

STUDY GUIDE

WEEK 9

GRACE

INTRODUCTION

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8 NIV

The Christian life is centered on the gospel, and the gospel centers on the grace of God. Without understanding grace we cannot experience a relationship with God. Let God's grace fill you and overflow to others as you learn the truth about grace from the Word of God.

DISCOVER

Below you will find questions for use in your own personal study, Bible study, neighborhood gathering, or dinner table with family and friends. Record your answers to help you reflect on and share the things God is teaching you.

Read: Luke 18:9-14

What does it mean to be "confident in your own righteousness"? How are you sometimes tempted to trust in your own righteousness?

What differences do you notice in the way the two men approach God? How can we as followers of Christ maintain our humility?

What do you think Jesus meant when he said the tax collector "went home justified?"

DISCOVER

Read: Galatians 2:20-21

Paul uses strong language in these verses. Why do you think he is so emphatic? What is the danger in neglecting the grace of God or living for ourselves?
What does it look like to try to attain righteousness based on the law?
Paul describes himself as living his life "by faith in the Son of God," how does one live by this kind of faith?
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PRAY

Seeking and listening to God in prayer are vital to our relationship with him. Take a moment to encounter God in prayer before you conclude your study.

Lord, may the grace that you give me daily also flow out of me daily, that I may offer the same grace to everyone I encounter. Let the kindness and gentleness of Jesus define how I interact with people this week.

ACT

The best thing you can do to grow in your relationship with Jesus this week is to put into practice the discoveries you've made during your study.

Think of a recent opportunity you had to extend grace but chose not to. What can you do to now extend grace to that person? If you cannot think of recent opportunity, be mindful of the grace God has given you and be very deliberate about extending that same grace to others this week. Let forgiveness and humility be the driving forces of your interactions this week.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READING

Filling our hearts and minds with the Word of God enables us to discern what is right and true. Use these additional scripture passages to continue your study this week.

YOUVERSION DAYS 57-63		
Ephesians 2:8-10	John 7:53-8:11	Luke 19:1-10
2 Timothy 2:1-2	1 Corinthians 12:12-27	Psalm 103:1-22
1 Samuel 26:1-25	Luke 18:9-14	2 Corinthians 8:9