



LIFE GROUP STUDY

LIVING BY GRACE

1 Peter 1:1-12

www.muncherian.com/ss-living.html

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
2. Describe one or two settings in which you experience tension between living for God and being under the influence (attack?) of the world. In what ways can you identify with Peter and those whom he describes as “exiles”?
3. The Bible teaches that the one God exists in three persons (the Doctrine of the Trinity).¹ In verse 2 the Father, Spirit, and Son are all mentioned with distinctive emphases - each acting in unison. In regard to the Trinity, what insights or questions does this verse raise for you?
4. God’s grace can be defined as “God’s undeserved favor.” How have you experienced God’s grace in your life? How are you experiencing God’s grace in your life? How has God’s grace changed your life?

-
1. The Bible teaches that God is uniquely the one true God (1 Kings 8:60; 1 Corinthians 8:6). God exists as one divine being yet in three distinct persons (the Doctrine of the Trinity). These persons are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each person of the Godhead shares equally and without division the complete essence/nature of God. Yet, each is distinct in manifesting the workings of the Godhead (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; John 10:30; Acts 5:3,4; 1 Peter 1:2). All of which is a tad mind-blowing.

The Doctrine of the Trinity is uniquely a Christian Doctrine and foundational to all other doctrines. Beyond monotheism, the Christian understanding of the Triune God gives the basis for understanding God’s works of incarnation, redemption, and sanctification. Within the truth of the Trinity is found the basis of community, fellowship, and unity within the Body of Christ. The trinity (tri + unity = trinity) of God gives us the basis upon which to explore and to seek understanding of God’s attributes and their application and expression within creation (Genesis 1:27; 2:24,25; 1 Corinthians 11:3; 12:12-24; Ephesians 2:16; 3:8-10; 5:31,32; Philippians 2:10,11; Colossians 1:16-20).

5. Thinking through Peter's examples of where God's grace touches our lives, think about what each of these means or could mean to you. What could you do to grow in your awareness / trust of God in each of these in your life?

- New Life / Being Born Again (verse 3):
- Living Hope (verse 3):
- Imperishable, undefiled, and unfading inheritance (verse 4):
- God's Protection / Power (verse 5):
- Purpose in Persecution / Suffering (verses 6,7):
- Relationship / Knowing Jesus (verses 8,9):
- Eternal Life (verse 9):
- Being Clued In To What Has / Is / Will Do (verses 10-12):

6. We rejoice in the midst of suffering because in it we experience the peace of God. How is this possible? Describe one or two experiences where you have experienced God's peace in the midst of difficult circumstances. What did you learn about God? About faith? About His grace?

7. If you feel comfortable sharing it, is there something you are going through now that you are having trouble trusting God with? What do you think God is teaching you about yourself? About Him? How can the group pray for / encourage / help you?

8. Put slightly different: In what circumstances do you find it hardest to trust God? Explain.

9. Imagine for a moment trying to live in this world without knowing God's grace. What would that be like?

10. Who do you know that needs to hear that God's grace changes everything? What will you do to tell them?