

# SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

## Week 2 - The 5 Solas - Sola Gratia

1. Mixer: How have you heard “grace” used in everyday conversations (e.g., graceful dancer)?
2. Sola Gratia, or grace alone, is the belief that salvation is grounded only in the grace of God and not in human works. Grace is God’s merciful and unmerited favor and provision towards rebellious mankind. How do the following verses support this doctrine?
  - a. Romans 3:23-25
  - b. Romans 11:5-6
  - c. Eph 2:4-10
3. In what ways do people try to earn salvation? Why can “sola gratia” be difficult to accept?
4. In response to God’s grace, He asks us to be gracious. Read Matthew 18:21-34 and discuss a few of these questions:
  - a. What question does Peter ask Jesus? How does Jesus answer? How do you think Peter received it?
  - b. In the parable, what did the servant owe? What was his consequence for not paying his debt? Do you think there was an expectation for the king to show grace?
  - c. What was the determining factor (verse 27) as to why the king displayed grace to this servant? What did the servant show that created this feeling in the king?
  - d. Why do you think the servant was unable to extend grace to those who owed him?
  - e. What is the big idea of this parable?
  - f. How are grace and forgiveness related?
5. What is the fruit of someone who is walking in God’s love, grace, and forgiveness?
6. Is there someone you need to forgive, show grace to, or love unconditionally? Share.
7. As you take time to pray in your small group or throughout the week on your own, here are some prayer ideas:
  - a. Pray for God to reveal His unconditional love and grace to you; to cease striving and rest in His love, grace, and forgiveness.
  - b. Pray to be motivated by the grace offered to you so that you can in turn be more gracious to others.
  - c. Ask the Lord if there is anyone you need to forgive, show grace, or love.

## SOLA GRATIA

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I’ve got this.

1. Sin against an eternal God brings eternal **consequences**. Rom 5:12; 6:23; Matt 6:12; Col 2:14

Either sin is lying on your shoulders, or on Christ, the Lamb of God. According to law and justice, your sins should no doubt remain on you; but grace has cast them upon Christ the Lamb.

-Martin Luther

2. Grace - God’s unmerited, unearned **favor**. II Cor 5:21; Eph 2:8-9; Jn 1:14, 16-17; Rom 5:20-21

3. We serve not to **earn** grace, but in **response** to grace!