

How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Our Main Idea:

“Law and grace work together in Christian salvation. ... unless we see how helpless and profoundly sinful we are, the message of salvation will not be exhilarating and liberating. Unless we know how big our debt is, we cannot have any idea of how great Christ’s payment was. If we think that we are not all that bad, the idea of grace will never change us.” - Tim Keller

Opening

Do we often associate God with a person like Santa Claus—if you are good, you will receive rewards? Or, if you are more good than bad, you’ll receive rewards? How is our perception of God affected by similar sentiments that we have heard all of our lives? Explain that today we’ll discuss how we can do nothing to deserve God’s grace, but that He offers it to us freely through faith in Jesus.

Key Questions:

- Read Galatians 3:1-9, Genesis 12:1-3, and Genesis 15:1-6
- Considering that Abraham did not have the law of Moses, what did Paul indicate was the way that Abraham was considered righteous? Scripture does not indicate that Abraham was in God’s favor prior to God’s covenant with Him. Who initiated the relationship between Abraham and God?
- What were God’s promises to Abraham? Were God’s promises to Abraham given before or after Abraham believed God?
- Read Galatians 3:8 again. How are we justified before God today? Is that any different than Abraham?
- How does that make us feel to know that we cannot earn God’s grace? Does it lead us to feel free or helpless?
- Read Galatians 3:10-24. What was the purpose of the law if no one could attain to God’s standards of holiness outlined in it?
- How does the Law point us to Christ? If we are no longer required to fulfill the law, what role does it play in our lives today?
- Why do we need to teach about both grace and the law?
- What kind of things do we do to try and earn salvation? If we are no longer under the law to receive salvation, why do we try so hard?
- How does our faith differ from morality? Why do you obey God’s law? Do you ever obey it for the wrong reasons?
- How does having righteousness credited to us change the way we see ourselves? Our Christian lives? Jesus Christ?
- **What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?**

Next Steps

What did God say to you today through His Word? And what are you going to do about it! Finish your group time with prayer, asking God for help in living in Freedom

Experience

Your Relationship with God

What is the relationship between our faith and our obedience?

Equip

Your Relationship with Others

How does your faith in Christ bless others?

Engage

Your Relationship with the World

How does our faith in Christ affect all nations?