

## THROUGH THE EYES OF GRACE

Believers often make snap judgments before they hear both sides to a story; before they have all the facts straight. In the process, feelings are hurt, boundaries are overstepped, and reputations can be ruined. Our sin nature jumps ahead of our spirit nature and disaster strikes. We have the tendency to let our negative thoughts release ill spoken words when we do not take the time to seek God heart in the matter first; we jump to faulty conclusions. We fall into the sin of judging; often under the guise of a “*divine*” confrontation. Assumption can be unwarranted and can become harmful. We throw Scripture after Scripture at people in the hope that they would be convicted and change their ways. We see people through the eyes of man more than we see them through *God’s eyes of grace*, and ultimately we end up heaping condemnation upon them rather than releasing blessings into their lives. Beloved, let us think before we speak, for we are called to be ambassadors of God’s love and grace

How many times have you spoken to quickly—on impulse—not thinking, nor giving yourself time to fully understand the situation—the conversation, and you inflict pain rather than give hope and encouragement? One negative word or sentence can lead to a person’s downfall, as it is often all a person will remember; Satan uses it to his advantage. Don’t be so busy trying to “*fix*” people that you miss the leading of the Holy Spirit. Let them know that God would see them through the eyes of grace instead of their sin. God calls the Body of Christ to be peacemakers, shining lights in a darkened world, and to bring joy and hope to downtrodden souls.

When we see people through the eyes of grace, we have a disposition to kindness and compassion. We have a sense of propriety and consideration for others; a feeling of favorable regard. Grace (Christian theology) is free and unmerited favor or beneficence of God. It brings blessings, and promotes good will, and fills hearts with thanksgiving. We see God’s grace is manifested in the salvation of sinners. Remembering the saying—“*There but for the grace of God go I*”.

God’s love is shown daily to His children in many ways. Evangelist, Bill Yount, from Blowing the Shofar Ministries, captured my heart with the truth of this statement. May it be your truth as well, and may you see others through the eyes of grace. Stay positive and be a blessing!

Bill shared that he was frustrated with the Lord because He didn’t answer a certain prayer the way he thought He would. So Bill stayed mad at Him all day and wouldn’t talk to Him. Bill said that night when he was about to go to sleep the Lord began speaking to him very clearly which surprised Bill, as Bill had been ignoring the Lord all day. Bill asked the Lord, *How come You are talking to me like this when You know I have been mad at You all day?*

The Lord responded, *Son, you may be mad at Me, but I'm not mad at you! My love is different than yours. I love you whether you love Me or not. I love you no matter what!* I repented immediately, seeing myself the way He sees me and yet still loves me. I'm learning that God not only loves us, He even likes us!

I thought; as I read Bill's statement, that truer words were never spoken; they ministered to my heart. One day during a counseling session, my counselor looked me straight in the eyes and said, *Katie, you need to love yourself, but first, you must learn to like yourself.* With the help of the Holy Spirit and wise counseling, I was able to do just that. When I saw myself through *God's eyes of grace*, I was set free.

*Thro' many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*