Weekly Study Guide for June 8, 2025 | Grow in Grace

During the 30 years leading up to Jesus' public ministry, the Bible emphasizes His growth in three essential areas: wisdom, stature, and grace (Luke 2:40, 52). In this study, we will focus on the last of these—God's grace.

Read the following verses and reflect on the questions below:

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (Ephesians 2:1-10).

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age (Titus 2:11-14).

But the Lord said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong (2 Corinthians 12:8-10).

For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace (Romans 6:14-15).

God opposes the proud but gives grace (shows favor) to the humble (1 Peter 5:5).

Links to References: Ephesians 2:1-10; Titus 2:11-14; 2 Corinthians 12:8-10; Romans 5:15-17; Romans 6:14-15; 1 Peter 5:5

Reflection Questions:

- 1. Got grace? Is grace a major factor in your life? Why is a proper understanding of God's grace so important to spiritual growth? What does it mean to grow in grace? Are you growing in grace?
- 2. Where do you need God's grace to be applied today? Do you need to apply God's grace to anything in your past? How can you apply God's grace proactively?
- 3. Is God's grace sufficient for you? Are you relying on your strength alone? Where are you weak? How does grace turn your weakness into strength?
- 4. Are you living under God's grace or are you trying to be perfected by the law? Are you allowing God's grace to transform you and make you more like Jesus? How does God's grace keep you from sinning?
- 5. What is one big takeaway from all of this? How does it apply to you? What difference will this make in your life?

For later: Take time to prayerfully reflect on how this lesson applies to your life. What did you learn? What are some personal takeaways and insights you gained? How can you apply this to your life?

Summary: This study highlights the transformative power of God's grace—a gift that redeems both our past and our future. Grace isn't just about forgiveness, but also transformation, empowerment, and the ability to live in alignment with God's will.

Key Reflections:

- Grace is a gift, not earned (Ephesians 2:8-9). It humbles us, reminding us that salvation is not based on our works but on God's mercy.
- **Grace teaches and transforms** (Titus 2:11-12). It calls us to reject ungodliness and live in a way that reflects Christ.
- Grace is sufficient in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). Instead of hiding our struggles, we can embrace them, knowing that God's power is perfected in them.
- Grace frees us from sin's control (Romans 6:14). It shifts our focus from legalism to a life led by the Spirit.
- **Grace requires humility** (1 Peter 5:5). Pride resists grace, but humility opens the door for God's favor.

Personal Application: Where do you need God's grace today? Is there an area where you're striving in your own strength instead of resting in His sufficiency? Growing in grace means allowing it to shape your thoughts, actions, and responses—especially in moments of weakness or challenge. Grace is not just about receiving—it's about living it out. How can you extend grace to others today, just as God has extended it to you?