



REAL GROWTH: A Gospel Shaped Church – Week Two
Sola Gratia – Saved by Grace Alone

*These notes are to be used in conjunction with the sermon series during the service or with the recording.
They are intended to assist with further individual or group study.*

Readings: Nehemiah 9:9-21; Ephesians 2:1-10; & John 1:1-5, 14-18

WHY WE NEED GRACE – John 1:1-5, Ephesians 2:1-3, Nehemiah 9:9-21

We have Rejected God – John 1:1-5. Genesis 1 – 3 describes the ‘fall of man.’

What happened? What did humankind choose instead of God?

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The Results of Rejecting God – Ephesians 2:1-3 highlight sin, death, and God’s wrath with ‘slavery’ to the world and its ruler. What do you know about God’s wrath and judgment; how does this link to the Gospel? We also considered that as a results of the ‘fall’ we have disordered bodies, minds, and hearts; do you, what further consequences can you think of?

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We don’t have the answers – Nehemiah 9:9-21. We considered that we can’t save ourselves (Ephesians 2:9) and the efforts that humankind has made to do just that (rationalism, empiricism, existentialism, pluralism, and relativism). By what other means do we try to save ourselves?

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WHAT GRACE IS – Ephesians 2:4-5, John 1:14 & 17

We saw grace as the unmerited gift of God to us and looked at the listed Scripture, plus 2 Corinthians 5:21. How would you describe the Good News of the Gospel in the of Grace and these Scriptures; what has God actually done for us in Jesus Christ?

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WHAT GRACE DOES

We considered the following ‘triumphs of Grace.’

Explain what you think they are and detail some of the other blessings that Grace brings:

Grace provides a completed act of Salvation: Ephesians 1:20-23 & 2:6, Hebrews 10:14

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Grace gives life: Ephesians 2:5, Romans 8:5-8, 9-11

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Grace Justifies: Romans 8:30

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Grace Conforms: Romans 8:29, Philippians 1:6

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Grace brings blessings: John 1:16, Ephesians 2:7

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Other blessings:

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Future Study: Meditate and rest in this gift of Grace; what joy, reassurance, and peace do you receive? Consider also why you may not be experiencing some of the benefits of Grace; identify what they are and try to discern why this is the case? Next week we will look at the role of Faith and its link to Grace. Note matters for further discussing at the Café Church at the end of the series (Nov. 25th)

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