Med and raised us up with him and seated us with him in t A raised us up with him saved worse von have have trespasses, made us al Me was in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasu This grace in kindness toward us in christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through fair own doing; it is the gift of God, which God prepared beforehand, that no least of the state of the state

• "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no eve one may boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). • "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). "But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit" (Titus 3:4-5). - We show

Grace is one thing, special above all else, that is GIVEN not DEMANDED

Romans 3:21-24, 4:2-5, 9:30-33

the Luke 15:1-2 — "Now all the tax-gatherers and sinners all were coming near Him to listen to Him. And both the next the serving." This Pharisees and scribes began to grumble, saying, 'This man receives sinners and eats with them."

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Confronting Our Own Sin

- Paul never saw grace as his right. Even with all he did in the kingdom, he asserted, "It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am the foremost. And yet for this reason I found mercy, in order that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience..." (1 Timothy 1:15-16).
- I like what is written in Lamentations 3:29, "Let him put his mouth to the dirt, perhaps there is hope." The only hope we have of being saved is found in bowing before the Lord in humility and supplication!
- "Why should any living mortal, or any man, offer complaint in view of his sins?" (Lamentations 3:39).

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- "I would never have left if you had been a better father".
- "I know that I messed up but I don't want to be lectured about my choices".
- "I messed up—but so has everyone else—and you are not so perfect yourself".
- "I made mistakes, I've learned from them, so get off my back".
- "The trip to the far country was something that I just had to do for my own personal growth and it was a necessary life lesson. I know it was wrong, but it was something I had to do to be true to myself".
- "My trip into the far country was inevitable. Even if I had to do it all over again, I would do the same thing".
- "I'm not asking for your forgiveness but only your acceptance".

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