



MAIN SCRIPTURES

- 2 Peter 1:2
- 1 Peter 4:10
- Ephesians 2:4-5
- Romans 5:1-2
- Acts 4:33
- Ephesians 4:29

Grace: Learn to READ

Receive. Engage. Avail. Disperse

- I READ: Introduction
- READ: Receive
- READ: Engage
- READ: Avail
- READ: Disperse

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

[Grace Received] “But God, being rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, **even when we were dead** through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—**by grace you have been saved.**” Ephesians 2:4-5 WEBUS

[Grace Engaged] “Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; **through whom we also have our access by faith into this grace** in which we stand. We rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” Romans 5:1-2 WEBUS

[Grace Availed] “**With great power** the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And **God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all.**” Acts 4:33 WEBUS

[Grace Dispersed] “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it **may impart grace** to the hearers.” Ephesians 4:29 WEBUS

[Grace in its various forms] “As each has received a gift, employ it in serving one another, as good managers of the **grace** of God in **its various forms.**” 1 Peter 4:10 WEBUS

INTRODUCTION: Grace: Learn to READ

It’s so much more than just a ticket to ride. Sure, if you cannot board the train to paradise, then there is nothing further to discuss. You have much bigger problems than insufficient information. But if you’ve heard those coveted words from the Ticket Collector, “I tell you today, you will be with Me in paradise,” then it’s time you learn to appreciate all the benefits and responsibilities that come with the ticket you hold in your hand.

It’s all right there in the fine print; all you have to do is learn to read. Of course, it seems that first one must inform you that the writing on your ticket is not just boring legalese that is safe enough

to ignore, a type of disclaimer there to protect the railroad from frivolous laws suits if someone bumps his head in a sudden stop. It's not fine print because it's irritatingly tiny, or annoyingly faded, or nearly impossible to read. Instead, it's mighty fine print that holds in its letters the secrets to an extraordinary Christian life. The print possesses fine information which, if you knew was available, you'd eagerly consume for all the benefits that come with good reading comprehension.

Your ticket to ride is grace, and it was purchased with the precious blood of Jesus. Right there you must recognize that it is the most valuable ticket in the universe, and yet it cost you nothing to receive. Now, take out your reading glasses, if necessary. Instructions indicate that you must purposefully engage in all the possible benefits, or they will remain as merely untapped potential. Avail yourself to the power and authority that each ticket holder is granted. And then show your ticket to others; disperse the information in such a way that they too want to join you on the train; they could not possibly refuse the invite. That's right, learn to READ; Receive, Engage, Avail, and Disperse God's grace. It's everything you need to understand in the fine print on the powerful ticket you hold in your hand.

I READ: INTRODUCTION

1. Four Graces

A. Precious Promises

(1) Introduction

(a) Through these you may...

1. “by which he has granted to us his **precious and exceedingly great promises [14 in total]; that through these you may...**” 2 Peter 1:4 WEBUS

a) Yes granted, but you **may**, not **will** receive them, because...

1) If... “***For if these things are yours and abound...***” 2 Peter 1:8

2) Therefore... “***Therefore, brothers, be more diligent to... For if you do these things...***”
2 Peter 1:10

3) I will... “***Therefore I will not be negligent to remind you...***” 2 Peter 1:12

(2) If this, then that is nothing new in the Bible

(a) If you obey or disobey...

1. “It shall happen, **if you shall listen diligently to Yahweh your God’s voice**, to observe to do all his commandments which I command you today, that Yahweh your God will set you high above all the

nations of the earth. **All these blessings** will come upon you, and overtake you, **if you listen to Yahweh your God's voice.**" Deuteronomy 28:1-2 WEBUS

a) If you obey, then blessings!

2. "But it shall come to pass, **if you will not listen to Yahweh your God's voice**, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command you today, that **all these curses** will come on you and overtake you." Deuteronomy 28:15 WEBUS

a) If you do not obey, then curses!

(b) If you wish to be My disciple...

1. "**If anyone comes to me, and doesn't** disregard his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters, yes, and his own life also, **he can't be my disciple. Whoever doesn't** bear his own cross and come after me, **can't be my disciple.** {33} So therefore, whoever of you **who doesn't renounce all** that he has, he **can't be my disciple.**" Luke 14:26-27, 33 WEBUS

a) If you don't, you can't!

(c) You are His disciple, if...

1. "Jesus therefore said to those Jews who had believed him, **"If you remain in my word, then** you are truly my disciples." John 8:31 WEBUS
 2. "By this everyone will know that **you are my disciples, if** you have love for one another.'" John 13:35 WEBUS
 3. **"You are my friends if** you do whatever I command you." John 15:14 WEBUS
 - a) You are His disciple, if you remain in His word and love others.
 - b) You are His disciple, if you do whatever He commands.
- (3) Precious and exceedingly great promises...

(a) ***"For if these things are yours and abound..."***

2 Peter 1:8

1. **...that through these you may..."** 2 Peter 1:4

a) Experience the fullness of God's Grace...

1) ***"Grace to you and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,"***

2 Peter 1:2 WEBUS

B. Provisional Promise #1: Grace

(1) Recieve. Engage. Avail. Disperse

(a) Grace in its various forms: Four Graces

1. "As each has received a gift [#1], employ it [#2] in serving one another [#4], as good managers/stewards [#3] of the grace of God in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10
 - a) "As each has received a gift [**Receive God's Grace Freely**], employ it [**Engage with God's Grace Willingly**] in serving one another [**Disperse God's Grace Powerfully**], as good managers [**Avail Yourself to Steward God's Grace Faithfully**] of the grace of God in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10
 - b) Learn to R. E. A. D.
 - 1) Recieve God's grace freely for your **salvation!**
 - 2) Engage with God's grace willingly for your **sanctification!**
 - 3) Avail yourself to steward God's grace **faithfully!**
 - 4) Disperse God's grace to others powerfully as your **ministry!**
2. Just like you learned to P.R.A.C.T.I.C.E. (If you do these things, then you can participate in the 14 provisional promises.)
 - a) **P**ersistent **R**epetition **A**ccelerates **C**haracter **T**ransformation **I**mpacting **C**hristian **E**thos
 - 1) See [Just Add Practice](#)

C. Definitions

- (1) Grace shares common attributes with faith and righteousness...
 - (a) All three are freely given by God to man, who has neither earned them, nor does he deserve them.
 - (b) All three are meant to be practiced as witnesses to the free gifts God has bestowed upon us.
 1. **Faith:** “But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, **add to your faith** virtue, to virtue knowledge,” II Peter 1:5 NKJV
 2. **Grace:** “As **each has received a gift, employ it in serving one another**, as **good managers** of the **grace** of God in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10 WEBUS
 3. **Righteousness:** “If you know that he is righteous, you know that **everyone who practices righteousness** has been born of him.” 1 John 2:29 WEBUS
- (c) **Grace** [{Charis Strong’s 5485}](#): God’s supernatural empowerment
 1. Primarily explained as the unmerited favor and kindness of God towards humanity. However, it encompasses both the idea of divine assistance given to humans for their **regeneration** and their **sanctification**.

2. It is most often associated with the concept of salvation, as it is by grace that believers are saved through faith (Ephesians 2:8).
 3. It also denotes the graciousness of God in bestowing gifts and blessings upon His people, as well as the **grace that believers are to extend to others.**
 4. In the Greco-Roman world, it was commonly **understood as a favor or gift given without expectation of return**, often to cement social bonds or express goodwill.
 5. In the New Testament (weighed heavily toward gift): this concept is deepened and transformed **to express the profound and unconditional love of God towards humanity**, which is **not based on human merit but on God's own character and purpose.**
 6. The Hebrew equivalent is חֵן (chen). (Strong's Hebrew [2580](#)). God *freely extending Himself (His favor, grace), reaching (inclining) to people because He is disposed to bless (be near) to them.*
- (d) Grace in its various forms...
1. "As **each has received [receive] a gift, employ [engage] it in serving [disperse] one another, as good**

managers [avail] of the **grace** of God in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10 WEBUS

- a) The many uses of grace...
 - 1) Secular: courteous, goodwill
 - 2) Appearance: simple elegance or refinement of movement.
 - 3) Presence: do honor or credit to (someone or something) by one's attendance.
 - 4) Manners: polite, well-behaved
 - 5) Legal: a period officially allowed for payment of a debt or sum due or for compliance with a law or condition, especially an extended period granted as a special favor.
 - 6) Prayer: a short prayer of thanks said before or after a meal.
 - 7) Title: used as a form of description or to address State or Religious royalty.
 - 8) Classic Christian: unmerited favor; *"There but for the grace of God go I."*
 - 9) Prophetic: access to God's supernatural power; divine enablement; God's power source.
 - 10) Gracious: polite surprise

D. His Purpose; His Grace

(1) It begins with God and ends with you!

(a) His Holy Calling

1. “Who saved us and **called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before times eternal.**” 2 Timothy 1:9 WEBUS

a) You have a calling in Christ

- 1) It is by God’s grace and for His divine purpose that you have received your assignment.
- 2) It has nothing to do with anything you have earned or deserved.
- 3) Your calling was assigned to you before you existed in this life!

b) God is the author of your life!

1) *“For you formed my inmost being. **You knit me together in my mother’s womb.** I will give thanks to you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Your works are wonderful. My soul knows that very well. My frame wasn’t hidden from you, when I was made in secret, woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my body. **In your book they were all written, the days that were ordained for me, when as yet***

***there were none of them.** How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is their sum! If I would count them, they are more in number than the sand. When I wake up, I am still with you.”* Psalms 139:13-18 WEBUS

c) As such, everything will work to your benefit—if you stick with His plan!

1) “We know that **all things work together for good** for those who love God, for those who are called **according to his purpose.**” Romans 8:28
WEBUS

d) It ALWAYS begins with God and what He has prepared for you beforehand, and it ends with you taking responsibility to step into what He has prepared for you!

1) “for **by grace** you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; **it is the gift of God, not of works,** that no one would boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, **which God prepared before that we would walk in them.**” Ephesians 2:8-10
WEBUS

(b) Perfect, Establish, Strengthen, Settle

1. “But **may the God of all grace**, who called you to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, **after you have suffered a little while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.**” 1 Peter 5:10 WEBUS

a) After you are born again and have endured a bit of suffering, God’s grace will also...

1) **Perfect you:** grace is God’s nourishment to grow you into a mature Christian adult!

2) **Establish you:** grace provides you with access to God’s power and authority!

3) **Strengthen you:** grace is God’s supremacy when you feel weak!

4) **Settle you:** grace is God’s confidence when you have doubt!

b) Notes on the purpose of suffering:

1) “*Count it all joy, my brothers, when you fall into various temptations, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let endurance have its perfect work, **that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.***” James 1:2-4
WEBUS

2) “*Not only this, but **we also rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces***

*perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope **doesn't disappoint us**, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."* Romans 5:3-5
WEBUS

3) *"For I consider that **the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which will be revealed toward us.**"* Romans 8:18 WEBUS

(c) Grace is God's Power

1. *"He has said to me, **"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power [strength] is made perfect in weakness."*** Most gladly therefore I will rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest on me." 2 Corinthians 12:9 WEBUS

a) What type of power? Is there a limit? I pray you get a revelation of this... it's the same level of power *"which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead."*

1) *"For this cause I also, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which is among you and the love which you have toward all the saints, don't*

cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge** of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, **that you may know what is the hope of his calling, and what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power toward us who believe**, according to that working of the strength of his might **which he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead** and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, **far above all rule, authority, power, dominion**, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in that which is to come. He put all things in subjection under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things for the assembly, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all." Ephesians 1:15-23 WEBUS

(d) Your Responsibility: Learn to R. E. A. D.

1. “As each has received a gift [**Receive God’s Grace Freely**], employ it [**Engage with God’s Grace Willingly**] in serving one another [**Disperse God’s Grace Powerfully**], as good managers [**Avail Yourself to Steward God’s Grace Faithfully**] of the grace of God in its **various forms**.” 1 Peter 4:10

a) Learn to R. E. A. D.

- 1) Recieve God’s grace freely for your **salvation!**
- 2) Engage with God’s grace willingly for your **sanctification!**
- 3) Avail yourself to steward God’s grace **faithfully!**
- 4) Disperse God’s grace to others powerfully as your **ministry!**

READ: **R**ECEIVE

2. **Recieve God’s Grace Freely**

A. **Recieve**

(1) Learn to **R**. E. A. D.

(a) Recieve God’s grace freely for your **salvation!**

1. “But God, being rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, **even when we were dead** through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—

by grace [you received] you have been saved.”

Ephesians 2:4-5

- a) To Receive: here it means to be given or presented something as a gift...
 - 1) This is God’s grace that cannot be earned nor deserved.
 - 2) A gift must be, by definition, something given for which there is no cost to the recipient.
 - 3) Grace must come first before there can be saving faith.

2. “Even so too at this present time also there is a remnant **according to the election of grace**. And **if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace**. But **if it is of works, it is no longer grace**; otherwise work is no longer work.” Romans 11:5-6 WEBUS

- a) God has sovereignly elected you by His grace, and that had nothing to do with your own effort.
- b) If you had anything to do with it, then it would not be by the free gift of grace, but as if you earned it.
- c) In that case, saving grace would not be grace, but individual effort!

(2) The Gift of Grace

- (a) By grace through faith
1. “For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; **it is the gift of God**, not of works, that no one would boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9
WEBUS
 - a) God’s grace interacts with man’s heart before he can experience saving faith.
 - b) Otherwise the message of the cross would appear as utter nonsense:
 - 1) “*For the message of the cross is **foolishness to those who are perishing**, but **to us who are being saved it is the power of God.***” I Corinthians 1:18 NKJV
- (b) Grace is freely given...
1. “For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God; **being justified freely by his grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” Romans 3:23-24
WEBUS
 - a) It is the only path to justification!
- (c) The free gift is given to counteract sin!
1. “But **the free gift** isn’t like the trespass. For if by the trespass of the one the many died, **much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace** of the one

man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.” Romans 5:15

WEBUS

a) Sin killed many; the gift of grace saves many more!

(d) The greater the sin the more **evident** the grace!

1. “The law came in that the trespass might abound; **but**

where sin abounded, grace abounded more

exceedingly, that as **sin reigned in death**, even so

grace might reign through righteousness to eternal

life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 5:20-21

WEBUS

a) Sin rules in a kindom of death; grace rules in a
kingdom righteousness.

(e) The greater the sin the more **necessary** the grace!

1. “What shall we say then? **Shall we continue in sin,**

that grace may abound? May it never be! We who

died to sin, how could we live in it any longer?”

Romans 6:1-2 WEBUS

a) That does not mean you should purposely use sin
to activate grace!

(f) Once you have come out from under the power of sin...

1. “For sin will not have dominion over you, for you are

not under law, but **under grace**. What then? **Shall we**

sin because we are not under law but under grace?

May it never be!" Romans 6:14-15 WEBUS

- a) As a Christian, don't ever attempt to use grace to cover up the sloppiness of your sinful behavior!

READ: ENGAGE

3. Engage with God's Grace Willingly

A. Engage

(1) Learn to R. E. A. D.

(a) Engage with god's grace willingly for your

sanctification!

1. "Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; **through whom we also have our access by faith into this grace** in which we stand [engage]. We rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2

a) To Engage: to enter in; to gain access; to participate in; the right or opportunity to use or benefit from something; to become involved in an activity, situation, or matter.

1) After the gift of grace that granted you faith unto salvation, you then must practice your faith to gain continual access to God's grace.

2) It is by God's grace that you will live and grow each day and by which you will transform to become more and more like Christ in your sanctification process.

(2) Don't just sit on God's grace....

(a) Grow in God's grace...

1. "But **grow in the grace and knowledge** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever. Amen." 2 Peter 3:18 WEBUS

a) Take the grace that you received as a gift and grow in your intimacy and relationship with Christ, becoming more like Him.

(b) Be strengthened in God's grace...

1. "You therefore, my child, **be strengthened in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.**" 2 Timothy 2:1 WEBUS

a) Let God's grace be your source of strength as you navigate the trials and tribulations that come with your life as a Christian.

(c) Be instructed by God's grace...

1. "**For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,** instructing us to the intent that, **denying ungodliness and worldly lusts,** we would

live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present age.” Titus 2:11-12 WEBUS

- a) First grace brings salvation (through faith). Then you can be instructed by grace and empowered to overcome unrighteous desires and the lusts of the world.
- b) Grace inspires clear thinking, right living, and holistic integrity—in which your spiritual, emotional, and physical desires align with the will of God.

READ: AVAIL

4. Avail Yourself to God’s Grace

A. Avail

(1) Learn to R. E. A. D.

(a) Avail yourself to steward God’s grace **faithfully!**

1. “**With great power** the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And **God’s grace was so powerfully at work in [availed to by] them all.**” Acts 4:33

- a) To Avail: to apply, make good use of or be an excellent steward of what you’ve been given and have the opportunity to use; put into service;

implement, exercise, put into practice; exert, take advantage of.

- 1) Grace is received as a gift and then one must purposely access that grace by faith in order to grow into a mature Christian.
- 2) A mature Christian faithfully stewards God's grace by allowing God's power to work through him in every situation.

(2) God's grace powerfully at work in you!

(a) Set your hope fully on the grace...

1. "Therefore prepare your minds for action. Be sober, and **set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ**— as **children of obedience, not conforming yourselves according to your former lusts** as in your ignorance, but just as he who called you is holy, you yourselves also **be holy** in all of your behavior, because it is written, **"You shall be holy, for I am holy."**" 1 Peter 1:13-16 WEBUS

a) All you can ever be is completely dependent on the Lord's grace working in you.

- 1) *"I have been crucified with Christ, and **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. That***

life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me.” Galatians 2:20 WEBUS

b) You are called to be holy and the only way that is possible is when you fully embrace the grace of God and put it into practice.

1) *“I don’t reject the grace of God. For if righteousness is through the law, then Christ died for nothing!” Galatians 2:21 WEBUS*

(b) God’s grace ordains the work of your hands...

1. **“Let the favor of the Lord our God be on us. Establish the work of our hands for us.** Yes, establish the work of our hands.” Psalm 90:17 WEBUS

a) Everything you aim to achieve in life must be inspired by and empowered by His grace.

(c) Boldly approach the throne of grace...

1. **“Let’s therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace,** that we may receive mercy and may **find grace for help in time of need.”** Hebrews 4:16

WEBUS

a) When you face your greatest challenges in life, approach the Lord of grace, at His throne of grace, for a greater outpouring of His grace.

- (d) God's power in you is beyond all other power...
1. "Behold, **I give you authority** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy**. Nothing will in any way hurt you." Luke 10:19

WEBUS

- a) That you come to know the magnitude of...
 - 1) "*what is **the exceeding greatness of his power toward us** who believe, [the power] he worked in Christ **when he raised him from the dead** and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, **far above all rule, authority, power, dominion...***" Ephesians 1:19-21
- b) When the enemy comes against you...
 - 1) "***My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.***" Most gladly therefore I will rather glory in my weaknesses, ***that the power of Christ may rest on me.***" 2 Corinthians 12:9 WEBUS
 - 2) "...When the enemy comes in like a flood, **The Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him.**" Isaiah 59:19 NKJV
 - 3) "You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because **greater is he who is in**

you than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4:4

WEBUS

READ: DISPERSE

5. Disperse God’s Grace Powerfully

A. Disperse

(1) Learn to R. E. A. **D**.

(a) Disperse God’s grace to others powerfully as your **ministry!**

1. “Let no corrupt **word** proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it **may impart [disperse] grace** to the hearers.” Ephesians 4:29

a) To Disperse: distribute or spread; redistribute, dispense, deploy; spread over a wide area; go or cause to go in other directions or to different destinations.

1) Grace is received as a gift and then one must purposely access that grace by faith in order to grow into a mature Christian.

2) A mature Christian faithfully stewards God’s grace by allowing God’s power to work through him in every situation.

- 3) Then, a mature Christian shares God's grace with others!
- 4) Can you imagine the great honor and privilege it is to impart the grace of God to others by the words you speak?

(2) Ministry: the Good News of God's Grace!

(a) The ministry you received you must testify to others!

1. "But these things [*coming persecution*] don't count; nor do I hold my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, **and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to fully testify to the Good News of the grace of God.**" Acts 20:24

a) There can be no greater ministry than to share the grace of God.

(b) The Ministry of Reconciliation

1. "But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and gave to us **the ministry of reconciliation**; namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not reckoning to them their trespasses, and having committed to us the word of reconciliation. **We are therefore ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God were entreating by us [*speaking through us*]:** we beg

you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For him **who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.**" 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

- a) You have been called as ambassadors of Christ...
 - 1) Ambassadors carry the full weight and authority of those whom they represent.
 - 2) You are to speak as if Christ is speaking through you.
 - 3) You are to become the righteousness of God to the world.

B. Grace Abuse

(1) Abusing God's Grace

- (a) Carelessly sinning with grace as your excuse, erroneously believing sin will exponentiate grace!

- 1. **"...where sin abounded, grace abounded more exceedingly, that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness** to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 5:20-21

WEBUS

- a) The greater the sin the more **evident** the grace, so why not sin purposely to experience more grace?

2. “What shall we say then? **Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? May it never be!** We who died to sin, how could we live in it any longer?”

Romans 6:1-2 WEBUS

- a) The greater the sin the more **necessary** the grace, so why not sin purposely to experience more grace?
 - 1) If you believe that this is a good use of grace, you are guilty of **grace abuse**.
 - 2) Persistent grace abuse can only indicate one thing; you were never truly born again! Why?
- b) It would be impossible to genuinely know the truth and to actually fall away!
 - 1) *“For concerning those who were **once enlightened** and tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, **and then fell away, it is impossible** to renew them again to repentance; seeing they crucify the Son of God for themselves again, and put him to open shame.”*

Hebrews 6:4-6 WEBUS

c) If one can't genuinely know the truth and actually fall away, what is really going on? They were never really part of the family of God!

1) *"They went out from us, but **they didn't belong to us**; for **if they had belonged to us, they would have continued** with us. But they left, that they might be revealed **that none of them belong to us.**" 1 John 2:19 WEBUS*

d) A Parable to explain this phenomenon: Wheat and Tares

1) *"He set another parable before them, saying, "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while people slept, his enemy came and sowed darnel weeds also among the wheat, and went away. But when the blade sprang up and produced grain, then the darnel weeds appeared also. **The servants of the householder came and said to him, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where did these darnel weeds come from?'**" He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' "The servants asked him, '**Do you want us to go and gather them up?'**" But he said, 'No,*

*lest perhaps while you gather up the darnel weeds, you root up the wheat with them. **Let both grow together until the harvest, and in the harvest time I will tell the reapers, “First, gather up the darnel weeds, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn.”**”* Matthew 13:24-30 WEBUS

(b) Insulting Grace

1. **“For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which will devour the adversaries. A man who disregards Moses’ law dies without compassion on the word of two or three witnesses. **How much worse punishment do you think he will be judged worthy of who has trodden under foot the Son of God, and has counted the blood of the covenant with which he was sanctified an unholy thing, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?”** Hebrews 10:26-29 WEBUS**

- a) To sin willfully is no different than to engage in your very own personal re-crucifixion of Y’shua.

b) It's as if you are taking that ancient hammer in your very own hands, along with those nine inch nails, and kneeling alongside the cross and smashing those spikes into His wrists and ankles, while you look into His teary eyes and whisper to Him, "I really don't care how much this hurts You, I love my sin more than I could ever love You."

1) *"For if, after **they have escaped the defilement of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in it and overcome**, the last state has become **worse for them than the first**. For it would be **better for them not to have known** the way of righteousness, **than after knowing it, to turn back** from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb, **"The dog turns to his own vomit again,"** and "the sow that has washed to wallowing in the mire.""* 2 Peter 2:20-22 WEBUS

(c) Rejecting Grace

1. **“I don’t reject the grace of God.** For if righteousness is through the law, then Christ died for nothing!”

Galatians 2:21 WEBUS

- a) If at any time you believe you can be obedient enough to please God in your own strength, you have rejected your need for God’s grace.

(d) Falling from Grace

1. “You are **alienated from Christ**, you who desire to be justified by the law. You have **fallen away from grace.**” Galatians 5:4 WEBUS

- a) If at any time you believe you can be obedient enough to be justified in your own righteousness, you have fallen from grace.

(2) Arrogance and Grace

(a) Amongst the body of believers...

1. “For I say **through the grace that was given me**, to everyone who is among you, **not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think**; but to think reasonably, as God has apportioned to each person a measure of faith.” Romans 12:3 WEBUS

- a) Don’t think of yourself as more highly qualified than others to achieve success in your personal transformation.

- b) Be reasonable and sober in your thoughts about your advancement because it is God who has both gifted man his faith and apportioned to each one of us our ability to practice our faith.
- c) You could only do anything good because of His grace, so remain level-headed about your accomplishments for the Lord.
- d) Haughtiness is often the last step before you fall off a cliff.
- e) Even the initial faith you were given to believe Y'shua is Lord and Savior was a gift and the call on your life will be equally met by God's provision, as He equips you every step of the way.

(b) In your home...

1. "You husbands, in the same way, live with your wives according to knowledge, **giving honor to the woman as to the weaker vessel**, as also being **joint heirs of the grace of life**, that your prayers may not be hindered." 1 Peter 3:7 WEBUS

- a) Maybe the worse type of arrogance and abuse of God's grace is when a man believes he has a greater portion of grace than his very own wife.

- b) The devastating outcome of such arrogance is that God will not hear your prayers. Why?
- c) The weaker vessel is used here as imagery for one who is more sensitive to being directed by God's voice.
- d) A man who does not recognize this gift in his wife is a man who is not listening to God!

C. Learn to R.E.A.D. Grace

(1) Four Graces: Recieve. Engage. Avail. Disperse

(a) Your Responsibility: Learn to R. E. A. D.

1. "As each has received a gift [**Receive God's Grace Freely**], employ it [**Engage with God's Grace Willingly**] in serving one another [**Disperse God's Grace Powerfully**], as good managers [**Avail Yourself to Steward God's Grace Faithfully**] of the grace of God in its **various forms**." 1 Peter 4:10

a) Learn to R. E. A. D.

- 1) Recieve God's grace freely for your **salvation!**
- 2) Engage with God's grace willingly for your **sanctification!**
- 3) Avail yourself to steward God's grace **faithfully!**
- 4) Disperse God's grace to others powerfully as your **ministry!**

D. A Final Word on Grace

(1) A Psalm and a Prayer

(a) A Psalm:

1. “Yahweh is gracious, merciful, slow to anger, and of great loving kindness. Yahweh is good to all. His tender mercies are over all his works. All your works will give thanks to you, Yahweh. **Your saints will extol you. They will speak of the glory of your kingdom, and talk about your power, to make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, the glory of the majesty of his kingdom.**” Psalms 145:8-12 WEBUS

(b) A Prayer:

1. “Yahweh bless you, and keep you. **Yahweh make his face to shine on you, and be gracious to you.** Yahweh lift up his face toward you, and give you **peace.**” Numbers 6:24-26 WEBUS

(c) Next Promise: Peace!

1. “And **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7 WEBUS

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. Explain the four forms of grace eluded to in 1 Peter 4:10.

Match each to it's corresponding statement.

- A. Receive God's grace freely for your **salvation!**
- B. Engage with God's grace willingly for your **sanctification!**
- C. Avail yourself to steward God's grace **faithfully!**
- D. Disperse God's grace to others powerfully as your **ministry!**

2. What common attributes does grace share with faith and righteousness?

- A. Use II Peter 1:5, 1 Peter 4:10, and 1 John 2:29 to assist your answer.

3. How is God's grace related to your calling?

- A. Use 2 Timothy 1:9, Psalms 139:13-18, Romans 8:28, and Ephesians 2:8-10 to assist your answer.

4. Elaborate on 1 Peter 5:10. How does God's grace...

- A. Perfect you?
- B. Establish you?
- C. Strengthen you?
- D. Settle you?
- E. You may use the sermon notes on page 13 to assist you, but use your own words and understanding to elaborate.

5. Describe each of the following in detail in your own words.

Use Bible passages to support your answer.

- A. Receive God's grace freely for your **salvation!**
- B. Engage with God's grace willingly for your **sanctification!**
- C. Avail yourself to steward God's grace **faithfully!**
- D. Disperse God's grace to others powerfully as your **ministry!**
- E. Refer to the sermon notes beginning on page 16 for help.

6. Define and describe grace abuse and use Scripture to support your answer.

- A. Refer to the sermon notes beginning on page 28 for help.