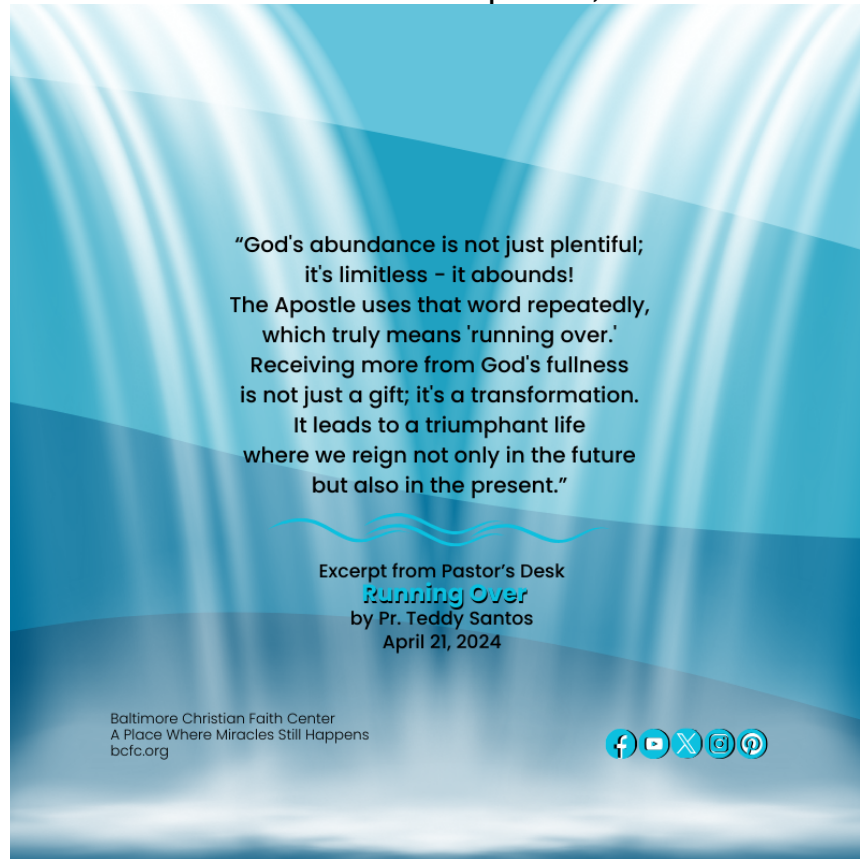


Running Over

Pastor's Desk – April 21, 2-24



Romans 5:17 *“For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.”*

Notice the word "**receive**"! We receive forgiveness or reconciliation, followed by an abundance of grace. (**Rom 5:11-17**). We cannot earn or deserve either; we must only accept what God offers. We must believe in our blessings, even when we don't perceive them. Receiving grace when feeling low and being aware of His work within us, is powerful.

God's abundance is not just plentiful; it's limitless - it abounds! The Apostle uses that word repeatedly, which truly means 'running over.' Receiving more from God's fullness is not just a gift; it's a transformation. It leads to a triumphant life where we reign not only in the future but also in the present. **Romans 5:20: "Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more."**

This life of victory over sin, sharing Christ's riches, and helping others is not just a distant dream. It's within your reach. God is not just urging; He's empowering you to embrace it. What's left for you to do is not just to accept abundant grace and the gift of righteousness but to actively embrace it. Dare to believe God has blessed you, though unfelt. Live royally and share His bounty.

REMEMBER, we must pour out as God pours in! This is key to earning His fullness. Our love for others, willingness to help them, forgiveness, and patience must be evident if we genuinely want to experience the abundant life and the grace that overflows.

At His service,
Pr. Teddy Santos