

LIFE Group Discussion Questions

Titus 2:11-14

Week of April 25-May 1, 2010

Summary: The grace of God is our instructor, not only bringing us to salvation, but teaching us how to live godly lives. God's grace is a great source of security, but unfortunately Christians seldom operate out of grace – either in relating to God or others. This is something akin to “Playground Christianity,” where we neglect to apply what we've learned in the school of grace. Instead, we must let theory become practice and allow God's grace to spill over into obedience and humility. Recognizing we're at different parts in the learning process and have the hope of growth and change, we let grace lead us into “Cap and Gown Christianity,” which allows us to be patient with others and with ourselves, and reminds us of our daily need for the Gospel.

Discussion Questions

These questions do not to be covered exhaustively; rather, they are meant as a guide to further exploration on the various applications and observations from the text, so use what is most helpful for your group context.

1. Read Titus 2:11-14 and Romans 5:1-2. What is the relationship between grace and obedience? Do you find that grace motivates you to obey, or moves you toward a lax lifestyle? Why or why not?
2. In your experience, is the church a place where grace can be found readily? If so, great. If not, how does that change?!
3. Grace teaches us to say no to ungodliness, or living life as if God doesn't exist. In what ways do you see ungodliness at work in your heart? What steps can be taken to address that?
4. Grace teaches us to say no to worldly passions, or the inordinate desire for and preoccupation with the things of this life. In what ways do you see ungodliness at work in your heart? What steps can be taken to address that?
5. On a scale of pre-school to Ph.D., rate your understanding and application of grace. Explain your answer.
6. Putting off/putting on is Paul's application of grace in living: we put off bad thoughts and behaviors, and put on good ones. Open up to Ephesians and skim through it, verbalizing what you find in these categories. What strikes you as an area for awareness and prayer in your own life?
7. In “Cap and Gown Christianity,” we recognize the need for growth in our own lives and give others the space to grow in theirs. What do you think this really looks like?

Rabbit Trail of the Week: How do you apply God's grace in relationships that are clearly against his revealed truth? As a test case, pretend your sister announces she is gay and wants you to attend her ceremony – how do you “love the sinner, but hate the sin”? Is it really possible to do both?