

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Ed & Annita Hoagland | Mexico



PRAISE

- Last Sunday, there were 2 people who confirmed their faith.

- Praise the Lord that his house is full and people desire to please the Lord with their lives.

PRAY

- Pray for a team coming from the Dallas, Texas area to help spread the gospel.

- Pray for an upcoming friend day at church.

- Pray for 4 upcoming evangelistic events at Manna feeding centers.
Pray that God will bless the efforts and for fruit that will remain.



Handout: 02/18/24

Study Date: 02/25/24

Grow Grace By Knowing And Glorifying Jesus

We’ve all heard the phrase “God’s grace” before, but have you ever stopped to consider what it truly means, or how to fully accept this divine gift? The grace of God is an awe-inspiring concept, but it can also be a bit elusive, leaving many believers uncertain about how to fully accept and integrate it into their lives. In reality, God’s grace isn’t just about forgiveness and salvation; it’s also about equipping us with the power to grow in our spiritual walk and fulfill the Great Commission.

The term “grace” comes from the Greek word “charis,” which means “favor, goodwill, or gift.” In the context of Christianity, grace is a gift from God that we do not deserve and cannot earn (Ephesians 2:8-9). It refers to God’s unmerited favor and the blessings we receive through Jesus Christ, such as forgiveness, redemption, love, and salvation.

There are numerous instances in Scripture that outline God’s grace. The entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, is saturated with examples of God extending His grace to humanity. Paul’s letters in the New Testament repeatedly emphasize the grace of God we receive through faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 5:15, Ephesians 1:7). Furthermore, Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection epitomize the ultimate expression of God’s grace (John 1:14, 3:16).

God’s grace is both unconditional and sufficient. This means God’s grace is offered freely to anyone who believes in Jesus Christ, without consideration of merit or “earning” points with God (John 6:37, Romans 5:8). Additionally, it’s a sufficient grace — powerful enough to cover all of our sins, weaknesses, and shortcomings (2 Corinthians 12:9).

To accept God’s grace, we must first recognize our utter dependence on Him. This involves humbling ourselves before Him and admitting our inability to obtain righteousness through our own efforts. When we become aware of our weakness, we are more receptive to God’s strength sustaining us (James 4:6).

Accepting God’s grace means letting go of our past sins and mistakes, as well as any shame that may accompany them. We must understand that Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross paid the debt for our sins in full; there is nothing more we can do to earn our salvation or gain God’s favor (Colossians 1:13-14). When we embrace this gift of grace, we can walk in freedom and rest in His love (Matthew 11:28-30).

God’s grace isn’t a one-time event in our lives. It is active and transformative, working continually in us to sanctify, mature, and grow us spiritually (Philippians 1:6). The Holy Spirit equips and empowers us with gifts and abilities to serve and fulfill the Great Commission (1 Corinthians 12:4-7).

As we continue our spiritual journey, God’s grace provides the ability to persevere in growth and progress. Scripture encourages us to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18). Through prayer, studying the Word, and fellowship with other believers, we can experience the ongoing work of grace as it molds and shapes us into Christ’s image.

KEY VERSE

II Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

“but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: I Corinthians 9:24-27; II Peter 3:14

Grow Grace With Holiness

1. In the 7th paragraph on page 1 of the guide God's grace is defined as being *active* and *transformative*? How is *“His grace”* revealed in YOUR walk?
2. In I Corinthians 9:24-27 Paul is very expressive about *how* to “run the race of life.” How could *growing in grace* affect the outcome of the race for you?
3. What *diligence* is II Peter 3:14 calling us to in being found “blameless”?

Tuesday: II Peter 3:15; Romans 2:4

Grow Grace With Soulwinning

4. *“and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation.”* How does this biblical truth impact YOUR “walk” each and every day?
5. Romans 2:4 suggests that there are indeed *some* who “despise the riches of His goodness.” How could *“repentance”* be achieved by these individuals?

Wednesday: II Timothy 2:15; Colossians 3:16; II Peter 3:16

Grow Grace With The Bible

6. How do YOU achieve “rightly dividing the word of truth”?
7. Colossians 3:16 says to *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly”* and to *“teach”* and *“admonish”* one another? How do YOU achieve this every day?
8. Have YOU ever found yourself “twisting” scripture as those in II Peter 3:16?

Thursday: II Peter 3:17; II John 1:7-8; Galatians 5:4

Grow Grace With Discernment

9. II Peter 3:17 warns us to *“beware lest you also fall from your own Steadfastness.”* Who are some *people* that you need to beware?
10. How have some become “estranged” from Christ in Galatians 5:4?
11. II John 1:7 tells us that *“many deceivers have gone out into the world...”* What measures do YOU take to keep from being deceived by others?

Friday: II Peter 3:18-19; II Peter 1:2-4; I Timothy 1:14

Grow Grace By Knowing And Glorifying Jesus

12. What are YOU *doing* to *“grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord”*?
13. II Peter 1:2 says our “grace and peace” will be “multiplied” by knowing Christ. What does verse 1:4 say we will “escape” through God's promises?
14. “And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Jesus Christ.” How “abundant” is grace within YOU?