

GAZING ON THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Talk 2 – Gracious

Small group questions

Leaders – if the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer – please contact phil@bathurstanglican.org.au

1. What stood out to you the most in the sermon about God's grace? Was there anything you didn't understand?

chanūn: a word of graciousness, mercy. Kindness towards another that is undeserved. The graciousness of God is the outworking of His compassion to treat us in a way that we do not deserve. This is God's mercy toward us as broken people.

Read Exodus 34:6-7 and Matthew John 1:1-18

2. How have you ever experienced undeserved kindness in your life?
3. Jesus was full of grace and truth (John 1:14). How does He embody grace in His life and ministry? How does He offer grace today?
4. How does the concept of grace differ from a works-based approach to living out one's faith? Why is understanding this difference important? The preacher shared a personal story about trying to live the Christian life through works rather than grace. Can you relate to this struggle? How did the realisation of God's grace impact your perspective?
5. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. What does His 'grace to help us in our time of need' look like?
6. The sermon emphasized the role of grace in saying no to ungodliness and yes to godliness. What practical steps can you take to apply this in your daily life?
7. How do we make sense of the God of grace when we're struggling to see His kindness in our lives? When the waves threaten to overwhelm us? How do you understand the idea of God's grace being sufficient, especially in times of weakness or trial? Have you ever experienced this in your life?
8. In what ways can the church better embrace and embody the principles of grace, as described in the sermon, such as treating everyone equally and avoiding legalism and pride?
9. How can you cultivate a deeper love for Christ and His glory to experience the transformative effects of grace more fully?
10. What are some specific ways you can share and extend God's grace to others in your community and beyond? How can you share the message of grace with others and help them understand its significance in the Christian faith?
11. How do you need to rest in the graciousness of God today?

We come before you with hearts full of gratitude for the message of grace that we have heard today. Thank you for the gift of your unmerited favour that saves, transforms, and sustains us in our journey of faith. As we conclude this time together, we ask for your continued guidance and strength to live out the truths we've learned. Help us to extend the same grace we've received to others and to walk in the path of godliness. May your sustaining grace be with us in times of weakness, reminding us that your power is made perfect in our insufficiency. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.