

# Gospel Reflections | April 2012

4-1-12

“God, in a sense, is a miser. Not the sense in that He is cheap with giving good gifts to His children. We know that God has held nothing back from us in Christ, for if He gave up His Son for us, how would He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things (Rom. 8:32)? And we know that in the gospel, God has already given the Christian every spiritual blessing in Christ (Eph. 1:3). No, not in that sense. In the sense of experiences. God is an experience miser, for nothing is wasted with God. We don’t typically think that way. We have seasons of life that feel like a waste. We resonate with the children of Israel, wandering around in the desert for day after day, not sure where we’re going professionally, spiritually or relationally. From our perspective, it seems like an arduous, long, gigantic waste of time. But it’s not. Nothing is wasted with God.” -Michael Kelley

4-15-12

“Think of it. The high King of heaven condescended to bow before the dirty feet of his friends and wash them. This act of humiliation stands forever as an example of humble love and service. Now, let me ask: Do you think that Jesus was simply instituting another ritual for his followers in washing their feet and telling them to follow his example? Although there probably isn’t anything wrong in having an actual foot-washing service, I think we’re missing the point if we limit our imitation of him to a simple ceremony once every six months or so. This is the point of what I believe Jesus is teaching us. He has already spiritually cleansed each of his children from their sin...We need to wash one another because as each of us traverses through this world, we are immersed in and subsequently sullied by every kind of sin, unbelief, and idolatry. Sometimes that filth finds a little crevice (or large gaping wound) to incubate in, and if we’re not careful, it can become infected before we know it.” -Elyse FitzPatrick

4-22-12

“If the Bible's description of us is accurate, then God's grace is our only hope. Thank God that He has given us big grace! Each one of us needs grace that's not only big enough to forgive our sin, but also powerful enough to free us from the self-atoning prison of our own righteousness. We're not only held captive by our sin, but also by the delusion of our righteousness as well. Resting in God's grace isn't just about confessing your sin, it's about forsaking your righteousness as well. So we all need the big grace that's only found in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.” –Paul Tripp

4-29-12

“The Comforter gives a sweet and plentiful evidence and persuasion of the love of God to us, such as the soul is taken, delighted, satiated withal. This is his work, and he doth it effectually. To give a poor sinful soul a comfortable persuasion, affecting it throughout, in all its faculties and affections, that God in Jesus Christ loves him, delights in him, is well pleased with him, hath thoughts of tenderness and kindness towards him; to give, I say, a soul an overflowing sense hereof, is an inexpressible mercy.”-John Owen