

Connection Group Bible Study 10/17/2018
Giving Grace Part 2

7:00 Open in Prayer

7:00-7:30 Talk/Fellowship/Ice Breaker

7:30-8:20

This week we are going to continue our study on grace. Last week we discussed the responsibility we have to show grace toward others because God expects us to do so if we are accepting the grace He has given us.

What is something that stuck out to you from our study last week?

Can anyone share an example of a way you showed grace in this last week?

Tonight we are going to continue the discussion on giving grace. We read several scriptures that reiterated the importance of giving grace to other people, but **do you think that is where giving grace stops?**

Would you agree that we are required to show ourselves grace?

What are some examples or showing yourself grace?

Oftentimes we relate showing grace to being forgiving. Although forgiveness is an element of grace, it is not the only characteristic of grace. Grace can be shown through having patience in a trying situation, being kind instead of cruel, giving love instead of hate, or even lowering expectations in times that a person is struggling.

All of those examples of grace can be shown toward others and toward yourself. **Do you agree, or disagree? Why or why not?**

Our ultimate example of grace is Jesus Christ. We see time and time again that he poured out grace on the world, and that at times he included himself. We are going to study a moment in time that Christ showed grace to the flesh that he took on himself for our benefit.

Read Mark 6:1-32 (Discuss how grace was shown)

A lot has happened in these scriptures. Christ and the disciples had been teaching and preaching non-stop (which would be tiring) then the disciples learn of the death of John (who had been beheaded for standing up for truth) and they had received and buried his body. They came to report to Jesus and his response was so tender and grace-filled. These men had worked hard and had experienced true heartbreak. They seemingly weren't asking for a break, but Jesus saw their need.

Read Mark 6:33-46 (Discuss how grace was shown)

At the end of these verses we see that Jesus went off by himself to pray. That was him resting. That was him knowing that his fleshly body did have limitations. Christ is not limited, but his body was just as susceptible to the stress of life as ours are. He knew in order to continue to give his very best, he needed to have a time of prayer and rest in solitude.

How is allowing yourself to rest showing yourself grace?

Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (Discuss how this relates to showing yourself grace)

There is a time for everything in life. Not all of it seems good. If you are going through a time of grief, mourning, sadness, anger, or a time of war you have to show yourself grace. Have patience with yourself, be kind to yourself, love yourself, or even lower expectations. This does not mean to compromise and allow yourself to fall into bad habits during these trying times, but instead recognize what is going on, draw close to God in a quiet place, and rest in him.

Close in Prayer