



Lewiston Church of Christ

April 28, 2019



Weekly Services

Sunday Morning

Bible Study 9:45 AM

Worship 10:45 AM

Sun. Day/Evening Groups

Wed Bible Study 7:00 PM

MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

ELDERS

Doyle Dawes: 208-836-5718

Cal Groen: 208-602-8165

DEACONS

Education – Rick Richardson

Finance – Tom Hill

Outreach – Mark Whittaker

AREAS OF SERVICE

Building – Ken Vogtman

Custodian – Ron & Cindy Roberson

Fellowship – Joe & Carrie Bieren

Grounds – Cody & Doyle Dawes

Music Ministry – Ron Roberson

Secretary – Renee Hill

Technology – Eric Kjorness

Technology – Cody Dawes

Great Words in God's Word

(Tenth in a series of bulletin articles on Bible words)

“Charis”

Today's great word in God's word developed from the Greek root “**char**” which indicates **well-being**! Here's a short list of the family of Greek words that come from “**char**” (pronounced like the “ch” in *character*).

- **Chara**: Joy and gladness.
- **Chairo**: Rejoicing or being full of joy.
- **Charin**: Benefit, for the sake of.
- **Charis**: grace, unmerited favor, gratitude; produces well-being.
- **Charisma**: Free gift or free favor (endowment).

Charis occurs in the New Testament 155 times and 100 of those came from the pen of Paul (23 times in Romans). It does not appear in Matthew or Mark but Luke uses *charis* eight times: Mary found “favor” with God (Luke 1:30) and Jesus grew in wisdom, stature, and in “favor” with God and men (2:52). *Charis* appears in the fourth gospel four times, all in the first chapter where Jesus is introduced as God's one and only Son, “full of grace [*charis*] and truth.” (John 1:14).

Paul began nearly every letter using “*charis*” as a greeting. And every letter made it clear that *charis* is much more than a greeting. The apostle who called himself “the chief of sinners” applied his understanding of the seriousness of sin to reveal how amazing God's *charis* is. To the church in Rome, Paul spoke of real sinners being justified freely by God's grace (*charis*) “through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.” (Romans 3:24). Grace is God's answer to the serious problem of sin.

The Christian concept of grace, rooted in the cross of Christ, has no serious counterpart among all the religions and ideologies on earth. When Jesus died on the cross for our sins, justice and judgment were fulfilled, not violated. And yet, despite our guilt, repentant sinners are saved from that judgment. That salvation is the unique product of God's grace. And in the end, there can be no **well-being** (“char”) without it.

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