God's Grace in Spiritual Gifts by John Piper Solid Joys, desiringGod.org

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. (1 Peter 4:10)

When we use our spiritual gifts, we are stewarding grace — not yesterday's grace, but today's, arriving in every moment of need. And this future grace is "varied grace." It comes in many colors and shapes and sizes. This is one of the reasons spiritual gifts in the body are so diverse. The prism of God's gifts in your life will refract shades of divine glory that would never come through my prism.

There are as many future graces as there are needs in the body of Christ — and more. The purpose of spiritual gifts is to receive and dispense the future grace of God to those needs.

But someone may ask, "Why do you take Peter to refer to future grace?

Doesn't a steward manage a household store that is already on hand?"

The main reason I take Peter to refer to future grace is because the next verse illustrates how this works, and the refer-

ence there is to ongoing supplies of future grace. He says, "Whoever serves, [let him serve] by the strength that God supplies — in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 4:11). The word is "supplies," not "supplied." As you serve, serve in the power of the ongoing supply of God's grace to do what you need to do.

When you fulfill your spiritual gift to serve someone tomorrow, you will be serving "by the strength that God supplies" — and the supply will be tomorrow, not today. "As your days, so shall your strength be" (Deuteronomy 33:25).

God goes on, day-by-day, moment-bymoment, supplying the "strength" in which we minister. He does this because the on-going, inexhaustible supplier of power gets the glory. "Whoever serves, [let him serve] by the strength that God supplies — in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ."



TODAY Testimonies &
Baptism 7 PM
8/1 Small Groups 7:15 PM
8/2 7th-9th Bible Study 7 PM
8/4 Emmanuel Church
Anniversary Picnic 4-8 PM
8/5 Emmanuel Church
Anniversary Service
10:30 AM
8/11 Senior Breakfast 9 AM

Give

Upcoming Events





Pastors

Gary Hendrix Stephen Byrd
Charles Fortner Robert Fisher
Stu Johnston Bob Prentice
Andy Dunkerton Michael Lopes

Service Times

- -Sunday School 9:30 am
- -Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
- -Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 pm
- -Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm

919-563-9249 www.arbc.net



Morning Worship

Call to Worship Pastor Andy Dunkerton Opening Hymn Awesome God

Our God is an awesome God! He reigns from Heaven above with wisdom, pow'r and love. Our God is an awesome God! Our God is an awesome God! He reigns from Heaven above with wisdom, pow'r and love. Our God is an awesome God! Our God is an awesome God! Our God is an awesome God! Text and Music: Rich Mullins © 1998 BMG Songs, Inc. Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

Our God Reigns

1. How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, good news announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness. Our God reigns, our God reigns!

Chorus: Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

2. He had no stately form, He had no majesty,

that we should be drawn to Him.

He was despised and we took no account of Him, yet now He reigns with the Most High. Chorus

3. Out from the tomb He came with grace and majesty, He is alive, He is alive.

God loves us so, see here His hands, His feet, His side.

Yes, we know. He is alive. Chorus

Text and Music: Leonard E. Smith © 1974, 1978 L. E. Smith Jr./New Jerusalem Music Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

Scripture Reading

John 8:48-59, page 895

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory #550 Jesus Priceless Treasure Preparatory O Great God

1. O great God of highest heaven, occupy my lowly heart. Own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel power. Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war.

You have loved and purchased me, make me Yours forevermore.

- 2. I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice, did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys. Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me through the gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace. (key change)
- 3. Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace. Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face. You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed. O great God of highest heaven, glorify Your Name through me. (repeat)

Words and Music: Bob Kauflin © 2006 Sovereign Grace Music Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

Sermon Pastor Stu Johnston

Evening Worship

Call to Worship Pastor Bob Prentice

Opening Hymn You Are My King

I'm forgiven, because You were forsaken.

I'm accepted. You were condemned.

I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me

because You died and rose again.

(Chorus)

Amazing love, how can it be that You, my King, would die for me? Amazing love, I know it's true, and it's my joy to honor You, in all I do to honor You.

I'm forgiven, because You were forsaken.

I'm accepted, You were condemned.

I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me

because You died and rose again.

(Chorus)

(Bridge) You are my King. You are my King.

Jesus, You are my King. Jesus, You are my King.

(Chorus 2x)

Text and Music: Billy James Foote © 1996 worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by EMI Publishing) Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

Scripture Reading

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory/Preparatory #403 Not What My

Hands Have Done

Sermon Nick Gaines

Post Hymn #580 It is Well