

Prayer that touches heaven
and the earth 4

Receiving Grace to be Uncommon

Truth from Moses – face
to face - **essence**

Exodus 33:13 If you are
pleased with me, teach me
your **ways** so I may **know** you
and **continue** to find **favor** with
you. Remember that this nation
is your people." 14 And He
said, "My Presence will go with
you, and I will give you rest."

Moses – ask – **ways** to
know HIM –

God say – I – my presence –
guide – peace

Man – tend - looking for
prin – methods – formula -
presence - ESSENCE

HE is Not just **power** –
Source

Not just blessing – healing
– guidance - ... Shepherd
Not just **blessing** - Blesser
Not just **healing** - Healer
Not just **guidance** – Guide -
Shepherd

Not just deliverance -
Deliverer

Exodus 33:15-18

15 Then he said to Him, "If
Your Presence does not go
with us, do not bring us up
from here. 16 For how then will
it be known that Your people
and I have **found grace** in
Your sight, except You go **with**
us? NKJV

How else will they know we are
special and **distinct** from all
other people on the earth?"
NLT

17 So the LORD said to
Moses, "I will also do **this** thing
that you have spoken; for you
have found **grace** in My sight,
and I **know** you by name."
NKJV

Moses **ASKED** to be distinct,
different

I **will do** – what you ask – found
grace

God loves – pour grace – make
a diff

What does it mean- **holy**?

Hair – dress – food – kind of
make up

Some: kind way tie **hair** – curly
bun – like Popeye girl friend

- kind of **dress** – of course – don't
overdress or under dress

Type of **food** – eat or cannot eat

What – make up **put on** – or can't
put:

How much **need**? – depends on you
Even old house – look new – new
coat of paint

Separate – **uncommon** – in
whatever circumstances

Servant – even lowest - slave –
uncommon – pros - stone

– **ask** God make a diff - pros the
Boss becos of you

Don't take your job as **stepping-**
stone; don't take a calling to be a
stepping.

Oh I had given two years to
fulfilling your vision – NOW it is my
turn to fulfill my vision

Just imagine – the disciples saying
to Jesus – oh – I serve you 5 years,
now I will my own ministry.

No – their calling is to serve him
Serve, God will bring promotion –

God's way

Even if you are a **maid** –
uncommon house maid –
Rebecca - **peanut**

Pas: my boss pay me with peanuts.
So – I serve him like monkeys? No –
if you want – not if you want
tremendous promotions like
Rebecca.

I **can't** – be uncommon - too
lofty grand for me – don't try –
receive **grace**

Even if **Widow** – uncommon
widows

– Elimelech – God is King
Different type of **mother** in
grace – she let go – not controlling

Different type of **daughter** in
law – she took responsibility

Diff – not just **supersp** - really
works - took **initiative** → filled
with favor

Sign of a person – filled with
favor grace – willing to risk

As she step out – **right** place and
right timing

Don't sit down – **grumbling** –
wondering why no business –

take that step – right place and
timing

Mother – uncommon mother –
Rebecca is uncommon – saw

purpose – whereas Isaac
She didn't **control** but help shape
the destiny of her children

Remind them of their **prophetic**
words

Song of Solomon 3:11
Look at his crown, the crown his
mother placed on him, his day of
joyful delight. GW

Mothers **crown** kings! Behind
every successful man – mother

Worst – when you tell kids - stop
dreaming

Professional – teacher -
uncommon

Not tick V shaped glasses –
always looking fierce – Lat's
cartoon

Not just a **job** – position of
influ

– bring sense of **fulfillment** –
knowing - **impacting** next
generation

Businessmen – uncommon
Times of famine – **plenty**

Isaac – sow – do business –
hundredfold – with him

Greatest purpose – be a blessing
Generous – discount

Teens – be uncommon - don't
let anyone **despise (waste)**
your youth – greatest

temptation is to waste your years –
PEERS - friends laugh – can't do that
that – dress that that way – tattoo - –
clubbing ... oh I **missed** the **fun**
Constantly – **REMIN**d ourselves -
that's becos you are special –
uncommon

It's the uncommon – gives **value** -
VIRGIN

What's **DIFF** bet **diamond** and stone –
same elements - carbon
Valuable – diamond – rare – stone
common

Many things – **can do** – **VERNON**
– told – lasting impression
If you are preoccupied with what you
can do – no more interest in what you
can't

Jesus – uncommon teen –
instead clubbing – **temple**
Instead of arguing - listening
Uncommon **char** – **submit**

Today – if someone – only one dare to
speak out – considered a hero – very
common

– show majesty - greatness
Je – listen and submit – he's K of kings
SUBMIT – not show inferiority –
majesty and greatness
Be uncommon **father**

Genesis 18:19
For I know him, that he will **command** his
children and his household after him. KJV
He set the boundary and disciplined
his children with love and consistency.
Otherwise, we become willing party to
the destruction of their life.
Proverbs 19:18
Discipline your son, for in that there is
hope; do not be a willing party to his death.
NIV
Dis when – hope – willing party to
death
Do you want kids to **END** like
SAMSON?
Given in everything to kids' **demand** –
kids - never learn to take No **positively**
Pict of what weak father – do - **given**
in
Studies – shown – **rejection** → lust
Main prob – **irresponsible** father

Uncommon Pastor and ch

Proclaim positive – not ignorant of fact – truth set free - 1997

Notice we always proclaim the year in a very positive tone, not because we are ignorant of the facts, but we realise that it is the truth that will set us free

Truth from the Word – in times of famine – plenty ...

1997 – worst of times – we inc giving – missions

best year in our church!

if ch and pas - prospers in times of famines – showing giving works

if complain ... uncommon – if pas can also pros in tough – hope for me

if someone complain – tell him – we have uncommon pastor – I have hope – if even a pastor can prosper in tough times, so can I

Uncommon Savior

Eats with tax collectors and sinners!

First miracle – water into wine

Heal the soldier's ear

Feed 5000 - 5 loaves;

feed 4000 – 7 loaves

*Not proportional and logical
Hot guided by math and econ law!*

Can work more with less resource

I can't – don't try – ask –

God will pour his grace

HOW to receive grace to be uncommon?

I. See your weaknesses and receive Grace in HIS presence

MOSES found grace in His sight

40 (Learn what he can do) – next 40 – (learn what he can't do) but that's **where** – found grace – God's strength

Realize God can use imperfect people in imperfect situations
Hebrews 11:32-34

And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, 33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; **whose weakness was turned to strength**; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

I love that last phrase – “whose weakness was turned to strength.”

You find just a bunch of average guys.

He takes weak people and make them strong.

Daniel

– refuge – obj of hated – hostile enviro

– rose to no 2

– not proper skin colour, privileges – but blessed

Isaac

– in land of famine (great recession)

Joseph - dysfunctional

dysfunctional family - Jacob – 2+2 wives – multiple set problem - made slave

Esther

– snatched from home – concubine

David – adulterer – murderer

Rahab – prostitute

Your weaknesses need not hinder your blessings

How can we avoid abuses with the teaching that God can use us even in our weaknesses?

Message not for – those living in sins – refuse to change

It is For – want to change - **struggling** – at times failed – see need of grace – **receive** grace

ABUSE? Truth ...

Jesus' **greatest problem** – not sinners – those that think they have not sinned – no need grace – Pharisees – can't do anything to change them

James 5:16-17

16 Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous man has great power and wonderful results. TLB

What happen when we are quick and ready to admit our weaknesses?

APPRAISAL season – if conc defend – cant see weaknesses – cant receive grace!

If every point boss point out –you take 3 hr to defend, you are not going to know your weakness and receive grace to overcome

WHATEVER weaknesses – see it - **receive** grace – favor – enabling – to cover and overcome the weaknesses

Oh I cannot **talk** – sometimes that **-Advantage** – took long time – prepare – message – opport to digest – crystallize - cow chewing cud – message have content – **Revelational truth – set peo free.**

– once in a while – impromptu OK

– if - all the time – peo can see – cannot bluff – congregation not stupid

Oh I cannot **sing** – OK – as long **realise** it

– don't force yourself - – make presentation – imitate others – every one know – **crowing** – except you

Oh I am too **short** – seen 6 footer struggling in air line seats – the 5 footer – every seat is a business class seat

Oh I am too **young** – old

Young preacher – feel – no exp

Older – feeling out of place – out of touch

1 Timothy 4:12

12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young.

Proverbs 16:31-32

31 The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, If it is found in the way of righteousness. NKJV

NIV: crown of splendor ...

Young – can be uncommon – not despised

Older – great opport – make a diff – giving positive impartation to younger generation

Psalms 78:3-6

3 what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us.

4 We will not hide them from their children;

we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.

5 He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children,

6 so the next generation would know them,

even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.

– *so you older youth or peo – need never feel out of place*

Where do we confide our weaknesses?

Seeing our weaknesses - does not mean – going around – keep **talking** – you only get sympathy

Context – confess to **mature** man – und grace and righteousness in Christ – take you to God's **presence** to receive grace to overcome

Jesus in grd

– didn't air out fear to disciples - go a bit further – God's **PRESENCE** -receive grace

It was – recorded – show how bring weakness to God
How to overcome negative emotional feeling like fear, anger, insecurity, etc?

Struggling – temper? – admit it

Don't say – can't help it – it's my feeling

Unconsciously using it as **excuse** for not changing

Greatest **gift** – gift of choice – Gaderene demoniac

No matter how demonised – able to come to Jesus for help – demons normally come in – door of negative emotion being open

If we choose – flow with feeling – **miss** – opportunity to be – uncommon – to be valuable

Don't say – I will **try** – wont work

– come to presence – receive his grace

Proverbs 19:11

A man's good sense (prudence, insight) MAKES him slow to anger, And it is his glory (beauty) to overlook (Passover, move on, ignore).

Focus on the one – **altogether** lovely – full of good sense, patience, beauty – you find strength – **MAKE** you overlook

2. See Jesus in all His Grace and become uncommon

Moses interceded – great intercessor - yet asking wrong things – but God answered

Asked: ways - presence
Almost like a father –

Wanting to bless – kid despite saying or asking wrong thing
Your weaknesses need not hinder blessing – God blesses despite our weaknesses

Read many **BOOKS** on prayer
very good books – prob – sometimes, bit **discouraged** – prin – way beyond our reach – too high and lofty

Ordinary peo – **can't** apply – but it is ord peo that God often uses!

What is God looking for - a better man or a man with better revelation? Why

God looking – not better strategy – better man – prob: **not many** better man around

Bible truth: better **REV**

When – Jesus talks about building **church** – chose man – imperf - weak – but have right **REV** – that transform him - eventually

Matthew 16:16-18

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Luke 5:8

8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"

Context – no catch – launch – deep – 2 boats full

What happen when Peter only dwell in his weaknesses?

When he **only sees himself** – focus on his guilt – only depress
When **guilty** – **separate**

Owe \$ – see him coming - smell him – dart off

We need to **acknowledge** our weaknesses but – we don't **dwell** on it –

Why did Peter stay on w Jesus ?

Realise – yes – Jesus knew everything – yet come into boat – use the boat - him – bless him

Proper Rev – that **transform** him
Peter - transformed? Sure – not perfectly **IMMED** – glory to glory
Philippians 2:12-13

12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed-not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence-continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,
See- got to work??? – No - see context

13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

God works in first – puts in the **Desire** first

If no **interest** in **kids** – don't say – oh I sacri – serve kids min – you become one angry **grumbling** teacher

Hey – we love kids too much to let you sacri them!

But don't say: I have No desire – then **don't do anything** – no desire to be **uncommon**

Yes - you can **choose** to be common - but – miss blessing
It's being uncommon – value - diamond

KEY – get into the presence – receive grace

Touch the **Uncommon**, you become Uncommon

OT law: touch **leper**

Jesus – touch leper – leper cleansed