

YOUR INVITATION TO THE METAMORPHOSIS SERIES

God's grace *IS* always the point. Especially when it comes to salvation. Let's be absolutely clear about this right off the bat. There exists, however, "a sanctification gap"—a lack of clear understanding of grace's role in spiritual transformation. At one end of the spectrum are those who see grace as a card one swipes at the entrance to the kingdom. Grace gets them in. Once in, growth is inevitable. Commandment-keeping is superfluous. At the other end of the spectrum are those who see grace in the rigors of commandment-keeping. They say that the latter proves the former.

Let me respond to both camps with two quotes from the late philosopher and theologian, Dallas Willard. To those who think commandment-keeping is superfluous, he says: "Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning. Effort is an attitude. Effort is an action. Grace, you know, does not just have to do with forgiveness of sins alone" (The Great Omission, 61). To those who see commandment-keeping as proof of grace, he says: "An obsession merely in *doing* all God commands may be the very thing that rules out *being* the kind of person that he calls us to be" (Hearing God, 11).

Okay. So where do we go from here? Let me invite you to Auburn Church's **Metamorphosis** sermon series, which starts this Sabbath. In it I will describe to you a clear path towards our spiritual transformation that celebrates grace from first to last and yes, obedience, too, but in a far better key, in the key of G—grace!

Jan 7 - Sinners Anonymous
Jan 14 - Exercise unto Godliness
Jan 21 - Jesus Apprentice
Jan 28 - Renewing the Mind
Feb 4 - Renewing the Desires
Feb 11 - Renewing the Heart
Feb 18 - Renewing the Body
Feb 25 - Renewing the Fellowship
Mar 4 - Obedience in the Key of G

Pastor Mel