



TOPIC Mercy, Grace and Favour

SPEAKER SP Daniel Foo

THEME New Season, New Warfare

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MESSAGE SUMMARY

NEW SEASON, NEW WARFARE 2

The focus of New Season, New Warfare part 2 is the mercy, grace and favour of God. SP Daniel Foo reminds us of the need to realign our lives to continually experience the mercy, grace and favour from God. This is because of the law of multiplication. Whoever heeds the Word will be given more and whoever does not, will have what he thinks he even has taken away (Luke 8:18). We must remember that God always wants to bless us but He cannot if there is ground against us; He cannot go against His character which is loving, just and righteous.

In order to experience His mercy, grace and favour, we need to plead for mercy, pursue the specific grace for our needs and position our lives to obtain favour.

HOW TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S MERCY, GRACE AND FAVOUR

1) PLEAD FOR MERCY

The definition of mercy is not getting what we deserve. We deserve death when we are continually separated from God. However, He reached out to us even when we were His enemies so as to give us eternal life (Rom 6:23). Mercy also means not reaping the negative consequences of what we have previously sown wrongly. We need to reflect on our entire life and bring it under the Blood. Ask for His forgiveness, cleansing and covering. We cannot afford to have the devil mess with us. Sometimes, we may not reap these negative consequences but our future generations will as shown through the example of the Israelites and Gibeonites (1 Tim 5:24; Jos 9 – 2 Sam 21). The Israelites under Joshua did not suffer from their disobedience but the generation under King Saul faced the consequences. Sin can also lead to death (1 John 5:16).

To experience God's mercy, we should firstly appropriate the blood of Jesus for forgiveness. When we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Next, we need to appropriate Christ's blood for cleansing. Jesus' blood will cleanse us from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God (2 Cor 7:1). Lastly, appropriate the blood for covering. Covering will close the strongholds in our lives which Satan will use to devour us (Eph 4:27; 1 Pet 5:8). It is vital to note that appropriating the blood does

not automatically provide forgiveness, cleansing and covering. We need to ask for forgiveness to restore our fellowship with God. As sin defiles us, we need to cleanse ourselves in spirit and body with Christ's blood. We need to go to God and intentionally obtain mercy to cover our wrongs.

The Lord's mercies are current, present and available (Lam 3:22-23). God is gentle and He will relent, choosing not to remember our sins when we plead for His mercy (Psa 69:16; 106: 45). Mercy always triumphs over judgment (Jam 2:13).

2) PURSUE THE SPECIFIC GRACE FOR OUR NEED

As written in Hebrews 4:16, we should come boldly to the throne of grace so that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in our times of need. Know the Word and seek God so that we may find and be able to ask for a specific grace for a particular need. There is a corresponding grace available for each need. As our Father and Giver of every good and perfect gift, God will give it to those who ask from Him (Luke 11:11-13; Jam 1:17). This seeking must always be done in faith, believing that He exists and that He will reward those who diligently seek Him (Heb 11:6). We must always stand on His promises and use them when we ask from God. When we always do that and experience God coming through for us, we will grow in our faith convictions.

3) POSITION OUR LIVES TO OBTAIN FAVOUR

Favour is bonus grace from God. To position our lives to obtain favour, we must increasingly know our primary calling and missional calling. The former is connected to our basic responsibilities in life while the latter is God's assignment for us to influence and impact lives and we need the favour of God to fulfil both especially for our missional calling. In addition, we must increasingly recognize the favour of God in our lives. This favour is always bestowed by God to the righteous (Psa 84:11). To allow this bestowment, we must be aware of what blocks God's favour in our lives such as disobedience, sin, pride and being out of alignment with God's purpose and call. Do whatever is necessary to restore His favour. Ask for God's favour wholeheartedly, reflect on our ways and turn to obey God's testimonies and commandments (Psa 119:58-60). Listen to God and heed His voice so that He may dwell in us (Rev 3:20). Sacrifice to Him our broken spirit and our broken and contrite heart so that He may revive them (Isa 57:15; Psa 51:17).

CONCLUSION

As we enter a new season and warfare, we need to realign our lives to continually experience the mercy, grace and favour from God. Plead for His mercy so that we may be forgiven, cleansed and covered by His blood. Pursue the specific grace for our need. Ask God for a specific grace with boldness and faith for every particular need, there is a corresponding grace. God's mercies are new every morning and as a loving and faithful Father, He will bless us with them. Position our lives so that God can bestow His favour on us. Be aware of what blocks His favour and do whatever is necessary to restore it.

Never forget the redemptive purpose of God. Mercy, grace and favour are always for the above purpose. We are blessed to be a blessing.

QUESTIONS

1. Reflecting on your life to date, how have you experienced God's mercy, grace and favour? Share about one or two experiences and what you have learnt from them.

2. SP Daniel Foo mentioned 14 primary areas that Satan might have legal grounds against us. Ask God to reveal to you the area which you are vulnerable in. Share with one another and pray for God's forgiveness, cleansing and covering in this area.

3. How can you be a blessing to others in 2019?