

2/5/17 | BREATHTAKING 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 | NASB

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Have you ever received an award you didn't think you deserved? Explain.

2. Consider the definition on the right. What is grace to you?

3. Give an example of when you had to extend grace to someone else. Now give an example of when someone else had to extend grace to you.

GRACE (*charis*)—of the merciful kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, increases them in Christian faith, knowledge, affection, and kindles them to the exercise of the Christian virtues.

—BlueLetterBible.org

Undeserved

4. Read Romans 3:10-18, 22-24. What does this say about the state of humans? What does it say they have to do to deserve justification?

5. Read Romans 5:8-10. What does this say about the relationship between God and humans before grace?

6. What big event changed this enmity? How did humans participate?

Free

7. Read Matthew 19:24 and Ephesians 1:6-7. How is it that God “freely bestowed on us” the “riches of His grace”? What did humans do to buy this?

Stop and thank God

Gift

8. Read Romans 6:23 and Romans 5:15-17. What’s the big deal with eternal life being a “gift”?

9. Why does Paul emphasize that the gift is not like transgression?

...that keeps on giving!

10. Read 1 Peter 4:10 and Romans 12:6-8. How should we serve in light of God’s grace?
11. Read Romans 14:10-13. How should we judge in light of God’s grace?

From the Sermon: “Salvation isn’t a reward to good people; it’s a gift to spiritually dead people.”

TAKEAWAY:

How can you live “by grace” this week?