## Entering into Christ: Grace—Colossians 1:3-8 Greg Stiekes, Pastor

In this first section of Paul's letter to the Colossians, he thanks God the Father for their entry into Christ, which is predicated upon three essential elements: grace, Word, and faith. All three *must* be present in a person's life for both spiritual birth and spiritual growth. This morning, we examine the first of these essential elements: *grace*.

| What is God's grace?                                    |
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| 1. It is His unmerited blessing.                        |
| 2. It is sourced in His love and kindness.              |
| 3. It is given to those who deserve punishment instead. |
| Where does God's grace operate?                         |
| 1. God's "Common" Grace                                 |
| 2. God's "Special" Grace                                |
| a. Justification  |
| b. Sanctification                                       |