

A WEEKLY DEVOTION



INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 9, 2021

A Thank You note to God – Savannah Edis

Reading

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

For Reflection

What is grace? The dictionary definition reads as, the free and unmerited favor of God. For by the free favor of God you have been saved. We haven't done any action to receive this grace, it is totally and completely free. Now, I don't know about you all, but I would be hard pressed to find anything that is truly free nowadays. In most cases to receive a free hat or a free t-shirt we must first do something to receive the chance to get the free item. Attend a sporting event, wait in line at a store, or even buy a box of soda and mail in a special code from the inside of the box. Yes, the things we receive in return are free, but we still have to put in time and energy to receive the "free" item.

God's grace doesn't work that way. God's grace is a gift, and not just a gift you receive on your birthday or an anniversary. We receive it and there is nothing we can do that will make God take it away from us, there is also no extraordinary thing we could do to receive just a little bit more than our neighbor. Now, I was always taught to write a thank you note to the person who gives me a gift. How do we write a thank you note to God? Love your neighbor, support your community, pray to God, and give thanks for your blessings. Use God's grace to show God's love in the world, not because we will receive just a little bit more but because we have been given a wonderful gift and we should share that good news with everyone.

Prayer

Gracious and Heavenly God, we are so very thankful for your gift of grace to us. We have not done anything to earn it and yet you give it to us freely. Sometimes we feel as if we have fallen short and we tell ourselves that we are not worthy of your grace, but you pick us back up and show us your love. Continue to remind us that we are a gift and so is your grace, we should not squander these gifts but instead continue to show your love and grace to the world. Amen.