

# The Grace of Jesus

## Key Scriptures

**Romans 16:20-23** The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. <sup>21</sup> Timothy, my fellow worker, and Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, my countrymen, greet you. <sup>22</sup> I, Tertius, who wrote this epistle, greet you in the Lord. <sup>23</sup> Gaius, my host and the host of the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, and Quartus, a brother.

Ephesians 1:4-8 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, <sup>5</sup> having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace <sup>8</sup> which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,

Ephesians 1:13-14 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

1 Peter 1:18-19 <sup>18</sup> knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

**Key Point:** The grace of God is powerful. It changes our lives and we can use it to change the lives around us as well.

## TALK IT OVER

**Start talking:** Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- How do you define or illustrate the concept of God's Grace?

**Start thinking:** Questions to get your group thinking.

- The concept of "Common Grace" means that everyone, regardless of their faith, experiences a level of grace from God. What are some examples of this? How does this understanding impact the way we view and interact with people who may not share our beliefs?
- According to Jesus in Luke 13:1-5, what attitude should we have toward God's common grace?
- Saving Grace was described as comprising God's sovereign grace, redeeming grace, and Efficacious Grace. How do these elements work together in the process of salvation, and what role does each play in the believer's life? (see Eph 1:4-14)

**Start sharing:** Questions to create openness.

- How does the account of Lazarus in John 11 provide an illustration of God's saving grace? What insight does it give into how God's grace brings spiritual life to those dead in sin?
- How does Peter's discussion of redemption in 1 Pet 1:18-19 highlight the difference between what God values and what our world our world values?
- What lessons can we draw from the men greeting the church in Rome? (Rom 16 21-23). Do you think Dr. Barnhouse's imagined retelling of the story of Gaius, Tertius and Quartus is close to what may have really happened?
- One way to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Pet 3:18) is to make deliberate, constant, and frequent efforts to bring Jesus to the front of our minds. How else can believers grow in grace and deepen their relationship with Christ?

**Start doing:**

- 1. Determine ways God's grace has been shown to you. 2. Choose another person that you can show God's grace to, through kindness, service, and sharing the message of the gospel.

**Prayer Requests.** It may be helpful to pray the scriptures back to God.

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