

October 23, 2022

Abounding Grace: Experiencing and Expressing Grace

Discover Grace

Hebrews 4:14-16



For Discussion and Reflection:

1. We began today by recognizing that biblical “grace” addresses sin but with the hope of forgiveness. Living in grace does not mean that we can avoid, ignore, minimize, excuse, or dismiss sin. Our answer to sin cannot be, “Well, we’re under grace.” Consider a couple of passages: Romans 6:1-14; Titus 2:11-12; Galatians 2:11-14, 5:13-15, 6:1. Grace enables us to face our sin and address the sin of others with the hope of God’s forgiveness and transformation. How has the evangelical church used grace to diminish sin?
2. Daniel presents a great example of how God’s grace leads us to repentance. Read Daniel 9:3-19. How does Daniel recount God’s grace, or Israel’s standing with God based on his unmerited favor? How does he respond to sin in light of that grace?
3. One use of the word grace in the Scripture is a reference to our standing with God through Jesus Christ. The letters of Paul typically open with a reminder of this standing, “Grace to you,” Galatians 1:3. Consider that standing through Christ, explained in Ephesians 1:3-10. What stands out to you in this text? What does Paul communicate about your standing with God?
4. In 1 Corinthians 3, Paul addresses the divisions in the church. He ends with this statement, “For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, and you are Christ’s, and Christ is God’s.” (vv21b-23) What issues are the Corinthian believers facing and how does our standing in grace help them address them?
5. Our confidence approaching God is based on our standing with him by grace (undeserved, unearned favor). What in your life hinders your confidence in your standing? Should that be keeping you from God? What does our reluctance say about our understanding of the gospel? Do we really believe we’re saved by grace, or does our hesitancy reveal a performance relationship?
6. As we engage God, he assures us of our standing before him in Jesus. Our High Priest speaks words of assurance to us and the Spirit spills over the love of God in our hearts (Romans 5:5). How is this helpful in our moment of need? What needs in your life does this address?
7. Based on our study, how can your time with God become more meaningful? What can you do to inhabit the place of grace more faithfully? What should you expect from that engagement?