians 1:1)
- and Beloved (Ephesians 1:6; John 16:27)
- A Christian/the 5 C's (Acts 11:26)
  - Christ
  - Cross
  - Commandments
  - Great Controversy
  - Second Coming

*Grace and Faith*

#### QUESTION #2:

What does Grace do for the sinner? Extract your answer from Eph. 2:4-7.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
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The Hebrew word is “*hesed*.” The English word is “lovingkindness.” The Greek word is “*charis*” (from which we get our word “charity.”) The attitude and action of “*hesed*” or “lovingkindness” or “charity” is a much higher being bestowing an undeserved gift or blessing on a much lower being – so much lower that there is no possibility of the lower being reciprocating.

# Chapter 7: Do You Know You Are to Live in a Grace-Faith Relationship with God?

## Faith

### QUESTION #1:

READ Romans 4:18-21. Describe Faith.

a. What words in the verses describe Abraham's faith?

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b. Who has promised, according to the verse?

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c. Who is able to perform?

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### THINK IT THROUGH:

Be careful! Be sure to distinguish between Faith (in someone else) and Faithful (able to stand by myself).

Who has Faith? (Circle one) God or Man

Who is Faithful? (Circle one) God or Man

Don't confuse the two.

## The Paralytic... and Us

TURN TO Luke 5:17-25 and read the story.



### QUESTION #1:

READ Eph. 1:4.

a. When did God's Grace begin for the paralytic?

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b. Who makes the first move in your relationship with God?

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c. When did your relationship with God begin for you? How long ago? (Be careful! Trick question!)

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### THINK IT THROUGH:

For how long are God's commands and promises valid? For how long will God's Grace continue to be available to you? (Review Eph 1:4 and Eph. 2:4 before you answer.)

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### QUESTION #2:

READ 1 John 4:10. What was the Gift that God gave to the paralytic?

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### QUESTION #3:

When did the Paralytic *first* express his Faith in Jesus?

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a. How do we respond to the giving of the Gift? If someone offered you \$50, is it yours, if you don't accept it?

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b. What else? What comes before the acceptance of the Gift? READ John 16:8 (also a gift)

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c. Convinced/Convicted of what? What do you need to be convinced of? Look at the words of the verse.

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Sin – who has conquered sin? (John 16:33; Romans 8:2)

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Righteousness – whose righteousness? (Jeremiah 23:6)

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Judgment – who has pronounced judgment and on whom? (John 5:24, 29)

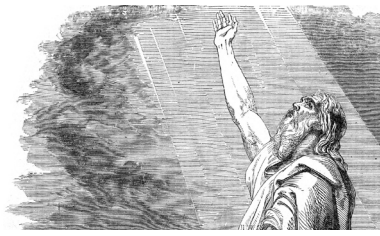
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**QUESTION #4:**

READ Romans 4:21. But why do we express Faith in God, based on what evidence? What did Abraham based it on? (Answer from the words of the verse)



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**QUESTION #5:**

READ Joshua 24:15; 1 Kings 18:21. What decision point MUST the paralytic reach to make the Gift his?

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Must it also be the same for you? \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION #6:**

READ John 3:3. How does Jesus describe this experience?

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Are you physically born again? If not, what experience is Jesus describing?

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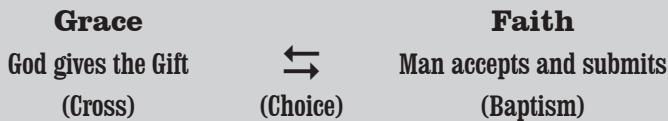
**QUESTION #7:**

READ Romans 6:3-4. By what public action do you make this choice known to the world?

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*This is a graphic, formulary depiction of what we have just studied.*



**THINK IT THROUGH:**

How and when did you express your Faith in Jesus in this way?

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**The Paralytic Again**

**QUESTION #1:**

When did the paralytic express his Faith in Jesus a second time? (Replay the scene in your mind.)

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a. What was going through his mind as he lay there?

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b. Do these thoughts come to you when you place yourself in God's hands?

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c. What did the paralytic *do*?

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**QUESTION #2:**

How can you express your Faith like this? This is VERY important.

a. READ Romans 6:16, 19. What does it say you should do which results in sanctification? What is your part? (Paul says it twice in verse 19. Be very specific. Quote the exact words of the verse.)

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b. READ Romans 6:17. What does Paul call this action? (middle of the verse)

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c. READ John 15:5. What does Jesus call this same action?

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d. READ Hebrews 10:23. Again, exactly WHY would you do this?

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e. READ Phil. 2:13. What will God do IN you at this point?

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\_\_\_\_\_

f. READ Rom 12:2. Can you do this for yourself?

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g. READ 2 Cor. 3:18. If you can't do it for yourself, who does it?

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**QUESTION #3:**

READ Ezekiel 36:26, 27. What is the Second Gift? What does He do? (We will talk more about this in a later study)

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**QUESTION #4:**

READ Luke 5:20. What did Jesus say to the paralytic in verse 20?

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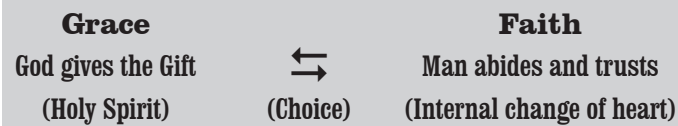
a. Was that enough for the Paralytic? Did Jesus need to do anything further for him? (DA 268)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. Do you think Jesus and the Paralytic have a relationship at this point?

\_\_\_\_\_

*This is a graphic, formulary depiction of what we have just studied.*



**THINK IT THROUGH:**

Is this second expression of Faith in Jesus harder to do than the first? Why or why not?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**The Paralytic One More Time**

**QUESTION #1:**

READ Luke 5:24. Now the Paralytic gets a test of the relationship. When Jesus told the Paralytic to stand up and walk, what did the Paralytic *do* that was the same as what Abraham did? (compare with Romans 4:19-20)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION #2:**

Why does the Paralytic even try to stand up and walk? Be careful. This answer is critical. Consult Romans 4:17-18 and Hebrews 11:17-19. Imagine Abraham standing there with the knife in his hand – what is going through his mind, do you think?



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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION #3:**

What is the Third Gift? (Part of this is still hidden from the Paralytic, but it is here for completeness.)

a. READ Galatians 5:25. What does Paul call this action?

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b. READ Romans 1:5 and 16:26. What does Paul call this action here?

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c. READ 1 John 2:6. What does John call this action?

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d. READ Genesis 5:22-24. What does Genesis call this action?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Compare this with the Hebrews account of the same action. READ Heb. 11:5.)

**QUESTION #4:**

READ Hebrews 11:6. How can we be pleasing to God?  
(Compare with Rom. 4:21)

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**THINK IT THROUGH:**

Based on what we have learned – as reflected in this diagram, how can you “walk by the Spirit”?

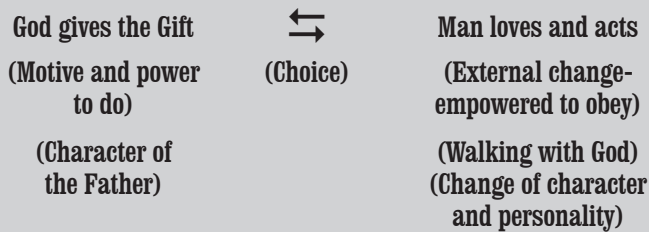
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*This is a graphic, formulary depiction of what we have just studied.*



**Summarize**

Name the three Gifts God gives and how we receive each of them.

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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
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**THINK IT THROUGH:**

How does choice play a role in the Grace-Faith Relationship? What makes this so difficult for humans to do?

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**Take Home**

**Thought Questions**

What's the point of the Grace-Faith Relationship?

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READ Exodus 25:8; Jeremiah 24:7; Isaiah 44:8; Revelation 21:3. Is it about “getting the work done” or about “being good?” Or being healthy? Or going to heaven? What's the end game here? What's the outcome that God has been planning all along?

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