

EMBRACE GRACE - GIVE GRACE

How do you experience God's grace? How do you renew that sense of grace in you? How do you get grace?

This reflection guide is designed to help you connect or reconnect with God's grace. Below are some key scriptures about grace. Maybe read one passage a day and reflect on it. Or you might read the whole set of scriptures for a week and reflect on them. And before, during, and after, boldly ask God to help you experience or deepen your embrace of God's grace. We have to get grace in order to give it away.

Remember that grace is God's love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness given to all of us who don't deserve it and can't earn it. It's a gift to us that God generously gives. We know he is not only with us, but he is fully for us. May you daily experience the fullness of his grace and may it affect how you feel, how you think, and how you act.

So start by simply asking God to fill you with His grace. Pray that prayer with an expectation that God will answer your prayer! Then read the scriptures provided. Slow down and reflect on the words over and over. Put yourself in the scriptures below. For example: Romans 8:1 - "There is now no condemnation for ME, because I'm in Christ Jesus."

John 1:12 - Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

Romans 8:1 - Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 4:16 - Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Ephesians 2:4-10 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

1 John 3:1, 16-18 - See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

1 John 4:9-12 - This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Once we get grace, we just have to give it away. So prayerfully think of someone who has hurt you, whom you dislike or mistrust, or you've been disconnected from. Identify the person you need to offer grace to. Think of the person you need to love, forgive, and be merciful toward, even if they don't deserve it. Then identify how you'll express grace to them like God has given grace to you.

Having received grace, I will give grace to (name) by (action or words).

**THIS IS
PANTANO**