

Strong in Grace

"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 2:1).

God's children rely on His grace. Our salvation is through His grace. Our strength is in His grace. His grace motivates our faith, obedience, love, service, humility, holiness, kindness, and perseverance. It transforms us and makes us want to be gracious too. Our theme this year is "Strong in Grace." Our hope is that students, parents, faculty, and staff will ***"grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"*** (2 Peter 3:18).

FIRST NINE WEEKS: THE GOD OF ALL GRACE

What is Grace? Grace is kindness or favor that is shown to someone without considering whether or not they deserve it. Grace focuses us on the goodness of the giver, not the receiver.

- God is gracious! He is ***"the God of all grace"*** (1 Peter 5:10).
- He has expressed and demonstrated His grace in many ways. The Bible speaks of the ***"manifold grace of God"*** (1 Peter 4:10).
- Most important of all is the grace that God has shown us by sending His Son to die for us. Jesus became a man so that ***"He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone."*** (Heb. 2:9).

Second Nine Weeks: Our Need of Grace

- We need grace because of our sins (Rom. 3:21-24; Eph. 2:1-9; Titus 3:4-7).
- We are also in need of grace because of our human frailties and weaknesses (2 Cor. 12:9).
- The grace of God that saves from sin is a gift of kindness that is undeserved by those who receive it (2 Tim. 1:9).
- We receive God's grace through faith that is active and living (Heb. 11; James 2:17, 20). The Bible says, ***"we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand"*** (Rom. 5:2).
- Saul of Tarsus is a great example of a sinner being saved by grace (1 Tim. 1:14-16; Acts 22:16; 1 Cor. 15:9-10).

Third Nine Weeks: God's grace transforms us and empowers us.

- If we are not transformed by God's grace, we have received it in vain (2 Cor. 5:17-6:1).
- Grace enables us to overcome sin and temptation (Rom. 6:11-14; Titus 2:11-12).
- God's grace provides us with what we need to help others (2 Cor. 9:8).
- The talents and abilities we have been given by grace are to be used in God's service (Rom. 12:6).

Fourth Nine Weeks: Showing grace to others.

- With our words (Ephesians 4:29; Col. 4:6)
- By being loving and forgiving, even to our enemies (Luke 6:32-36).
- By giving for other's needs (2 Col. 8:7-8; 1 Cor. 16:3).
- By enduring hardship with grace (1 Peter 2:19).