

# GROW IN GRACE



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_





## 2 Peter 3:18

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

*To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.*

## 2 Peter 3:10-18

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives.

12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

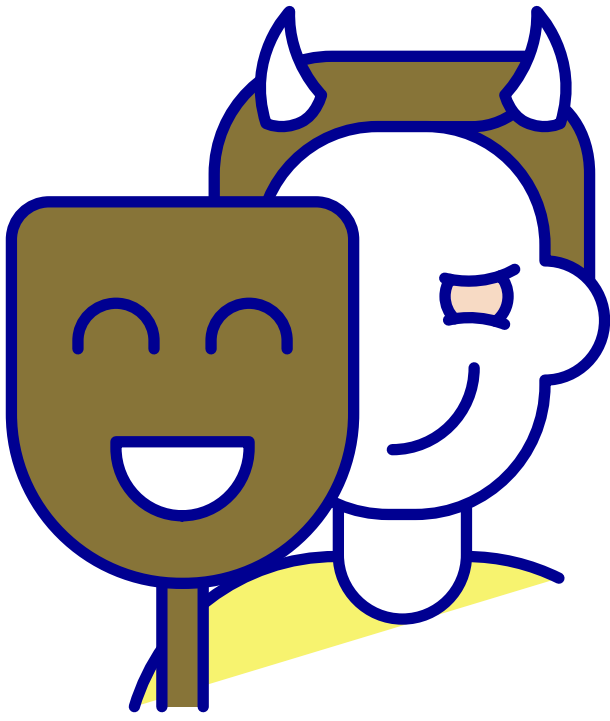
15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him.

16 He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

17 Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position.

***18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.***









# Grace

What does Grace mean?

## ***Does grace mean the blessing I say before I eat??***

Grace is a short prayer said before or after eating, yes, but it is so much more than praying a thankful prayer to Jesus for our food.

Grace is the basis for our Christian faith. In the NKJV Bible, the word grace is mentioned **171 times**. We believe we are saved by faith through grace. God's grace is usually explained as kindness and forgiveness that we do not deserve. Grace cannot be earned; it is something that is freely given by God.

God built us a bridge to Jesus with grace. With the grace bridge we can freely access our Savior. Grace allows us to have a special relationship with Jesus in spite of our sin. Grace allows us free access to Jesus, even though we don't deserve it. Praise!



**God's grace is a free gift.**

Free means what? Do we have to pay? Do we have to do something? **Nope.**

Free means free. It is a gift that is given for no reason other than love.

God told us that He is love. Love originates from God alone.

**Grace is a free gift, we don't deserve and it comes from a God who is full of love for us.**

Grace is often described with terms like "undeserved" or "unmerited favor."

What does unmerited mean? It means not deserved or earned. If you score a goal in hockey or shoot a basketball and earn a point then you have *merited* your team with a point right?

**Is scoring a point grace or earned reward?**

Jesus doesn't count peoples' successes and failures to decide who receives his grace. Instead, because of the kindness and intention of His will, God gives all His grace and love freely, and in the Bible, He describes himself as **gracious**.

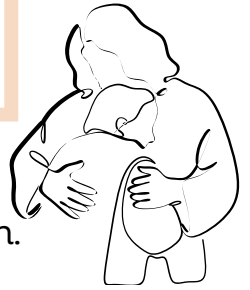
***Will someone please read Exodus 34:5-9***





# Grace

How does Jesus define grace?



Grace refers to God's favor to everyone.

We have all sinned against God from the moment we are born.

We cannot escape from sin no matter how hard we try.

Why? Because of the curse of Adam and Eve, who disobeyed the one rule that Jesus told them not to do. *Don't eat from one tree.*

Humanity did not have the capacity to defeat the cunning sinful power of Satan. Satan was described by Jesus as a murderer and deceiver from the beginning:

**John 8:44**

**... He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.**

So since the beginning of humanity, we have all sinned against God's law. Grace was needed from God since the beginning. The whole Bible cries out the need of Jesus and His wonderful Grace from Genesis to Revelation.

We have always needed a Savior who would defeat death and sin for eternity.

**Who is that Savior and Gracious King?**

# JESUS



**Luke 2:40**

And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the **grace** of God was upon Him.



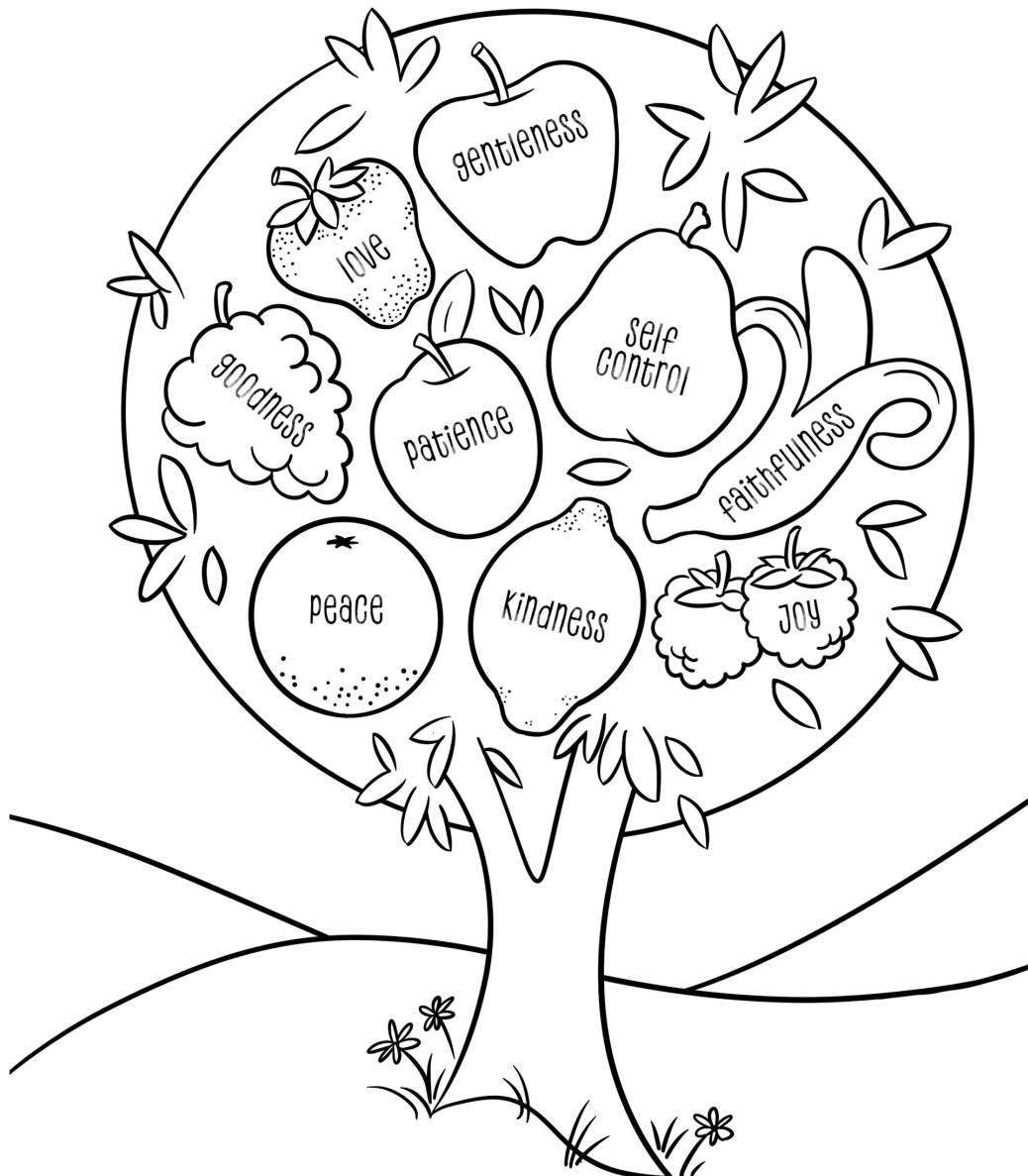
# Grace

## Fruits of the Spirit

Grace applies **forgiveness, gentleness, goodness, and kindness** to others. Grace is a gift from God, kind of a fruit salad, or delicious combination of the fruits of the Spirit.

Grace allows us to be kind and gentle, even when our sinful nature doesn't feel like it,  
yes, especially when we don't feel like it.

### FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT





# Grace

## Grace in the Bible

The following verses include some of the \_\_\_\_\_ times that  
Grace is mentioned in the Bible

### John 1:16 -17

And of His fullness we have  
all received, and grace for  
**grace**. For the law was given  
through Moses,  
but grace and truth came  
through Jesus Christ.

### Romans 3:24

being justified freely  
by His **grace** through  
the redemption that  
is in Christ Jesus,

### Romans 5:17

For if by the one man's  
offense death reigned  
through the one, much  
more those who receive  
abundance of **grace** and  
of the gift of  
righteousness will reign  
in life through the One,  
Jesus Christ.

### Romans 6:15

*From Slaves of Sin to Slaves of God*

What then? Shall we sin  
because we are not  
under law but under  
**grace**? **Certainly not!**





# Grace

What does it mean to Walk In Grace?



2 Corinthians 12:9 - **Who wrote the book of Corinthians?**

And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

“Walk In Grace” is not some fancy thing to say or hear at church, it's a special invitation from Jesus. To walk in grace means to give your hurt and pain to Jesus and He will give us the grace *that **we don't deserve*** to get through it.

God's grace allows us to do **crazy stuff** like celebrate in our pain. For example:

Mr. Dustin broke his arm really bad and had to have a very complicated surgery to repair it. Do you know what his reaction was? He said that he was thankful for the experience because He was able to witness to the doctors and nurses! Is that an example of grace? Do you think Mr. Dustin was reacting from his own thoughts and feelings or were his actions a gift from the Holy Spirit?

**Do you have a personal experience of God's grace in your life?**

*Walking implies action! It is a response and a movement.*



**Ephesians 2:8-9**

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.



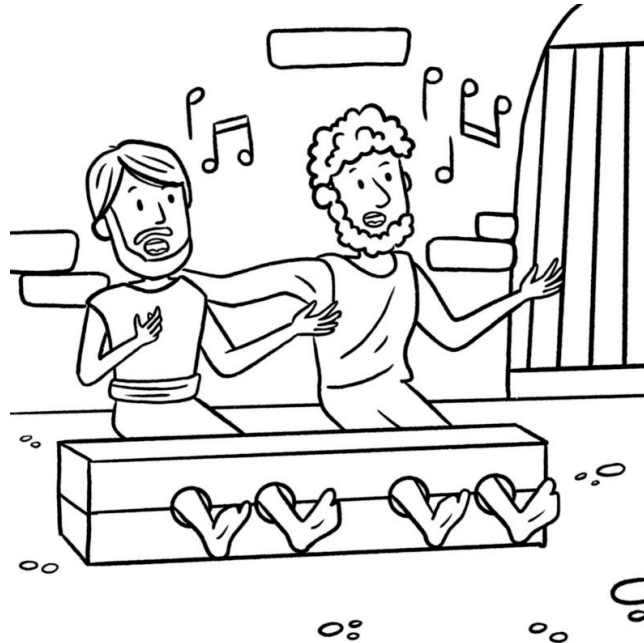


# Grace

How do you show grace?

Giving grace to another person is thinking of them the way Jesus thinks of them, unconditionally, just as God forgave us through Christ.

"Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you" Colossians 3:13,



## Acts 16:25-34

**About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.** Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.



# Grace

Is grace same as forgiveness?

While forgiveness is reactive, *meaning it's something you do after you have been hurt and wronged*, Grace is proactive, *meaning it is a Godly state of being or a Christ-like way of life.*

Grace is active when painful and wrong things happen, and grace prevents you from experiencing worldly reactions like returning the hate and hurt.

The Holy Spirit allows grace to occur when you are able to overwhelm and destroy the pain and hurt with a Godly covering. That grace covering **does not** allow you to experience the world like you used to. We are made new in Jesus because we have the Holy Spirit as our Helper.



God's miracle of **grace** is something we must ask for.  
Let's ask Jesus for that now.

*Please Jesus, if it be your will, please allow me to have the gift of grace so that I might be a good example of you in my life. When bad things happen to me, please let me be gracious like you command. Please let me shine in YOUR LIGHT, not my own, and let me be more like you every day.*  
*In Jesus' name, amen.*





# Grace

What are the 5 characteristics of grace?



## GRACE IS ALSO AN ACRONYM REPRESENTING FIVE ATTRIBUTES:

G  
R  
A  
C  
E

is for **generosity**, the Godly will to do something kind, that is not deserved.

is **response**, grace is a covering or gift that comes from God, it is not of ourselves.

is **action**, the Godly reaction of not returning hurt for hurt

is **compassion**, the concern for others that comes from a heart like Jesus.

is **energy** to give Grace, the gift of the Holy Spirit.



### **Proverbs 11:16**

A gracious woman  
retains honor,

But ruthless men  
retain riches.



# Grace

## How is Grace Applied?



cuts in line



takes something you have



starts arguing



disrupts your focus



takes your credit



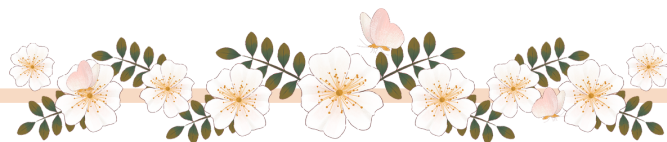
lies to you

Dear Lord, when these things happen to me, can I please remember to apply your grace covering first? Can I please remember to just say “**help**” and know that You will be there with me and give me the grace to know how **You** would handle these things?

Can you please **act for me** because you have given me the Holy Spirit and you promised that He would be my helper and my guide. I will always do the wrong thing without your help.

Please bless me with grace so that my Godly actions will be contagious and more people will see the right way to handle these hard situations and they will do the Godly thing too.

You explained that “all we like sheep have gone astray”, meaning we are all sinners and we all need your help. It is good to know that you are our **Good Shepherd** and you will help us do the next right thing for your glory, Jesus, in your powerful and loving Name, amen.



# Grace

## Jesus is our Shepherd

When these situations happen, it is always good to ask questions first, **do not accuse**.

### Match the solution to the best outcome

Did you mean to cut in line?



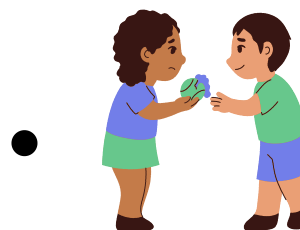
cuts in line

Saying you are sorry right away when an argument starts is best, **whether you are wrong or not**. It deflates the anger balloon.



starts arguing

Is that true?



takes something you have

May I please have my toy?



takes your credit

Do you need help? (applies for disruption or someone taking credit.)



lies to you



disrupts your focus





# Grace

Jesus is our Shepherd



Be humble and remember that “The last will be first and the first will be last” (God doesn’t see rank).

God, who sees the heart, will reward accordingly.

It is better to give than to receive, Acts 20:35 is a reminder that Christians are called to serve others and to be generous with our time, resources, and talents.

Mark 11:25

And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

Luke 23:34 Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

The Good Samaritan helping those who do not deserve help, Luke 10:25-37

Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, But those who deal truthfully are His delight. A prudent man conceals knowledge, But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness. Proverbs 12:22-23



# Grace

Matthew 19

## **The Little Children and Jesus**

13 Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them.

14 Jesus said, **“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”**

15 When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.

## **The Rich and the Kingdom of God**

16 Just then a man came up to Jesus and asked, “Teacher, what **good thing must I do to get eternal life?**”

17 “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, keep the commandments.”

18 “Which ones?” he inquired.

Jesus replied, “You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony,

19 honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’

20 “All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?”

21 Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

22 When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

23 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven.

24 Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

25 When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, “Who then can be saved?”

26 Jesus looked at them and said, **“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”**

27 Peter answered him, “We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?”

28 Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

30 **But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.**