



# Grace Snap Shot

*"Viewing life through the lens of God's grace!"*



## Fresh Eyes

Written by Art Henkel

Thirty three years ago at the age of eighteen I stepped into full time ministry. I've toured with a gospel rock band, served as a pastor, and have traveled throughout North America speaking to hundreds of thousands of kids about Christ. In January 2008 I felt lead to step into a time of sabbatical. That's when you basically stop your 'familiar doing' and for a season concentrate on resting, learning and growing. During that time I found myself more focused on 'being' in Christ rather than 'doing' for Christ. It was one of the best decisions that I've ever made. I can truly say that the Lord has given me fresh insight regarding His amazing grace and what the life of a Jesus Person really involves. Here are some of the great truths that the Lord has allowed me to see through fresh eyes.

**\*God's** amazing grace was shown to mankind through Christ the Son. This grace is 100% complete. His goodness leads us to repentance. We don't earn His grace. We don't add to His grace by our works. Christ did it all and we rest in Him. Rest does not mean inactivity, it means Spirit lead activity which is very fulfilling.

**\*Jesus** did not come to create a new religion but to end religion and introduce intimate relationship with God. Religious practices and teachings in themselves offer no life. Life is only found in Christ Himself. Christ would have us to be irreligiously (having a lack of religious practices and teaching) living out a victorious relationship with Him and in Him.

**\*As** Jesus People, we have experienced a great transformation. Christ took our sin upon Himself and we stand redeemed and righteous before God the Father. "In Him we live and move and have our being." In ourselves we cannot live the Christian life. It is the Spirit of Christ who lives that life in and through us. Our true identity is found in Christ.

**\*God** wants His people to 'be' the church not 'do' church. 'Being' involves relationship with Christ, one another and others (those without Christ). 'Doing' in itself is religion. When 'being' the church is our priority we experience a life flow that is deeply fulfilling, sharply focused, and very inviting to others. It's out of this 'being' that we find ourselves 'doing'. God's church is not only to proclaim the 'Good News' but to live it out.