

The Grace of God

Understanding our need for God's grace.

Day 1: Who God Is

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:28, Isaiah 46:10, 1 John 4:8

Reflection:

- God is working for good in all things. Nothing is excluded, even the difficulties and pain which comes from life on a sinful planet.
- As you read about the characteristics of God, imagine serving a God without those traits. A
 God who does not know the future or is limited in power. When we trust in God, we can
 trust in His gift of grace.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for being unlimited and so big you cannot be fully comprehended. I trust you regardless of my emotions or current experience.

Day 2: Who We Were

Scripture Reading: Genesis 3:1-19, Romans 5, Romans 3:23, Isaiah 53:6

Reflection:

- Even the most moral person has broken God's standard of perfection.
- Read over the account of Adam and Eve again. Humanity was given one command and we broke it. God did not make a mistake, we did and broke the planet.

Prayer: God you are right and pure, we have fallen short of your standard and need mercy. Forgive us for our lack of obedience and through love may we pursue your standards.

Day 3: Our Need for Grace

Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:9-10, Colossians 2:13-14, Romans 3:23

Reflection:

• It only takes one sin to label a person guilty of breaking God's perfect standard. God's justice demands the penalty be paid.

Prayer: Father, I know I deserve judgment. I sinned and not you. Thank you that your gift of grace gives me something I do not deserve.

This devotion prepared by:
Chris Lautsbaugh, Missionary/Author of Death of the Modern SuperHero: How
Grace Breaks our Rules. www.nosuperheroes.com
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Day 4: The Gift of Grace

Scripture Reading: Romans 5:15, Romans 9:16, 1 John 4:9-10

Reflection:

- God gave us salvation as a gift by faith, with no strings attached.
- All other religions make you earn the favor of the gods. Think on the signifigance of God showing us favor before we did anything to deserve it.

Prayer: Thank you, Lord, for the gift of grace; unearned and undeserved. I do not merit this, but I am so grateful.

Day 5: How God Views Us

Scripture Reading: Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:8-9 2 Corinthians 5:17

Reflection:

- Christ moved towards us, making Christianity different from other religions.
- He gave us His grace freely so we could meet His righteous and perfect standard, having all sin forgiven. Do you see yourself the way God does?

Prayer: Lord, help my thinking line up to yours, rejecting the lies of the Enemy.

Day 6: How God Views Us, Part 2

Scripture Reading: Romans 3:21-26, Ephesians 1:3-14

Reflection:

- Make a list of everything in these passages that is part of how God views us.
- Meditate on the fact He freely gave us all these things, nothing was by our own works or effort.

Prayer: Father, you are the Giver of every good and perfect gift. All other religions make humans earn favor, you have freely given it through grace.

Day 7: Our Response

Scripture Reading: Romans 7:22-25, Ephesians 4:20-24, 2 Peter 1:3

Reflection:

- God has given us everything we need for life and salvation. We trusted him to save us, we must continue to trust him to help us live and grow.
- Should we focus more on our works or living a loving, thankful life in response to His grace? Jesus told us obedience follows love. (John 14:15)

Prayer: Lord, may my life be a statement of gratefulness and thanks for your amazing gift. I want to demonstrate my love for you through my life.