respond to each other’s nakedness? In Genesis 3:7, what happened that made them make clothing for themselves?

In Isaiah 28:18-19, what does God say about the covenant with death? And the agreement with the grave? What is it about this message in verse 19 that causes fear so great that it is terrifying? What instruction did Adam and Eve break? (See Genesis 3:3.) The instruction they broke was only not to eat from the fruit of the tree. Eve’s adding that they were not to touch was actually adding to the Word of the Lord, which is also sinful.

In Genesis 3:10, how does Adam describe what he is feeling? Read Genesis 3:14–23. What were the consequences? How did the Lord still provide care and compassion to Adam and Eve in the midst of consequences?

Read Hebrews 10:29. What do we learn about deserved punishment with regard to how a person treats the Son of God? What does this verse say about the blood of the covenant? And about the Spirit of grace? How does verse 31 recall the experience of Adam and Eve?

What do we learn about God’s treatment of the guilty? Read Jeremiah 50:20 and Psalm 103:11–12. How does this match your treatment of persons who have wronged you? Recall a time when you demonstrated grace to others in your life.

The fresh start begins now.

According to John 1:10–13, what is needed to do to become a child of God? Is there an end to the blessings of God’s grace? (See John 1:16.) How much grace is God willing to shower upon you, a sinner? (See Romans 5:20.) What do you need to do to claim God’s grace? [Trick question!] Do you ever fall into the trap of thinking that you need to do something?

When you confess your shameful moments of sin, do you need to fear God? According to 2 Thessalonians 3:16, how often does the Apostle Paul say peace is available to us and in what way?

Closing Prayer: Dear Lord, I thank You that because of what Jesus did for me on the cross, You wash my guilt away, lift the burden of fear and shame from me, and give me a fresh start. In grace, I receive Your forgiveness of all my sins. I rejoice in my blood-bought inheritance as Your child. I pray that You would keep me focused on Your Word and reassured that where You walk with me, I am safe. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

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Opening Prayer: Dear heavenly Father, You are an awesome God! You lavishly give us grace and love because of the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus. Help us to share that grace and love with those around us. Empower us through the Holy Spirit to share the message of salvation in Jesus with people we encounter every day. Bless our study of Your Word. In Jesus’ great name we pray, Amen.

The Lavish Grace and Love of God

Read Romans 1:18–32 and Galatians 5:19–21. Find at least ten specific phrases in these passages that describe the state of all people because of original and actual sin. What is the end result of life lived in this sinful condition? (See Romans 1:32 and Galatians 5:21.)

Romans 1:18–32

Galatians 5:19–21

Read Ephesians 1:3–10. What are some of the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us (verses 7–8)? Why is this lavish grace of God good news for sinful people?


John 1:1–5

Luke 2:4–7

Romans 5:6–8

Colossians 1:18–20, 2:13–15

According to 1 John 3:1–3, how has the Father lavished his love on us? Look up 1 Peter 3:21. How does He make us His children?

1 John 3:1–3

1 Peter 3:21

If time permits: Look up the following Bible verses and find in them words and phrases that could be synonyms for the word “lavish.”

Psalm 23:5

Psalm 31:19

Psalm 145:1–8

John 1:14

Romans 5:17

Romans 15:13

2 Corinthians 9:8

1 Timothy 1:13–15

Ephesians 2:3–5

Faith Talk: Discuss with a partner or your small group a time when you have shared the lavish grace and love you have received in Christ Jesus with someone else. What was the result?

Faith Talk: Read John 1:16–17 printed below from two different Bible translations (New International Version and English Standard Version) and a paraphrase (The Message). Discuss with a partner or in your small group the feelings you experience as you read phrases such as grace in place of grace, grace upon grace, gift after gift after gift, or exuberent giving.

Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. (NIV)

And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. (ESV)

We all live off his generous bounty, gift after gift after gift. We got the basics from Moses, and then this exuberant giving and receiving. This endless knowing and understanding—all this came through Jesus, the Messiah. (The Message)

Lavish Opportunities

When we are baptized, God makes each one of us His child, and we receive the blessed gift of the Holy Spirit. Read Galatians 5:16–17, 22–25. Describe in detail our new life in Christ as we are led by the Spirit.

What are the “means of grace” the Holy Spirit uses to lead us?

Acts 2:41

1 Corinthians 10:16

Colossians 3:16

What does Paul exhort God’s people to do in Galatians 6:9–10 and Ephesians 5:15–16?

See the following Bible passages to discover ways to lavishly make the most of every opportunity (watch for phrases, as well as the “lavish” synonyms).

John 15:12–14

2 Corinthians 4:14–16

Colossians 2:6–7

Colossians 3:16

Colossians 4:2–6
1 Thessalonians 3:11–12
Read Matthew 28:18–20 and Acts 1:8. What is the lavish opportunity our Lord gives to each Christian in these passages?

Matthew 28:18–20

Acts 1:8

**Faith Talk:** Share with a partner or your small group specific opportunities that the Lord has given to you to share the Gospel message of salvation. How did you take advantage of those opportunities?

**Faith Walk:**
Reflect on the lavish love and grace that God has given you because of the saving work of Jesus Christ.

Rejoice that you are a baptized child of God and that He has made you His own!

Thank the Holy Spirit daily for giving you faith in Jesus and the ability to share that faith.

Pray for lavish opportunities that open the door (or even a window!) to share the Gospel message. Be prepared when those opportunities arise!

**Closing:**
Divide into two groups and share the following litany based on John 1:16–17 and 1Timothy 1:17.

**Group 1:** We praise You, Father, that we have received grace in place of grace through Jesus Christ.

**Group 2:** O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

**Group 1:** We praise You, Christ Jesus, that we have received grace upon grace because of Your birth, perfect life, death and resurrection.

**Group 2:** Thank You for Your love, grace, salvation, and hope for eternal life in heaven with You!

**Group 1:** We praise You, Holy Spirit, that You have given us faith in Jesus and keep us in that faith.

**Group 2:** Thank You for exuberantly giving us gift after gift after gift!

**All:** Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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**Bendiciones Extravagantes!**

[Las secciones tituladas “Si el tiempo permite” pueden ser usadas durante tiempo de devoción personal.]

Comparte con tu grupo ¿cuál fue el postre más extravagante que hayas probado? ¿Qué lo hizo extravagante?

Considere en tu diccionario el significado de “extravagante.” Como adjetivo quiere decir “excediendo los límites razonables.” Los sinónimos son “pródigo, gastador, descabellado, y profuso.” Antónimos son “escaso y contado.”

Nuestro estudio bíblico hoy se enfoca en la gracia y el amor extravagante de nuestro Dios en Cristo Jesús nuestro Señor y las oportunidades extravagantes que tenemos nosotros que somos sus hijos redimidos y preciosos para compartir esa gracia y amor con otros.

**Oración de Apertura:** Padre Celestial, Tú eres un Dios maravilloso. Tú nos das gracia y amor extravagante que ganó...