



BelPres Church

Grace Greater Than All My Sin

Opening Prayer:

Jesus, let your grace speak louder than our mistakes. We are listening, remind us that we don't have to earn your love.

Practice Reflection Questions:

What stands out from your prayer or journaling time this week? Did you pursue a nudge or prompt to action? What did you do and how did it go? Did your family try the family practice? How did that go?

This Week's Scripture:

Romans 5

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having

been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ

¹²Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

¹³To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

¹⁵But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

¹⁸Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

²⁰The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Scripture Reflection Questions: Read this week's scripture together and discuss the following (note: we use the same scripture reflection questions

each week so that we can practice using the same tools over time as we examine different scriptures)

- What do we learn about God's story in this passage?
- What do we learn about our story in this passage?

Talk:

- When have you felt like “too much” or “not enough,” and how did Jesus meet you in that moment?
- What changed because of His grace? Your heart, your reactions, or your relationships?
- Who in your life needs grace this week more than correction or advice?

Action Plan:

Review the action prompt below, share any initial ideas of how you might pursue this practice this week.

- Think of a coworker, a sibling, an adult child, a friend, a classmate or a neighbor and offer grace specifically where you'd normally correct, lecture or withdraw (patience instead of eyeroll, listening instead of fixing, encouragement instead of critique, forgiveness instead of replaying wrongs). This is not “be nice.” This is to be more like Jesus because he does the same for you.
- If the moment feels right, say: “I’d love to have you join me...” and offer one clear invitation: for a walk this week, for dinner at my house, Sunday worship, Moms’ Fellowship, student D groups.... No pressure. Just invitation.

Closing group prayer: Spend a few minutes together in your group sharing prayer requests and then praying together for each other. Take the challenging parts of your conversation to Jesus. Thank God for the time together, the conversation shared, the other people in the group, and for encouragement for the week ahead.