Pastor's Weekly Devotional- January 1, 2015

"The Wonderful Grace of God"

2014 is gone forever. For some, it may have been an emotional coaster ride. Despite the setbacks, still the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ was ever present mingled with the warmth of the love of God and the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.

The tough times of the past year are not meant to remind us of how bad things were, but rather, to serve as reminders as how God created us strong not to succumb to the tragedies of life. At times, we bend under the pressure of life but we did <u>not</u> break. Why? Because God designed us to stand not fall; to succeed not fail; to persevere not quit; to be an overcomer not just a winner. All of this is possible because God's Grace was with us, and still is with us.

Be fully assured that God's Grace is available for you in this coming year. There will be moments when you will feel overwhelmed by life, by people, by issues, by circumstances, by demands, by struggles and temptations. You may even reach the point when you cry out: "I just can't take anymore. Remove this pain Lord!" At such a moment, at such a time, <u>listen with your heart</u> to God's answer to you: "My grace is sufficient for you...I know the plans I have for you, to bless you, not to destroy you!"

You are more than a mere chance recipient of God's Grace. God has called you intentionally. Loves you intentionally. Listens to your prayers intentionally. It is all because of the wonderful Grace of God!

May you be enraptured by the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ this New Year and may this be your best year ever!

Pastor Sewdin