

KEEP AWAY

May 23/24

Grace on Display | Ephesians 2:7-10

I. What does it feel like to _____ something?

II. God _____ His grace.

III. How can we _____ God's grace?

KEEP AWAY

The Christian life is supposed to be fulfilling and abundant. Instead, it can feel more like a game of Keep Away—a game of being in the middle, chasing the ball and never being able to reach it.

Paul saw this frustration stemming from a gap between belief and behavior. Keep Away is a verse-by-verse study through Ephesians to help put you on the road to experiencing life when belief and behavior are united.

For Discussion

1. How do you define grace?
2. Read the New King James Version of Ephesians 2:8. What is the gift of God?

Leaders: If we adhere to the rules of grammar, the gift is faith. This calls for a definition of grace that goes beyond the popular definition of undeserved favor. Even the acrostic God's Riches At Christ's Expense, though a pretty good handle, does not go as far as it needs to. Paul is explaining how and why we who were dead in sins now find ourselves alive in Jesus. Grace is favor, but it is favor with power.

Augustus Strong, in his exhaustive concordance, defines grace (Greek charis) as, "The divine influence upon the heart and its reflection in the life." God did something before we had faith.

3. How much of the salvation experience is of God and how much of man? How does this make you feel?
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Upcoming Events

Country Terrace Outreach

June 20 | Time T.B.D.

We had a big group for the BBQ in the park. The next outreach promises to double. Help us touch lives with the love of Jesus. Lead your group into life change. Contact Bruce Miller if your group will join in.

Breakfast Club

May 30, June 13, & June 27 | 8:30 a.m.

Meet at Harvest Vineyard, Downtown Waterloo. Please contact Bruce Miller if you plan to join.

Small Group Leader BBQ

Thursday, July 23 | 6 p.m.

Bring a side dish to share. Kids welcome; lots of room to play.
Location: Bruce & Deb Miller's, Waterloo.

Area Small Group Leader's Conference

Part I: Friday, August 21 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Part II: Friday, August 21 | 7-9:40 p.m & Saturday, August 22 | 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Jim Egli discusses the challenges of starting, growing, & maintaining small groups that connect with God & strengthen followers of Jesus while maintaining an outward focus. Egli is Pastor of Small Groups at the Champaign Vineyard in Illinois & holds a PhD in Small Group Discipleship. He's authored 15 books on effective small group ministry. Part I, \$30 (includes lunch); part II, \$20; both, \$45. Enrollment begins in June.
Location: HVC Campus.