

DISCOVER
GRACE **2**

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

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Peace I leave
with you;

My peace I
give
to you

GROWING IN THE SPIRIT

VIDEO DISCUSSION

What was new, helpful, or challenging for you from the video lecture?

Did the video stir up any questions that you would like to ask?

Of all that the Holy Spirit does in our lives, which is particularly encouraging to you at this point in your journey? Which is particularly challenging to you?

Perhaps you're like most of the church and tend to think more about the Father or the Son than the Spirit. What are some ways you could practice acknowledging the Spirit's work and presence in your life?

BIBLE STUDY : JOHN 14:25-31; 16:7-15

From these two passages, make a list of all the things the Holy Spirit does.

How do these two passages point us to the equality between Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

How do these two passages point us to the diversity of roles between Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

What emotions does Jesus hope to evoke in his disciples (and in us!) through what he says in these two passages?

Spend some time praying (individually or as a group) to the Holy Spirit (He is God!). Ask Him to show up in a powerful way in our time. Ask Him to make Jesus even more glorious to our senses.



**BUT GROW IN
THE GRACE AND
KNOWLEDGE
OF CHRIST**

GROWING IN THE MEANS OF GRACE

VIDEO DISCUSSION

What was new, helpful, or challenging for you from the video lecture?

Did the video stir up any questions that you would like to ask?

In what ways do you feel the need for God's strengthening (or sustaining) grace?

What do you think of the idea that grace not only saves us, it changes us?

**BIBLE STUDY : 1 CORINTHIANS 15:10, 2
CORINTHIANS 12:9, ACTS 20:32,
HEBREWS 4:16, 1 PETER 4:10**

(Note: Grace means undeserved favor, God's riches at Christ's expense. Saving grace is the favor of God to save us. Sanctifying grace is the work of the Holy Spirit to change us over time.)

Note the three uses of the word "grace" in 1 Corinthians 15:10. How would you describe the three ways that Paul experienced God's grace?

Notice the use of the word "grace" in 2 Corinthians 12:9. Why does Paul need grace? (see vv. 7-8) What does God's grace do for Paul, according to v. 9?

According to Acts 20:32, what does the Word of his grace do for us? How do you experience this when reading God's Word or listening to a sermon?

According to Hebrews 4:16, how is prayer a channel of God's grace? What happens when we pray?

According to 1 Peter 4:10, we are all stewards of God's grace. How is fellowship (community) a means of God's grace?

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GROWING IN PREACHING TO YOURSELF

VIDEO DISCUSSION

What was new, helpful, or challenging for you from the video lecture?

Did the video stir up any questions that you would like to ask?

In the “downward slope of repentance” why is it helpful to repent of “the sin beneath the sin?”

In the “upward slope of faith” we are encouraged to thank God for four things about Jesus. Which of the four is most meaningful to you at this time?

BIBLE STUDY : 1 JOHN 1:5-2:2

(Note: There is a difference between our relationship with God and our fellowship with God. Just as a child remains a son or daughter even when he or she disobeys, we remain children of God even when we sin. But disobedience does affect fellowship. The good news is that fellowship can be restored through repentance [confession] and faith, in other words, preaching the gospel to ourselves.)

How does “walking in darkness” affect our fellowship with God? (1 John 1:7)

What can we do to restore our fellowship with God? (1 John 1:9)

What does God promise when we confess our sins? (1 John 1:9)

What do you think of the realism in 1 John 2:1?

What are some things that we learn about Jesus in 1 John 2:1-2

Exercise: Discuss the “downward slope of repentance” in 1 John 1:5-10, and the “upward slope” of faith in Christ in 1 John 2:1-2.

A vertical poster featuring a teal overlay on a person's profile. The background shows a sunset or sunrise over a landscape. The text is centered in white, bold, uppercase letters.

**THE LORD IS
NEAR TO THE
BROKEN
HEARTED**

GROWING IN SUFFERING

VIDEO DISCUSSION

What was new, helpful, or challenging for you from the video lecture?

Did the video stir up any questions that you would like to ask?

In what ways might suffering force us to rethink our understanding of the Christian life?

From what you heard in the video, how might suffering relate to our spiritual growth?

**BIBLE STUDY :ROMANS 12:15,
1 PETER 1:3-9**

(Note: 1 Peter was written to Christians who were dispersed around the Roman Empire and going through persecution. The suffering was so fierce that Peter described it as being “tested by fire.”)

According to Romans 12:15, how do we come alongside people who are suffering? Can you share a time when someone comforted you during suffering?

According to 1 Peter 1:3-5, what are some of the things that are protected by God when we are going through suffering? How does this “living hope” encourage you?

Discuss 1 Peter 1:6-7. What are some ways that Peter describes the pain of going through suffering? If you can, please share about a time when you felt some of these emotions.

The word “tested” is used twice in 1 Peter 1:7. What might be some of the redemptive purposes that God has in mind when we go through seasons of testing?

The Christian who lives by faith sees suffering in a different way. According to 1 Peter 1:8, what types of things might God be nurturing in our hearts?

This passage in 1 Peter describes “redemptive suffering.” How does redemptive suffering parallel the sufferings of Christ?



YET FOR
YOUR SAKE
HE BECAME
POOR

GROWING IN GENEROSITY

VIDEO DISCUSSION

What was new, helpful, or challenging for you from the video lecture?

Did the video stir up any questions that you would like to ask?

What do you think of Jesus' "warning" to us? Why do you think it's so easy for us to ignore the common sense of his argument?

Jesus invites us to a new investment strategy and a new accounting strategy. Have you experienced trusting him with either strategy in your life? Is one of those strategies more daunting to consider for you?

**BIBLE STUDY : MALACHI 3:8-10,
MATTHEW 6:19-21, 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-8**

MALACHI 3:8-10

What are some of the reasons that people might have held back their tithe?

What did God promise if they renewed the rhythm of the tithe?

MATTHEW 6:19-21

How might our use of money reveal what we treasure in our hearts?

How can we balance “laying up treasure in heaven” with wise financial management in our modern economy?

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-8

The New Testament calls us to a greater vision of generosity. What words in 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 describe the New Testament approach to giving?

What does God promise in 2 Corinthians 9:8. Can you share an example or two from your life about how God has provided for you?

A rustic wooden workbench with various tools and wood shavings. At the top, a dark metal bar is visible. Below it, a hammer with a curved head and a wooden handle lies on the left. To its right is a chisel with a wooden handle. Further right are several small, curled wood shavings and a pair of pliers. The center of the image features a white, torn-edge paper strip with the text "WORK AT IT WITH ALL YOUR HEART AS FOR THE LORD" written in a bold, black, hand-drawn font. Below the paper strip, a large pair of metal pliers is positioned horizontally. To the left of the pliers is a wooden handle. At the bottom, four more curled wood shavings are arranged in a row.

**WORK AT IT
WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AS FOR THE LORD**

GROWING IN THE WORKPLACE

VIDEO DISCUSSION

What was new, helpful, or challenging for you from the video lecture?

Did the video stir up any questions that you would like to ask?

Many of us are prone to divide up our lives between work and “life”. Has this been your experience? How does this affect our attitude about work?

Have you ever considered your work, done to the glory of God, as sacred? How does that make you feel? How would that change your approach to work?

BIBLE STUDY : COLOSSIANS 3:22-4:1

(Note: While still demeaned, indentured servants in ancient Rome had a different place in Roman society than slavery in more recent periods of history. They were usually connected to an extended network of family and workers called a “household.” They were part of the economy of the Roman Empire.)

According to Colossians 3:22-4:1, what are some of the ways that Christians think differently about work?

Colossians 3:22 gives two motives for bringing your A game to the office. How would you compare those two motives? Can you share about a time when you did your work because of “eye-service?”

Two types of “bosses” (masters) are described in Colossians 3:22-24. Who are the two? On your job, are you aware of having two masters? How might this truth affect your work and relationships around the office?

Paul challenges the Roman system of indentured servitude with his command to “masters” in Colossians 4:1. If you are a “boss” at work, how does this change the way you treat your employees?

What are some things that we see about Jesus in Colossians 3:22-4:1? How might these truths make Jesus more beautiful to you as you go to work throughout the week?