

Saturday

Look back over the devotions. Write down questions you have about the doctrine of grace. If you feel comfortable, email them to me (rene@tlc.org)

Ask God to show you answers to those questions during this series to help you grow in grace!

GRACE IMMERSION

PREVIEW WEEKEND

Are You Ready?

SEPTEMBER 25 & 26, 2010 • RENÉ SCHLAEPPER

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms... Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes... So we praise God for the glorious **grace** he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. EPHESIANS 1:3A,4,5B,6 [NLT]

"Grace": God's unmerited favor; used _____ times in New Testament

• We're _____ by grace

[We] are justified **freely by God's grace** through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ROMANS 3:24 [NIV]

• We _____ by grace

But grow in the **grace** and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 PETER 3:18A [NIV]

How will I benefit from studying grace? I'll be...

1. _____

[Jesus:] "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me — watch how I do it. **Learn the unforced rhythms of grace.**" MATTHEW 11:28-29 [THE MESSAGE]

2. _____

Let us then approach the **throne of grace** with **confidence**, so that we may receive mercy and find **grace to help us** in our time of need. HEBREWS 4:16 [NIV]

3. _____

From the fullness of his **grace** we have all received **one blessing after another**. JOHN 1:16 [NIV]

He handed out **gifts** above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, **filled earth with his gifts**. EPHESIANS 4:7,10 [THE MESSAGE]

4. _____
It is good for our hearts to be **strengthened by grace**, not by ceremonial foods, which are of no value... HEBREWS 13:9A [NIV]

5. _____
Stephen, **brimming with God's grace and energy**, was doing wonderful things among the people... ACTS 6:8 [THE MESSAGE]

Receive and experience the **amazing grace** of the Master, Jesus Christ, deep, deep within yourselves. PHILIPPIANS 4:23 [THE MESSAGE]

In the next 7 weeks...

- Attend the weekend services about grace
- Read the two-page daily devotion in the Grace Immersion book
- Go to a weekly Grace small group (or form your own!)
- Engage in a "Grace Project"

The big idea:

When I soak in God's grace to me, I _____ .

Daily Meditations

SPEND SOME TIME EACH DAY THIS WEEK MEDITATING ON THIS WEEK'S TOPIC

Monday

Read this week's memory verse, 2 Peter 3:18. What can you do to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ"?

In what ways can the coming "Grace Immersion" help you in this area?

Look back over the message notes from last weekend. Which of these benefits do you long to see growing in your life?

What other benefits do you think there are from soaking yourself in a study of the doctrine of grace?

Ask God to richly develop these benefits in your life, and the life of our church, in the next seven weeks.

Tuesday

This weekend we focused on the benefits of grace. Read Psalm 103:1–5. David is telling himself to remember the benefits of our gracious God. Why do you think David had to tell himself to dwell on the positive benefits God offers?

Do you naturally dwell on the positive or the negative? Why? What about now?

What are some of the benefits David lists here that mean the most to you?

Today, focus your thoughts on the benefits you listed above, thanking God for what He's done for you!

Wednesday

Read Psalm 103:9–18. How great is God's love for you according to verse 11? Do you always feel this or believe this?

How far does He remove your sin, according to verse 12? Do you always believe this?

How is God referred to in verse 13? Do you always think of God in this way?

Today thank God that these verses are true, and commit yourself to forming a mental picture of how you stand in relationship to God that accurately reflects these truths.

Thursday

Read Psalm 105:1–7. Here's one of the many Psalms that focus on God and His benefits. According to verse 2, what are we to talk about?

According to verse 3, in what are we to glory?

According to verse 4, to whom are we to look? In verse 5, what are we to remember?

Yet so often we talk about the negatives, we glory in our own strength, we look to society's values, and we remember our own mistakes. The Grace Immersion is about reversing that trend!

Today practice the kind of positive focus spoken of in these verses in your prayer.

Friday

Read Matthew 11:28–30. What part of this verse is most difficult for you to believe? Why?

How do these verses encourage you?

Why does religion often weigh people down instead of giving them rest?

Ask God to transform you — and our whole church — into a community typified by these verses!



But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 PETER 3:18A [NIV]