



WARM-UP:

Choose one or two questions:

- What is the best gift you have ever received?
- Tell us about a time when you got something you didn't deserve.
- How has God's grace changed your life?

WORD:

What does the Bible say?

Today we'll talk about one of the best gifts we could ever receive: GRACE!
Let's read EPHESIANS 2:1-10 (NLT) together:

¹ Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. ² You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. ³ All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. ⁴ But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵ that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) ⁶ For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. ⁷ So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus. ⁸ God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

This passage in the NT speaks of how God sent his only son, Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins and trespasses. Let's break down this sacred text verse by verse so that we are able to identify the ideas of Christ as our Saviour and God's mercy and grace.

Who is speaking here? (The Apostle Paul)

Who is he speaking to? (The church in Ephesus. The city of Ephesus was one of the largest and most important cities in the ancient Mediterranean world, lying on the western coast of Asia Minor in modern day Turkey).

- What stands out to you in this passage?
- This passage beautifully summarises the gospel (good news) of God's grace. But what does 'grace' actually mean? (Grace is God's undeserved favor.)
- Many people (even Christians!) struggle to believe and accept God's radical grace. Why do you think this is?
- How could you simply and clearly share the gospel of God's grace with non-believers in your life?

TIP: Use The 4 Points below and the videos at <https://thefour.com/en/> to help you to share the gospel more effectively.



God loves me



I live apart
from God



Jesus died
for me



I need to decide
to live for God

APPLICATION:

What will we do?

1. Do you understand and accept this gospel of God's grace? How could you grow in this area?
2. Who could you share the gospel of God's grace with this week?
Practice sharing these truths with one another using the 4 points.

PRAYER:

- Thank God for his amazing grace! Praise him for his love and mercy!
- Pray for one another that you will have a deeper revelation of God's grace and love and that you will be able to share this with those around you.
- Ask God for opportunities to share the gospel of grace with specific people in your life. Ask God to give you courage and to open doors for you to engage with those around you who don't yet know him.