

## SOLA GRATIA: "GRACE ALONE"

Ephesians 1.1-2.9

### WHAT GRACE IMPLIES

Ephesians 1 and 2 put the concept of grace into both context as well as action. We see that grace is not just an inanimate thing, but it is something that is the result of action, as well as the source of action. "He chose," "He predestined," "He set forth a plan," and many others are actions of God that are both fueled by His grace, but also are the means by which we receive His grace.

Ephesians 1.1-23 // John 4.19 // John 15.16 // Ephesians 2.1-9  
Romans 3.10-12 // 1 Corinthians 2.14

**Your own righteousness would have no more influence to uphold you and keep you out of hell any more than a spider web could stop a falling rock.**

-Jonathon Edwards

### FOUR THINGS THAT ARE OUR ROADBLOCKS

Though there are more, J.I. Packer gives four primary reasons why we push back upon this particular truth.

1. **The Sinfulness of Sin:** "Sin" means "to miss the mark." "Transgression" means "cross the boundary." We have not hit a bullseye, and we have crossed the line into disobedience and rebellion against the Creator of all things.
2. **Man's Inability:** Ephesians 2 makes it clear that we are dead, spiritually. Not mostly dead, but dead dead, like we're buried six feet below the surface, we are unable to make ourselves alive and acceptable to God. **Romans 8.7, 8**
3. **God's Judgment:** as was mentioned last week, we have a keen ability to downplay the sinfulness of our sin and somehow think that we can fool God and that He won't, or shouldn't, bring judgment against sin.
4. **God's Sovereign Freedom:** God is able to do as He pleases, and has the ability to either judge or forgive based upon His desire, will, and good and righteous plan. **John 1.12, 13**

### GOD FINISHES WHAT HE STARTS

One of God's names is "Alpha and Omega," or "First and Last." He has no end, and no beginning, and we can say this also about His part in our salvation. He is the One who set the plan and called us before we were born, He is the One who made it happen through the cross, and He is the One who makes us able to even have our eyes opened, against our will and despite our spiritual blindness.

## NOTES:

### This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

**Mark 9:24**

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!"

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Katie McGinty at [katie@lifemission.tv](mailto:katie@lifemission.tv)**

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders** stay in the service with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school. Our **mid-week High School Ministry meets once a month** here at Classical Academy, in the Study Hall. Email **Casey Barnes at [casey@lifemission.tv](mailto:casey@lifemission.tv)** for info about meeting dates/times or questions about our student ministries.



## Contact Us

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## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the Memory Verse?

Read **Ephesians 1.1-2.9**. This is a long passage; what sticks out to you the most, and what struck you the most from the sermon on Sunday? \_\_\_\_\_

Jobey mentioned on Sunday that he used to believe that to be chosen by God mean that "God looked down the corridor of time into the future and saw that I would choose Him, and so that is how God chose me." How do you view God's choosing of people to be saved, and how does your view match up with what is said here in Ephesians 1 and 2? \_\_\_\_\_

Last week we talked a lot about the necessity of Christ alone being the sole man who can earn God's favor and pay our debt. But the truth of "Grace Alone" goes even past that. Christ died on the cross, yet not all are saved by His death on the cross. Why is grace needed for us to be saved, if His death already occurred and the sacrifice was made? Read **Ephesians 1.16-19, Ephesians 2.1-5**. \_\_\_\_\_

Look at the four item list in the sermon notes. Which of these things do you think are the hardest for you to embrace? Why do you think it is challenging? \_\_\_\_\_

When it comes to being saved by grace alone, how has a deeper understanding and clearer view of that truth shaped your view of God? \_\_\_\_\_

Spend time as a group thanking God for the grace that He has given to you, and ask Him to widen your eyes and enlarge your heart to show you the depth of His grace that He has given. Pray in the P.R.A.Y. model, maybe spending time repenting of not trusting His grace, or taking credit for your own righteousness, and asking Him to give you a bigger picture of His powerful mercy, all to the glory and praise of His marvelous grace.



# LIFE MISSION

## CHURCH

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,  
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.



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Ephesians 1:1 - 2:9 // October 15, 2017

### SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

### GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

[LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM](http://LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM)

