

Grace Guide



JULY 14-20

“Be The Change”
Spirit-Led Practices of Grace

MONDAY
7/14

EXODUS 18:13-26

Moses is overwhelmed by the burdens of leadership until his father-in-law Jethro advises him to share responsibility by appointing trustworthy, God-fearing leaders to help guide the people. This is a Spirit-led practice of grace: recognizing that ministry is not a solo effort but a shared calling. Grace flows when leadership is multiplied, burdens are lifted, and others are empowered to serve. God’s wisdom through others can often bring the clarity and sustainability we need to continue in faithful service.

1. Are there areas in your life where you are carrying too much responsibility? If so, how could you delegate some to ease your burden? Who is in your life to encourage and support you?
2. What is your personal ministry (or, what are you doing for the Lord) and who shares that load with you?

TUESDAY
7/15

JEREMIAH 9:23-24

God speaks through the prophet Jeremiah to God's people in order to challenge worldly values of strength, wisdom, and riches. Instead of these values, God delights in those who understand and know him, those who practice kindness, justice, and righteousness. Spirit-led grace reorients our identity and confidence not toward human accomplishments but toward knowing God deeply and serving God in whatever ways he leads us. It's a grace that humbles and redirects our hearts to what truly matters – living lives that reflect God's character.

1. How can knowing God more deeply and more fully reshape the way you see your strengths and what success looks like?
2. How does God's grace help you gain perspective in both your own successes and failures as well as the successes and failures of others?

WEDNESDAY
7/16

MARK 10:35-45

James and John ask for positions of honor, but Jesus gently redirects them and all the disciples to a radically different vision of greatness. True leadership in the kingdom of God is not about position or power but about service. Jesus models this fully, giving his life as a ransom for many. Spirit-led practices of grace call us to step down from self-centered ambition and step into humble service for others, following the example of the Servant King. (See John 13:3-17)

1. What drives us to seek recognition instead of serving humbly (and quietly)?
2. Who in your life needs not just help or assistance, but needs served and how can you, in Jesus' name, serve them?

THURSDAY

7/17

JAMES 3:13-18

James contrasts earthly wisdom with wisdom from above: wisdom that is pure, peace-loving, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruit. Spirit-led grace is revealed not in clever arguments or impressive intellect, but in humble, peaceable lives that sow seeds of righteousness and calls us to examine not just our words but our motives and the fruit of our actions. Grace is not passive; it actively produces a harvest of peace where selfishness once ruled.

1. How do you define wisdom? How does that connect with what James says true wisdom is?
2. What fruit is growing from your relationships with others (peace or conflict, grace or pride)?

FRIDAY

7/18

PSALM 25

This is a prayer of trust in God's mercy, guidance, and instruction. The psalmist seeks to be led in truth, to walk in humility, and to remember God's steadfast love. Spirit-led grace meets us not just when we have it all together, but precisely in our need, our guilt, and our confusion. Grace teaches, forgives, and patiently guides. Those who walk in the fear of the Lord experience God's friendship and faithful instruction.

1. In what areas of your life do you most need God's guidance right now?
2. Are you able to "wait on the Lord" with hope instead of anxiety? Why or why not?

**SATURDAY/
SUNDAY
7/19-20**

ACTS 6:1-7

As the early church grew, a practical need emerged: some widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food, along cultural lines (the Greek speaking Jews were often considered “less” Jewish than the Aramaic/Hebrew speaking Jews at the time). Instead of ignoring the problem or blaming others, the apostles responded with Spirit-led grace. They empowered a group of trustworthy, Spirit-filled people to ensure that care was equitable. Grace is practical. Grace listens to concerns. Grace values all people. Grace raises up others to lead and serve. The result was not only unity but continued growth.

1. Are there overlooked needs in our community or church that need attention? Is there something you can do about it?
2. What gifts has the Spirit given you that could be used to serve others more faithfully?

“But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.”

(James 3:17)

SERMON NOTES
