

Hello My Name is God:

I AM Gracious

Sermon #3, Exodus 34:6

Main Point: God is gracious and blesses us even though we are unworthy

Getting to Know You

1. What is one of the most meaningful gifts you've received? Who gave it to you, and why was it meaningful?

Getting into the Book

Read Exodus 34:6-7

2. What does the characteristic "gracious" mean? How does it differ from "compassion"?
 - a. (Leader Note: Wayne Grudem's definition of God's mercy and grace are as follows [*Systematic Theology*, p. 200]: God's mercy is His goodness toward those in misery and distress. God's grace is His goodness toward those who deserve only punishment)
3. What is God's "Common Grace"? See Matthew 5:43-45 and Psalm 145:9, 15-16 for examples.
 - a. Name some examples of God's common grace which you experience in your life.
4. What is God's "Saving Grace"? See Ephesians 2:1-9.
 - a. How is saving grace experienced, according to Ephesians 2:8?
 - b. Have you personally experienced God's saving grace? When and how?
5. What is God's "Sanctifying Grace"? See Titus 2:11-14.
 - a. In what ways has God's grace helped you put off sin and put on godly actions in its place?
6. What is God's "Sustaining Grace"? See 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.
 - a. What did God tell the Apostle Paul about His grace?
 - b. How does this Scripture encourage you with any trials you are facing?

Getting out There

7. Share with the group specific examples of how you have seen God's sustaining grace at work in your life.
8. How might you be able to encourage another person in light of today's lesson on God's gracious character?

Pray

Praise God for His gracious nature. Praise Him for the many blessings He gives you. Praise Him mostly for His saving grace in Jesus Christ.

Bonus Exercise

Work on memorizing Exodus 34:6-7 together.

"Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; ⁷ who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.'"