

THE MAGNIFICENT



SESSION THREE: TRANSFORMED BY GRACE

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age," Titus 2:11-12

Open your group time by creating an environment in which you may begin to develop a community of connection. Get to know one another through sharing prayer requests and experiences that provide members with an opportunity to engage.

**CONNECTING IN PRAYER:** Begin your time together with prayer and praise.

**CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER:** How has your relationship with Christ changed your relationship with sin?

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Watch the DVD for Session 3 now. Use the space below to record your thoughts, key points and questions you would like to either remember or discuss.

**GROWTH THROUGH UNDERSTANDING:** In the first session, Dr. Evans gave a thorough explanation of the doctrine of grace. But grace is not a just a doctrine it's a person and it is your relationship with the person of Christ (through whom grace was given) that will determine your level of transformation.

In this session Dr. Evans focused on the key verses, Titus 2:11-12. From these verses he explained that just as sin—through disobedience—came to all mankind, salvation—through grace—came to all mankind as well. The grace of God has appeared to everyone but personal

decisions have kept some from experiencing it. The level at which a believer is transformed will be determined by whether they are properly linked to Christ.

Dr. Evans finishes this session by reminding us that transformational grace is demonstrated by a change in character, attitude and conduct. The more we look at Christ, the more we become like Him.

Transformational grace is demonstrated by a change in character, attitude and conduct

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	OWTH THROUGH DISCUSSION: As you dive into the heart of Dr. Evans' teaching, utilize the following estions to generate discussion among your group.
1.	If every believer who comes to Christ has come by grace, why do we witness varying levels of transformation?
2.	As kids, most of us had a neighborhood-centered focus and we became products of that environment. How easy was it to be transformed in that environment? How difficult is it to keep a Christ-centered focus in your current environment?
3.	To be transformed by grace requires multiple steps. Which steps are God's responsibilities? Which step are your responsibilities?
J	Now is the time to apply the wisdom of what you have learned to your life, as you express the depth of your relationship with God through service to Him and others.

**SERVING OTHERS:** This week, let's accelerate your level of transformation. During your daily prayers don't

SERVING GOD: What one thing can you do differently this week to experience a greater level of transforma-

ask God for anything for yourself. Instead ask Him to bring a different opportunity each day to demonstrate your growth by serving someone else; responding to their need.

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tion as you bear the image of Christ?



#### THE DAILY

# Grace Guide

# DAY ONE

# **MEDITATE: Read Romans 5:18** "So then as through one transgression

there as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men"

MOVE: The method by which humanity has been justified in God's eyes was the one act of righteousness, the God-man being crucified on a Cross. One man's sinfulness was overturned by One Man's righteousness. Is there a current situation where your one act of grace this week can overturn a potentially negative outcome?

Live out God's
Kingdom principles here
on earth by putting feet to
your faith. Over the next 5
days, utilize the Daily Grace
Guide to help you meditate
on God's word.

#### DAY FOUR

#### **MEDITATE: Read 2 Corinthians 3:18**

"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit"

MOVE: The method by which believers experience Christ-like transformation is through a transparent ongoing study of God's word. God's word is the proverbial grindstone that each believer must rub against in order to be sharpened into the image of His Son. Before you sit down to engage God's word, confess what's been hidden in your heart and ask Him to deal with the distorted image you've been displaying.

### DAY TWO

#### **MEDITATE: Read Romans 6:12-13**

"Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God."

MOVE: The way in which believers manifest the works of sin in their lives, is by allowing sin to have rule over their bodies. Recognize that sin desires to rule your body and refuse to acquiesce. Make a list of the parts of your body that still succumb to the desires of sin. Seek God's power, through prayer, to overcome these temptations.

### DAY FIVE

### MEDITATE: Read Ephesians 2:10

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them"

MOVE: The reason God both created and redeemed humanity is so that we would continue in His agenda. Transformation for the believer is complete ownership—through God's grace—of his/her God-given purpose. Make up your mind to pursue the reason why God specifically made you and give your life to accomplishing that purpose.

# DAY THREE

MEDITATE: Read Romans 12:2 "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may]prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect"

MOVE: The scripture informs us that the process by which a believer experiences genuine ongoing transformation is "by the renewing of their mind." The battle over who controls the mind is a daily decision for the believer. Begin, today, to ask the Holy Spirit to shield your mind from any thoughts that would affect your transformation.