

## The Wonders of **God's Grace**

Life Group Discussion Questions – October 2, 2022

Description: God, who is holy and everlasting, freely grants favor to all human beings, who by nature and by choice are sinners and broken.

The Bible teaches us that God grants two types of Grace:  
**Common Grace & Saving Grace**

What does God's **COMMON GRACE** look like?

Description: Universal blessings and favor from the hand of God which all people freely enjoy, and does not require salvation.

● His universal favor of God's **Provision** Psalm 145:9

God designed our world to **provide** for all life  
Job 12:7-10; Psalm 147:7-9

God **freely** distributes goodness on all people  
Genesis 8:22; Matthew 5:45; Acts 14:17

God created a universe that matches our **passions**  
Psalm 111:1-3

● His universal favor of God's **Protection**

God created cooperative **structures** within society  
Matthew 7:9-11; Romans 13:1-7

God sometimes protects people from **themselves**  
Genesis 20:6; 1 Samuel 25:26

God restrains **maximum** human depravity  
2 Thessalonians 2:6-7; Acts 17:25-28

God is holding back His justifiable **wrath** Romans 2:4, 9:22  
Nationally, generationally, and **personally**

**Psalms 147:7-9** *Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises to our God on the lyre, Who covers the heavens with clouds, Who provides rain for the earth, Who makes grass to grow on the mountains. He gives to the beast its food, And to the young ravens which cry.*

### DISCOVER

1. We can simply define "grace" as the "unmerited favor of God." Discuss the other attributes of God's grace. When were you first awakened to His grace? (see John 1:14) What would you say is the most recent expression of God's grace over you?
2. Distinguish between the two types of grace that God offers. Why does God give grace to all? Identify some blessings that are received by believers and non-believers. What can hold us back from seeing and appreciating common grace? If we do not extend grace to others, are we withholding our love for them?
3. When you are gracious to someone, what type of grace are you exhibiting? Is giving grace the same as ignoring sin? Explain.
4. When have you observed God's grace being poured out on another? What are the three responses we can have to His grace? What is the difference between rejecting grace and ignoring grace?

### EXPLORE

1. Read John 8:1-11. Describe some of the elements of grace that Jesus shared with the woman. What expectations did Jesus give the woman regarding her future behavior? Where do we go wrong when we place conditions on giving grace to another? What good can come from setting expectations when giving grace?
2. Read Matthew 5:43-48. Who should we be willing and able to give grace to? For whom is it a struggle for you to give grace? Why do we struggle to share grace with some? Are there types of people that you find it hard to be kind to when you may have been wronged? Why does God love those that seem hard to love, from our perspective?
3. From the very beginning, God's Word shows that His grace has been continual. Read Romans 1:24-28. What can you infer about God's grace from the passage? Is it possible for those with "seared minds," (those who have been "given over") to be saved?

### EXPERIENCE

1. When did God give you grace when wrath would have been justified? How did you thank Him? If you had the restraint of God then how would it benefit others?
2. Sometimes we are hardest on the people we love most. Why do we behave that way? How can you give more grace to those you are closest to?
3. How could God be justified in pouring out His wrath now? Was your first reaction to talk about 'the world' and not yourself? Explain why. Why is God holding back wrath now and in the past?

### PRAY

*Pray... Heavenly Father, Your grace has been evident in all of my life. Forgive me for the times when I took Your grace for granted. Show me how to not give thanks FOR everything but for thanks IN everything. Thank You that there was never anything I had to do to merit Your favor.*

*Action... In what one way will you show grace to someone who is hurting in your life?*

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