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**GRACE**  
CHANGES EVERYTHING



**WEEK 2 | The Beautiful Collision: The Lure**

## PRAYER

Father, we thank you for your gospel of grace towards us. We don't deserve the love and new life that you give us, yet you still grant it to us! Forgive us for straying from your love and letting our lives stray and wander away from the grace that you pour out for us. Help us to flee the lusts of the flesh and that which draws our desires away from our worship towards you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## WARM UP

(OPTIONAL)

Do you have a food that is a guilty pleasure?

## NOTES

## WORD

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

<sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

<sup>19</sup> For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. <sup>20</sup> For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup> because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

<sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup> and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

<sup>28</sup> And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. <sup>29</sup> They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup> Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

**God gives us his gospel: the good news that although we were CREATED in his image, we have been drawn away into sin and we have FALLEN. Totally undeserved, Gods' son, Jesus, is killed and pays the price, thus saving us from sin and death, and gives us new life in him! We do not deserve this unfathomable gift, but he gives it to us anyway!**

**Still, we find the "lusts of their hearts" (our unquenchable, self-centred desires) drawing us away from God and towards seeking fulfilment in idolatrous desires. We will never know peace and fulfilment apart from the CREATOR who gives us access to it through his son, Jesus.**

## GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale of 1-10, how do you rate your ability to resist dishonourable passions (see verse 26)? Why might you have rated yourself this way?
2. When you see your friends or family doing something wrong, do you confront them, or avoid confrontation? If you confront them, how do you do this? If you avoid confrontation, what is your apprehension for confronting?
3. Do you have desires that pull you away from a life of following Christ? Are you willing to trust God to grant you the grace to change your desires? Are you willing to walk alongside other trustworthy Christ-followers who can help you in your journey towards Christ in his freedom?
4. If you do not yet have a relationship with the God who saves us, would you like to enter into a saving relationship with God through Jesus? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer with them:

*Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus' name, Amen.*