

The Grace of God

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 9, Genesis 32.

B. Definitions of grace.

1. Unmerited favor—much undeserved.
2. Whatever is best for you or for me from God's point of view.

C. God is consistent from the beginning to the end. (Genesis 50:20, Romans 8:28)

II. God was doing what was best in the life of Jacob even though it did not appear that way on the surface.

A. God loved Jacob even though the circumstances were difficult. (Romans 9)

1. One of the evidences of God's grace is sometimes being left alone.
2. The grace of God includes ambushes.
3. Sometimes, God's grace is tough. The abundant life is not always abundant on the surface. (John 10:10)

B. Grace has no place in the life of the person who is not vulnerable.

1. Failure makes a place for grace.
2. We must acknowledge our need for change.
3. One of the changes is reconciliation. (Genesis 33:4, Matthew 5)

Application questions:

1. What have you learned from some of your most challenging life circumstances?

2. How can pain be grace? Explain.

3. What is your definition of grace? How might you change that definition in light of the message? Explain.
