

THE MAGNIFICENT

grace

OF GOD

SESSION ONE: SAVED BY GRACE

"But God, being rich in mercy,
because of His great love with which He loved us, even
when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive
together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),"
Ephesians 2:4-5

connect Open your group time by creating an environment in which you may begin to develop a community of connection. Get to know one another through sharing prayer requests and experiences that provide members with an opportunity to engage.

CONNECTING IN PRAYER: Begin your time together with prayer and praise.

CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER: When you heard the word Grace what came to mind? What from your church background has shaped how you think of Grace?

grow Watch the DVD for Session 1 now. Use the space below to record your thoughts, key points and questions you would like to either remember or discuss.

GROWTH THROUGH UNDERSTANDING: Grace, according to Ephesians 2:4-5, is a concept unique to Christianity whereby a Holy God chose to bridge the gap of sin that separated sinful human beings from experiencing fellowship with Him. In this session, Dr. Evans goes on to explain that humanity's sin brought forth death, creating a spiritual graveyard and in order for life to be restored, a debt had to be paid.

From this verse, Dr. Evans derived that the definition of grace is the inexhaustible supply of God's goodness whereby He does for us what we could never do for ourselves. In other words, God knew that humanity would never be able to cover the debt that our sins had incurred, so His indescribable love would have to become the catalyst for recovery.

God's standard is perfection; therefore the debt owed could be nothing less than... perfection. But it would have to be independent of mankind's actions because His holy standard was too high. Since we could not come to Him, He came to us.

The definition
of grace is God's
inexhaustible supply
of his goodness

THE DAILY

Grace Guide

DAY ONE

MEDITATE: Read Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"

MOVE: The reason God (graciously) offered His Son's death as payment for humanity's debt, was His deep love for His people; even in the midst of their sinfulness. God looked past what we had become and moved on our behalf to remind us of what we were created to be. Think of someone you care about whose sinfulness has become offensive to you. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to look past their sins and offer them the same grace that God offered you.

DAY TWO

MEDITATE: Read Romans 4:25

"He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification"

MOVE: The reason for God's delivering of His Son to the Cross was so that all of humanity's sins would be forgiven as His Son was raised from the dead. The cross brought death to sin and the resurrection brought life to sinners. Spend a few minutes considering this question: Have I honored God with my life that was given to me by His Son's death?

Live out God's Kingdom principles here on earth by putting feet to your faith. Over the next 5 days, utilize the Daily Grace Guide to help you meditate on God's word.

DAY THREE

MEDITATE: Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him"

MOVE: The object of Christ's willingness to take on our sins is that humanity would be able to take on His righteousness. God provided a heavenly transfer and humanity has never been seen the same in His eyes. Ask God to help you to begin to see yourself as He now sees you, particularly when you fall short of His standard.

DAY FOUR

MEDITATE: Read Ephesians 1:7 "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace"

MOVE: The way in which our sins were forgiven was by the costly blood of a surrendered Son (graciously) offered by a loving Father. The blood of Christ was the only thing that could satisfy such a great debt. Take 5 minutes to think hard about how vital your blood is to your body. Take another 5 minutes to think about how that same blood (with all of its important functions) was inadequate to forgive your sins.

DAY FIVE

MEDITATE: Read Ephesians 2:1-2

"And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience"

MOVE: The reason we (humanity) were separated from God was because of the sinful spirit that was continually at work in us. Spiritual death created a vacuum that sin quickly occupied. Ask God to show you what aspects of your walk with Him still need to be changed.