

MOVING UP HIGHER
with
Joyce Meyer



If there's one thing I've realized in life, it's that we can never ask God for too much grace. And we all need it—every day, for everything we need to do in life. Because God loves us so much. He gave His only begotten Son to die for our sins so we can receive His grace, both for our salvation and then to help us walk out our life in Christ with His power.

It's so wonderful to realize that God's amazing grace is available to everyone, no matter who you are or what you've done. God has good plans for every person who accepts Christ as their Savior, and He wants us to have the abundant life Jesus died to give us. The key to this great life is living in God's great grace.

Grace is the great equalizer. It's so important for us to understand that God's grace is available to every person on this Earth, in whatever capacity they need it. There is no one who is beyond God's reach or His ability to save and restore their life. I know sometimes we can feel like we've done too much wrong, and we need to earn God's forgiveness and grace, but His grace is a gift—we can't earn or deserve it. And no one is such a "special case" that He cannot help them.

We look at others' lives, and it may look like they have it all together. People want others to know how "good" they are, so many will pretend everything is okay in order to impress someone. But the outward appearance doesn't always tell the real story. We may see people's outward success but can't see the inner turmoil they're experiencing, or that they have no real peace or joy in life.

I believe this is a common problem for many people and the reason there is so much strife in the world today. Strife in our hearts causes us to compare ourselves with others and compete with them, trying to make ourselves "better" than them. It makes people frustrated and confused, struggling with so many issues in their lives because they are trying to figure everything out and solve their problems on their own.

But John 15:5 says that apart from Jesus, "[cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing" (AMP). All we have to do is humble ourselves before God and ask Him to help us.

We have not because we ask not. James 4:1-3 explains in detail why so many people are frustrated, confused and living in strife. Verses 2-3 say, "You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. And

even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure" (NLT).

We all have things on our "wish lists," things we want or need or would just like to have. And when we see someone else with something we want, it can stir up some strong emotions. We can become envious and begin to covet that thing.

I remember years ago, I wanted to be like my pastor's wife. She was such a sweet woman of God, so kind and soft-spoken and people really loved her. I, on the other hand, was just so outspoken and sharp with my tongue. I wanted to be quiet and sweet like her, so I tried but it didn't work. At one point, people even started asking what was wrong with me!

I felt a lot like Paul in Romans 7:15, when he said, "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do" (NIV). I just didn't understand why I couldn't change! I wanted to be sweeter and quieter but that never lasted long. And just like Paul found out in verses 24 and 25, I began to realize that I can't change myself—only God can. So I asked Him to change what needed to be changed in me.

If you're struggling to feel good about yourself or be what you think you need to be, I want to encourage you to stop trying and start asking God for grace. God made you who you are, and He knows what you need and what needs to change in your life. He wants you to enjoy your life while you're in the process of becoming all He created you to be.

God will give you grace for your case. That's why I call Him the Great Equalizer. We never have to settle for less than God's best in our lives when we have access to His grace—His power to do the things we can't do in our own strength—at all times. God's grace has no limit, it won't run out. It is available to any and all who will humble themselves and receive it. Remember, we can never ask Him for too much grace. He always knows exactly what we need. And He is always ready and willing to help us—each and every one.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 100 books, including Battlefield of the Mind and Living Courageously (Hachette). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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**William G. Beard
1934-2017**

William G. Beard, Jr., 82, of Cottage Grove died Jan. 23, 2017.

William was born in Richmond, Virginia on May 24, 1934.

He served in the U.S. Air Force for ten years, and was in the Snark and Titan I missile programs. After leaving the military, he was a real estate broker in Arizona for over 40 years. After moving to Oregon, Bill enjoyed being a member of the London Grange and working in his garden.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Judy of Cottage Grove; son, Grady Beard and his wife, Brandy, of Cloverdale, Calif.; son, Brad Beard of Geyserville, Calif.; and brother, Vern Byrd of Florida.

No local services will be held. Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel in Cottage Grove



**Victor Leeroy Doolittle
1922-2017**

Victor Leeroy Doolittle, 94, of Dorena, Ore. passed away Jan. 18, 2017.

He was born at Woodard Camp A near Cottage Grove on Oct. 13, 1922 to Judd and Metta (Mayben) Doolittle.

Victor attended school through the eighth grade, then served in the U.S. Navy.

On July 27, 1945 in Los Angeles, Calif., he and Bertha Adalynne Reynolds were married.

He worked as a logger and in commercial fishing.

He enjoyed gunsmithing, custom stocks, hunting, fishing, woodworking and boat building.

Survivors include two daughters, Patricia McNally of Dorena, Ore. and Kathy (Jim) Arvan of Goldendale, Wash., two sons, Ray (Joy) Doolittle of Lakeside, Ore. and Leslie Doolittle of Cottage Grove, a sister, Donna Callahan of Colorado Springs, Colo., a brother, Harold Doolittle of North Carolina, 16 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife and two sons, Ronald Doolittle and Gary Doolittle.

No services are planned. Arrangements under the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove.



**Vera Ilene Goodroad
1919-2017**

Vera Ilene Goodroad, 97, passed away Jan. 22, 2017 from the flu. She was born Sept. 16, 1919 in Ravenna, Nebraska to Irvin and Ruby (Warden) Smink.

Vera attended high school in Deadwood, South Dakota.

On June 5, 1935 in Deadwood, she and Ross Goodroad were married. He preceded her in death in February of 1976.

Vera worked as a housewife and as a senior companion. She enjoyed reading. Survivors include two sons, Irvin Goodroad and wife, Penny Goodroad, of Trout Creek, Montana, and Barry Goodroad and wife, Debra Emerson, of Cottage Grove, a daughter, Lois Gray and lifetime partner, Tom Gelker, of Terrebonne, Oregon., six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

No services are planned. She will be placed next to her husband at Fir Grove Cemetery in Cottage Grove. Arrangements under the care of Andreason's, Springfield.



**Theresa Treat Clark
1956-2017**

Theresa Treat Clark, 60, of Cottage Grove died Jan. 22, 2017.

She was born in Cottage Grove on Feb. 2, 1956 to Homer and Dorothy (Niehaus) Treat.

She attended Cottage Grove High School.

In 1973, she and Harold Hileman were married; they later divorced.

She then married Daniel W. Clark, who preceded

her in death in 2008.

Theresa worked as a CNA for 26 years, and as a Seed Analysis Lab Technician for 14 years.

She enjoyed mushroom picking, hiking, camping, bonfires with whiskey drinking, and going to the coast and the mountains.

Theresa is survived by two daughters, Tabitha Hileman of Drain, Ore.

and Casie Hileman of Roseburg, Ore., two brothers, Dwight Treat of North Carolina and Bob White of Portland, Ore., a sister, Juanita Treat of Florida, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

No services are planned. Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel in Cottage Grove.

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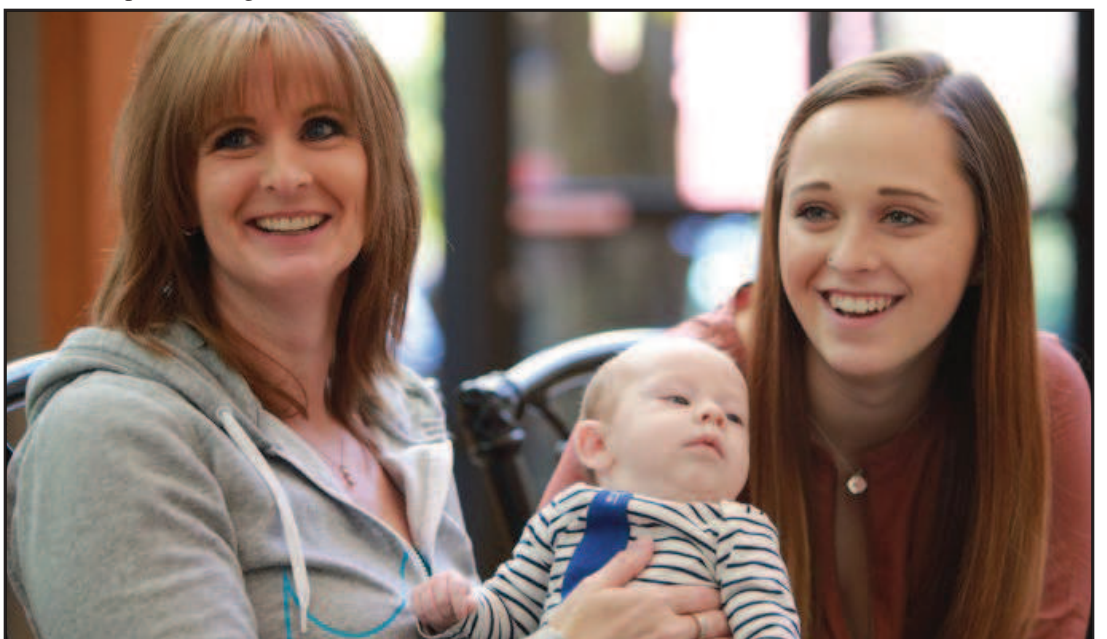
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**John "Jack" Thomas Herriott
1948-2017**

John "Jack" Thomas Herriott, 68 of Cottage Grove, Oregon passed away January 23, 2017. He was born August 12, 1948, in San Mateo, CA to Donald and Pauline (Ward) Herriott. Jack graduated in 1966 from Capuchino High School and attended Skyline Jr. College, Santa Rosa Jr. College. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a Staff Sergeant in Da Nang Vietnam as an Air Traffic Controller. Jack was an Assistant Manager for Alec department store, Assistant Manager for Chevron station, part owner of Family Business in California. Moved to Oregon in 1979 and a became receiving department at Bi-Mart. In his mind his ultimate job was being a grandfather.

He loved being a Grandfather and being with his grandkids! There was no such things as the word no for is grandkids. He showed his love through his actions. He invested is his time and talents in his family and the people around him helping with projects and the things that they needed done. Jack also was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church.

He married Cheryl (Cherie) Crawford on May 11, 1968, in San Francisco, CA. Jack is survived by his wife Cheryl Rene' Herriott, Cottage Grove, OR, son Robert Todd (Robin) Herriott, Aloha, OR, daughter Jacqueline Rene' (Todd) Baird, Springfield, Brothers; Ronald (Pamela) Herriott and Robert (Victoria) Herriott, both of San Bruno, CA, brother Donald (Patricia) Herriott, Martinez, CA, cousin Hope Tilton Medford, OR, 3 grandchildren James, Samuel and Daniella. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 4, 2017 at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Cottage Grove, OR. Memorial contributions may be made to the Serenity Lane Scholarship Fund, the Heart Association or Life Flight or Disabled American Veteran's(DAV). Arrangements by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, 123 S. 7th St., Cottage Grove, OR 97424.



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