

DNA

Group Guide:
Week 2

CONNECT BREAK THE ICE AND GET PEOPLE TALKING

- How would you describe the word grace to someone who isn't familiar to Christianity?
- What experiences of God's grace have been the most impactful in your life?
- Discipleship check-in (at the bottom of this guide!)

INTRODUCTION

We are a family on mission. Christ has called us into the family of which he is the founder and forerunner, and he's called us to chase after him. If we're going to do that well, we have to press into who we are and what we're called to do. We have to press into the DNA of who we are as God's family. At Aletheia, we like to say that we exist to bring the truth, grace, and changing power of the gospel for the glory of God and the good of all people. We'll be unpacking what that means over the next few weeks, moving through our core values of truth, grace, and change.

Last week, we examined the *truth* of the gospel and this week we will be how learning how belief in the truth of the gospel leads to experiencing *grace*. Grace is one of those Christian words we use often, but sometimes don't fully understand its meaning or it loses its meaning because of how often we talk about it. We'll be trusting God through this passage to deepen the meaning of grace and allow it to change who we are.

READ & DISCUSS

READ: Ephesians 2:1-10

DISCUSS:

- There are a lot of big Christian words in this passage and in order to experience the power of these verses we need to unpack the meaning of some of these words. How would you define some of these words: trespasses, sin, wrath, mercy, grace, gift, etc.?
 - ****Leader's note**** - Don't feel like that you have to define all of them. Just the ones that feel most important to the passage.
- What does this passage teach us about what humans are like?
- What does this passage teach us about what God is like?

REFLECT & APPLY

DISCUSS:

- Paul has some harsh words about who we were/are outside of Christ. How do verses one through three deepen your understanding of our own brokenness and sin?
- Grace is about our total insufficiency to DO anything to merit salvation. If you fully internalized the grace Christ has earned you, how would it change how you live your life?

PRAY

Praise Jesus who has earned us this grace even when we didn't deserve it. Pray that we would internalize this grace in new and fresh ways leading to outward change.

Discipleship Check-In

- Have you prayed and read your Bible consistently the past week?
- Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week, and what's one way you can love them well?