

This hope:

“Redeems us from every lawless deed”

“Purifies us as His people”

“Gives us our Christ like identity”

“Gives us a love for others”

Applying God’s enabling grace:

*“As each one has received a special gift, **employ** it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*

- I Peter 4:10

*“After you have **suffered** for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.” - I Peter 5:10*

Paul’s “thorn in the flesh”. “And He has said to me, ‘My grace is **sufficient** for you, for **power** is perfected in weakness.’ Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weakness, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore, I am well **content** with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.” - II Cor. 12:9,10

*“But by the grace of God **I am what I am**, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.” - I Cor. 15:10*

*“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being **transformed** into the same image from GLORY TO GLORY, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.” - II Cor. 3:18*

Conclusion: The grace of God can save us but only if we **respond** to it. The grace of God can sustain us but only if we **trust** it. The grace of God can sanctify us but only if we **surrender** to it.

Community Group Discussion Questions

- 1) What is the difference between Justifying grace and sanctifying grace?
- 2) Having been set free from sin, what is our responsibility to stand against sinning as a Christian?
- 3) How does a Christian live in the world, but not follow the desires that the world presents?
- 4) What effect does the hope of Christ's return have on living the Christian life?
- 5) What can we do to apply God's grace to live victoriously?
- 6) Why does God allow us to go through trials and difficulties?
- 7) How would you help a new believer to grow in their walk with the Lord?