

Surviving by Grace, Sustained by Goodness ✨🙏

Introduction / Opening Prayer 🙏

Heavenly Father, we come before You with hearts wide open. 💖
We thank You for Your **grace** that has carried us this far, and Your **goodness** that keeps us standing. 🙌

Lord, as we gather, we invite **Your presence** into this place. ✨
Fill this room with Your Spirit, saturate every heart, and let every ear hear Your truth. 🎵

Father, I **declare** that Your Word is alive and powerful today. ✨
Every life here will encounter Your mercy, receive Your provision, and be touched by Your protection. 🙏

We **decree** that no distraction, no attack, and no fear will hinder the message of Your goodness. 🔥
Every person listening will experience breakthrough, healing, restoration, and renewed faith. 🌈

Lord, as we worship, sing, declare, and decree, may the **heavens open** and Your glory flow freely. ✨
By Your Spirit, may every listener know — **Grace brought us out, and Goodness keeps us standing!** 💖

In Jesus' mighty name, Amen. 🙏🌟

Opening Statement / Hook 🎤

Somebody shout: **“Somehow, I made it!”** 🙌

Say it again — louder: **“I MADE IT!”** ✨

Not because we were strong, not because we had it all together, but because **His GRACE carried us** when our strength ran out. 💖

When the enemy said, “Give up,” grace whispered, **“Hold on — I’m not done with you yet!”** 🔥

Let us lift our hearts and declare:

“Grace got us out, and Goodness keeps us going!” 🙌

(Song cue: 🎵 “Somehow I Made It”)

Point I — Declare and Decree 📣🛡️

Before we dive into the Word, it is critical that we **understand how to speak God’s promises aloud and with authority**, because the enemy does not care how well we know the Word — **he only cares if we don’t apply it with faith.**

1. Declare

Meaning: To declare is to **proclaim aloud the truth of God’s Word** or His promises over yourself, others, or situations. You are speaking God’s reality — not opinion, not wishful thinking, but His Word.

Key idea: Declaration aligns your words with God’s truth.

Scripture Examples:

- *Psalm 107:2* — “Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy.”
- *Isaiah 55:11* — “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that

which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

- *Matthew 10:32* — “Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.”

Example in life:

Saying aloud: “I am healed because Jesus bore my sickness on the cross.”

Speaking God’s promises over home, finances, or health.

2. Decree

Meaning: To decree is to **command or establish something according to God’s Word authoritatively**. It is a spiritual legal declaration spoken with faith and authority.

Key idea: A decree enforces God’s truth over your situation.

Scripture Examples:

- *Job 22:28* — “Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.”
- *Isaiah 45:23* — “I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.”
- *Psalms 2:7-8* — “I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.”

Example in life:

“By the authority of Jesus Christ, I decree healing, peace, and breakthrough over my family today!”

Key Difference

Declare	Decree
Speak God's truth aloud	Speak God's truth with authority to establish it
Testimony, proclamation	Authoritative, faith-backed command
Example: "I am blessed"	Example: "I decree financial breakthrough over my life"

Summary:

- **Declare** = Proclaim God's Word aloud.
- **Decree** = Command God's Word with authority to enforce it in your life.
- *Proverbs 18:21* — “Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.”

Key Application: Throughout this sermon, we will **declare God's promises** and **decree His goodness and victory** over our lives, families, and situations. This is faith in action. ✨

Point II — Surviving by Grace 💪

📖 *2 Corinthians 12:9* — “And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

Grace is not optional; it is our lifeline. 🌊

It reveals itself in weakness, in failure, in messes, and transforms hopelessness into miracles. ✨

Declaration:

“I DECLARE that God’s grace is sufficient in every area of my life!” 🙌

Decree:

“I DECREED that nothing in the past or present will overpower the grace of God in my life!” ✨

Supporting Scriptures:

- *Ephesians 2:8-9* — “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”
- *Psalms 34:19* — “Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.”

Grace lifts us when our legs are tired, our hearts are heavy, and our spirit wants to quit. It is **God’s strength made perfect in our weakness.**

Point III — Sustained by God’s Goodness 🌈

📖 *Psalm 34:8* — “O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.” 🍷

Grace gets us out, but **God’s goodness keeps us standing.** ☀️
Goodness sustains us in trials, weariness, and moments we feel like quitting. 💖

Declaration:

“I DECLARE that the goodness of God is surrounding me right now!” ☀️

Decree:

“I DECREED that God’s goodness shall follow me in every step, every decision, and every season of my life!” 🌈

(Song cue: 🎵 “Lord, You Are Good”)

Point IV — Secure in the Goodness of God 🗝️

📖 *Psalm 23:6* — “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.” ☀️

We are **not just surviving; we are secure.** 🛡️
Every past victory and every scar is evidence of God’s faithfulness. 💖

Declaration:

“I DECLARE that God’s goodness and mercy are with me all the days of my life!” 🙌

Decree:

“I DECREED that no weapon formed against me shall prosper because His goodness is my shield!” 🔥

The goodness of God ensures that even when the enemy plans evil, God turns it for our good. Joseph faced betrayal, but God’s goodness turned it into promotion. Ruth lost everything, but God’s goodness turned loss into legacy.

(Song cue: 🎵 with every breath I am Able “Goodness of God”)

Point V — Understanding the Goodness of God



📖 *Psalm 145:9* — “The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.” 💖

God’s goodness is **who He is**, and it is revealed through His actions. God’s goodness:

1. **Provides** 💰 — *Philippians 4:19* — “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

- **Provides** 💰 — **Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:8-16)**
- **Scripture Context:** God told Elijah to go to Zarephath during a severe famine, where a widow would provide for him. She had only a little flour and oil, yet God miraculously provided for her and her son for the entire famine.
- **Explanation:**
God’s goodness **provides for His people even when circumstances look impossible**. The widow’s willingness to obey led to a supernatural supply — showing that God **does not just meet needs; He multiplies them**.
- **Lesson:** God is our provider. Even when resources seem scarce, His goodness ensures we do not lack.

2. Protects  — *Psalm 27:13* — “I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.”

- **Protects**  — **Joseph (Genesis 50:20)**
- **Scripture Context:** Joseph’s brothers sold him into slavery, intending harm, but God preserved him, raised him to power in Egypt, and used those very actions for good.
- **Explanation:**
God’s goodness **protects us even in the midst of betrayal and adversity**. What the enemy meant for evil, God turned into promotion and destiny fulfillment.
- **Lesson:** God is our protector. He can take situations that seem harmful and turn them into blessings.

3. Pardons  — *Psalm 86:5* — “For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.”

- **Pardons**  — **Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24)**
 - **Scripture Context:** The prodigal son squandered his inheritance in reckless living but returned to his father. Instead of anger or punishment, he was **welcomed and restored**.
 - **Explanation:**
God’s goodness **pardons and restores those who repent**. His mercy is greater than our failures, and He is ready to forgive when we return to Him.
 - **Lesson:** God’s goodness is seen in forgiveness. No matter how far we’ve strayed, He is ready to embrace and restore us.
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4. Pursues 🏃 — *Psalm 23:6* — “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.”

- **Pursues** 🏃 — **Jonah redirected to destiny (Jonah 3:1-2)**
 - **Scripture Context:** Jonah ran from God’s call, trying to escape his responsibility to preach to Nineveh. God pursued him, redirected him, and ensured the mission was accomplished.
 - **Explanation:**
God’s goodness **pursues His people to fulfill their divine purpose**, even when we try to run or delay obedience. His love and purpose will not let us settle in disobedience.
 - **Lesson:** God’s goodness chases us for our highest good and destiny. He pursues us to ensure His plans are fulfilled in our lives.
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5. Promises a future 🌈 — *Jeremiah 29:11* — “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”

- **Promises a future** 🌈 — **Ruth (Ruth 4:13-17)**
 - **Scripture Context:** Ruth, a widow and foreigner, remained faithful to Naomi and God. God led her to marry Boaz, and she became part of the lineage of David and ultimately Jesus.
 - **Explanation:**
God’s goodness **promises hope, restoration, and a meaningful future**. Even when the present looks bleak, He orchestrates events for our ultimate blessing and legacy.
 - **Lesson:** God’s goodness ensures that faithfulness is rewarded, and He has a plan for our life that goes beyond the current struggles.
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Point VI — Accountability in God’s Grace and Goodness 🤝 ✨

📖 *Galatians 6:1-2* — “Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”

Accountability is a key way we **remain in God’s grace and experience His goodness**. God has not designed His blessings for isolation — He calls us to **walk in transparency, integrity, and community**.

How accountability strengthens us:

1. Recognize weaknesses early 💡 — David was corrected by Nathan (2 Samuel 12:1-13)

- **Scripture Context:**

David sinned by committing adultery with Bathsheba and orchestrating the death of her husband Uriah. God sent the prophet Nathan to confront David about his sin.

- **Explanation:**

Accountability allows us to **see our blind spots and areas of weakness before they become destructive**. Just as Nathan’s correction stopped David from continuing in hidden sin, accountability provides wise counsel to correct us early.

- **Lesson:** Being accountable prevents spiritual and personal disasters. It keeps us honest and humble before God and others.
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2. Grow in spiritual maturity 🌱 — “Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend” (Proverbs 27:17)

- **Scripture Context:**

Proverbs teaches that close, honest relationships with other believers

help us grow spiritually, much like one piece of iron sharpens another.

- **Explanation:**

Accountability **challenges us, encourages us, and strengthens our character**. Friends and mentors who hold us accountable refine us, help us stay on course, and prevent stagnation.

- **Lesson:** Spiritual growth is rarely a solo journey. God uses accountability to sharpen our faith, wisdom, and integrity.
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3. Bear one another's burdens 🤝 — Early believers shared everything (*Acts 2:44-47*)

- **Scripture Context:**

The early church lived in community, sharing resources, helping those in need, and supporting one another spiritually and materially.

- **Explanation:**

Accountability is **mutual support**. When we share our struggles and victories, we relieve pressure, gain encouragement, and grow stronger together. It also allows God's power and provision to flow through relationships.

- **Lesson:** Accountability creates a protective and nurturing environment where burdens are shared and God's grace is multiplied.
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4. Stay steadfast under pressure 🛡️ — “Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow...” (*Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*)

- **Scripture Context:**

Solomon explains that companionship strengthens resilience. Two working together can accomplish more and help each other overcome challenges.

- **Explanation:**
Accountability helps us **endure trials and resist temptation** because we are not isolated. When one person falters, the other provides support, encouragement, and correction, preventing permanent harm.
 - **Lesson:** Accountability ensures that we **remain steadfast in faith and obedience**, especially during challenging seasons, because God designed community for strength and protection.
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Declaration:

“I DECLARE that I am walking in accountability, submitting to God’s guidance and the counsel of the righteous, so that His grace and goodness will continue to sustain me!” 🙌

Decree:

“I DECREED that I will not stumble in isolation, but I will walk in transparency, integrity, and spiritual alignment, fulfilling God’s plan for my life!” 🔥

Conclusion / Summary ✨

Grace brought us out. God’s goodness keeps us standing. Accountability strengthens us. Declarations and decrees enforce His Word in our lives. 💖