

# Start With

# WHY

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Week 6: WHY Do We Emphasize God's Grace?

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## Introduction:

1 John 4:8

1 Peter 5:10

Greek for grace = *charis*: "free gift"

John 1:12

## Three Reasons WHY We Emphasize the Grace of God:

1. Grace is the \_\_\_\_\_ to the weight of God's Law

Galatians 3:10

James 2:10

Galatians 2:23-25

Matthew 5:17

2. Grace is the \_\_\_\_\_ to the power of sin

Romans 6:14

Galatians 2:20

Romans 6:1-2

Colossians 3:3

Titus 2:11-14

3. Grace is the core of the \_\_\_\_\_ Gospel

We live daily by the same thing that saved us: Grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone!

## The Big Idea:

The Gospel of grace is NOT easy-believism. It's the most difficult thing you will ever believe. In reality, legalism is easy-believism. Don't be fooled by those who would tell you otherwise!

## QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

### Personal Life:

1. Much of what we hear about so-called “committed Christianity” is focused on striving more, doing more, obeying more, etc. Why do these well-intended messages end up backfiring, making Christ’s Church less effective, less appealing, less powerful, and less glorifying to God than She could be? Discuss...

### Ponderings:

2. In your own words, try to communicate the essence of WHY grace is the answer to the weight of God’s Law given to Moses.
3. Why is God’s Law an “all-or-nothing” proposition – a pass/fail test – instead of a system whereby we could essentially earn grades based on the parts we do “well” on? Discuss...
4. What does it mean that grace is the antidote to the power of sin in our lives? Read **Romans 6:1-2**, **Galatians 2:20**, **Colossians 1:1-3** and **Titus 2:11-14** in shaping your answers...
5. Can you offer an example of how putting yourself under heavy rules and expectations actually worked against you, whereas applying God’s grace began to set you free? Discuss...
6. Why is grace the authentic core of the Gospel, and how does grace differentiate the message of Jesus from all other belief systems? Discuss...

### Promptings:

7. Grace is not a shortcut to living a godly life. On the surface, sometimes legalism seems to produce faster results. Can you think of a time or season in your life when legalism encouraged you to pretend you were more spiritual than you actually were?

What can you learn from lessons like these? How does receiving and living in the grace of God for yourself directly impact your life as a friend, relative, spouse or parent? Discuss...