



THE
GOSPEL
APRIL 24 - MAY 8

Grace

Part 3

Read It Up

Genesis 1:1

Exodus 14

Matthew 10:28–31

Luke 24:6

John 1:14, 16

Romans 3:23–24

Philippians 1:27–29

1 Peter 1:5; 5:8–10

Start It Up

What's the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the word "grace"?

Talk It Up

1. How would you define "grace" as it describes God's actions toward us? According to Romans 3:23–24, what do we deserve? What does God give us instead (Rom. 6:23)?
2. In your own words, what's the difference between receiving God's grace and living in it?
3. Does living in grace mean that bad things won't happen to you? (Consider John 16:33.)
4. How do you deal with those bad things in the light of 1 Peter 5:8–10? Recall the story of Peter's denial of Jesus (John 18:15–18, 25–26) and his restoration (John 21:15–19). Does his experience change your view of what he wrote in his letter?

5. What does it mean to you to be shielded by God's power (1 Peter 1:5)? Besides the accounts in Genesis, Exodus, and Luke listed here, what Bible stories do you recall in which God shielded His people by His power? Why do you think God shields us (Matthew 10:28–31)?

Think It Up

Read Philippians 1:27–29. Do you find Paul's words encouraging? Why or why not? What encouragement do you need to allow God to restore you, strengthen you, make you firm and steadfast, and use you to tell others about Him?

Pray It Up

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.... From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another.

—John 1:14, 16

Thank God for His grace in sending His Son to rescue us and give us "one blessing after another!"

Step It Up

Pastor Jamie said that some of us need to get to know God through His word, and others need to know ourselves and how God wants to work in our personalities. Which of these is true for you? What can you do this week to take steps in that direction?