

Daily devotions for 2019



Day 54
Ephesians 1 part 1

What do you bring?

“Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 1:2

What is it that you want to bring to others?

Is it truth? Is it care? Is it wisdom or patience?

Paul’s letter to the Ephesians starts in a pretty typical way. He says who the letter is from and who he is writing to. Then he sends a kind of greeting: ‘Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ’.

Paul must have wanted the people who read the letter to experience grace and to know peace. And it is easy to think that he might have talked to them about both of these things. Maybe he tried to be a graceful person and a peaceful person when he spent time with them.

In this verse, it looks a lot like the grace and peace that he wants them to have are not his own. Paul doesn't want them to know the grace that he brings. Or the peace that came with his personality.

Instead, he wanted them to have the grace that comes from the Father. And the peace that comes with Jesus.

When people meet us and get to know us, do we want them to know that we are good people? Do we hope that we can be a voice of peace? Are we bringing our grace to them? These are good things to want to do.

But what does it mean to bring the grace of Jesus to people? How can we show the peace of God our Father to others?

After all, what God has to offer through us is so much better than anything we can bring from our own efforts and good intentions.

Prayer

Father God, I know you want to show grace and peace to all your people.
Help us to focus on how we can bring your character to those around us. Amen.