

# Choosing Grace

## SERMON NOTES

- I. How do we make our home a place where people will want to come home to?
- II. Introduction - What is grace?
- III. How do we show grace in our families?
  - G - Gratitude
  - R - Rejoice with one another
  - A - Attitudes of acceptance
  - C - Confession
  - E - Expressions of grace; words that build up
- IV. Which of the five areas of GRACE, as described today, do you feel led to work on and pray about?
- V. Conclusion

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Sharing Life Together

1. What are some of your favorite memories about Christmas in the past in your family?
2. What are some things that you're hoping and praying might be part of your Christmas this year?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS - cont

### Reflecting on the Message Together

1. Read Ephesians 2:1-3. How does the world see this biblical truth of being **dead in our sins**?
2. What are some **barriers** to people receiving God's grace in their lives?
3. Re-read Ephesians 2:4-5. How can people grow into a **deeper experience of God's grace** in our lives? What is the role of faith and the Holy Spirit?
4. How is **gratitude** lived out in your life and in your family's life? Do you have any habits or practices that help you **live out gratitude** in your family or community?
5. What are some ways you could learn to **rejoice** more often in your family or community? Are you someone who rejoices rather easily, or is rejoicing more challenging for you?
6. Since we cannot "see" someone's **attitude of acceptance**, how do people in our family know if they are accepted or not? What is the difference between **accepting people** and **accepting their choices**?
7. Read James 5:15. Did you grow up with parents or other family members who modeled **confessing to one another** after hurt? How does confession work in your family or community now?
8. When you think about **expressing yourself with grace**, how do you think you're doing on the 5-1 ratio of positive to negative communication with your family or community?
9. How can we pray for one another?