

# Grace Embodied - Workshop

## Discussion Guide and Questions

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This workshop was not recorded. Here is a resource on the Grace Embodied theme.

### Summary

“God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense” = Grace. Yes, indeed; but the subjective effects of grace may sometimes seem to make God’s grace an independent virtue, a ‘thing’ possessed by the believer. But if we look closer and pay more attention to the context we see that these are rather references to the operations of the ‘Spirit of grace,’ as Heb. 10.29 says. The Spirit of Christ. “Ultimately, grace is God providing for people who cannot provide for themselves.” But what *has* God provided? What is the great gift to which the word ‘grace’ acts as a partial definition? Ultimately, when you follow grace all the way up, you get to Jesus Christ. Untimely grace is Jesus Christ! When we limit grace to a concept, or to a slogan, or even to an ideal human character trait, or even, dare I say it, to a *feature* of God but, a feature we think of as something God possess but not something God is—then, good friends—we have not understood grace, and we have not embodied grace. If we follow the biblical teaching all the way up we realise that God does not simply give us things like mercy, and goodness, and grace, God gives us himself. Grace is a gift and one which is never to be detached from the giver, God in Jesus Christ. We find that what is so amazing about grace is that Grace *is* Jesus, for there is no other gift from the Father besides his Son. Grace is God’s personal self-impartment. Grace is Jesus! We embody grace only to the extent that we are in Christ. And when we are found in Christ we realise that all of grace does not imply nothing of me. All of grace implies all of me.

### Bible Readings

- Acts 4:33 (and 11:23; 13:43; Rom. 5:21).
- Heb. 10.29
- Exodus 34:6–7
- John 1.16-18
- Titus 2.11-14
- Philippians 2:5-11

### Questions

1. What hinders the embodiment of Grace?
2. What encourages the embodiment of Grace?
3. How can we *become* the Gospel?

4. What might it look like to be a community of the Gospel as opposed to a community which talks about the Gospel?
5. Does my life embody the story of Christ on the cross? Can people see in me someone marked by God's radical generosity?
6. How is the Gospel, and how are communities of the Gospel, inherently missional?