

Week 4 - "Amazing Grace"

The Battle to Live in Grace

Big Idea: We wage the good warfare by continually remembering that our standing with God rests on Christ's grace rather than our performance.

Opening Question

Where did you experience the "battle" we talked about Sunday in your own life this week?

[Read 1 Timothy 1:12–20](#)

Discussion

1. *Paul is remarkably honest about who he was before Christ. Why is remembering who we were apart from Christ important for appreciating grace?*
2. *Paul describes himself as a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent, yet immediately says, "I received mercy." What does that teach us about the kinds of people God's grace can reach?*
3. *Verse 14 says, "The grace of our Lord overflowed for me." What do you think Paul wants us to understand by describing grace as overflowing?*
4. *Paul calls himself the "foremost" of sinners. How can Christians take their sin seriously without allowing their sin to become their identity?*
5. *"Amazing Grace" begins, "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me." What happens to our appreciation of grace when we minimize the seriousness of our sin?*

6. *We can stop living in grace in two opposite directions: pride says, "I don't really need grace," while shame says, "Grace couldn't possibly be enough for me." Which direction are you personally more prone toward?*
7. *How does the gospel confront self-righteousness and shame simultaneously?*
8. *Paul's reflection on grace suddenly erupts into worship in verse 17: "To the King of the ages..." Why should a deep understanding of grace naturally produce worship?*
9. *Paul tells Timothy to "wage the good warfare." What does this passage suggest about the relationship between remembering grace and fighting faithfully?*
10. *Paul warns that some have "made shipwreck of their faith." What warning signs might indicate that someone is drifting away from actively trusting and living in God's grace?*
11. *What would it look like for you to actively live in grace this week rather than merely believing grace as a theological concept?*

Closing Question

Based on tonight's passage, what truth do you need to actively remember and believe this week?

Prayer Prompts

- **Freedom from shame:** Pray for anyone carrying past or present failures as though those sins are greater than Christ's grace.
- **Freedom from pride:** Ask God to expose areas of self-righteousness, spiritual pride, or self-reliance that cause us to forget how desperately we need grace.

- **Wage the good warfare:** Pray that God's grace would not merely comfort us but strengthen us to hold onto faith, pursue holiness, and remain faithful.