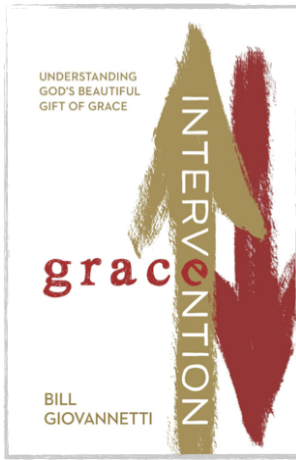


*"And if by  
grace, then  
it is no  
longer of  
works..."*  
*Romans 11:6*



Grace is God doing for you what you cannot do for yourself, based on the Cross and the blessings Christ secured for you there.

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

### CHAPTER 1: TERMS

1. Do you have your own working definition of grace? What is it?
2. Which kind of legalism has been predominant in your understanding of Christianity - neo-legalism or traditional legalism?
3. How would you feel if your preacher or Bible teacher went for a couple of months without telling you to do something?
4. What does Hebrews 13:9 say about grace?

## **CHAPTER 2: OVERLOAD**

1. What Christian clichés have you heard? When you really think about them, do they mean anything?

2. In your experience, how focused has the language of the gospel been on the cross of Christ?

3. Have you ever noticed Grace Deficit Disorder in your own life? How has it manifested?

4. What does Galatians 1:6-9 imply about the dangers of GDD?

## **CHAPTER 3: LORDSHIP**

1. What do you know about what has been called the Lordship controversy? Are you familiar with the term "cheap grace?"

2. Have you ever struggled to put the freeness and costliness of grace together? Where have you landed in that struggle?

3. How scandalous does grace seem to you?

**That a God  
who hates sin  
should love  
me, knowing  
my sins, is  
amazing.**

**That a God  
who knows all  
things and  
never forgets  
a sub-atomic  
wiggle,  
should cast  
my sins  
behind his  
back into a  
sea of  
forgetfulness,  
is amazing.**

4. What do Isaiah 55:1,2; Romans 3:24; Revelation 22:17; and John 19:30 suggest about the cost of salvation?

#### **CHAPTER 4: NEO-MISHNA**

1. What extra-biblical rules impact your circle of friends?



2. Do you know anybody who just can't fit in to your church's Christian culture, no matter how hard they've tried? How have you reached out to them?

3. Can you see how your need for peer approval affects your life with God?

4. What does Colossians 2:8 tell you about following extra-biblical rules and teachings?

#### **CHAPTER 5: THE GAP**

1. Have you heard the teaching that the Old Testament and New Testament Gods are different? What do you think about that?

2. Do you have more trouble imagining the holiness of God or the love of God? Why do you think that is?

3. In what ways is a healthy doctrine of grace dependent on a high view of the holiness of God?

Ignorance of  
Scripture is  
ignorance of  
Christ.

~St. Jerome



4. What does Isaiah 55:8,9 say about God's exalted status?

#### **CHAPTER 6: WORLDLINESS**

1. What comes to mind when you hear the word "worldliness?"

2. How does worldliness mainly show up among the Christians you know?

3. How is worldliness a manifestation of GDD?

4. What do think Jesus means when he talks about the world hating Christians in John 15:18,19?

#### **CHAPTER 7: SHALLOW**

1. Has God placed any truly wise people in your life? What impact have they had on you?

2. Describe a time when your gut instincts told you something before your mind could put words to it.

3. What role should Bible study and theology play in the average Christian's life?

“For the grace  
of God that  
brings  
salvation has  
appeared to all  
men, *teaching*  
us...”

Titus 2:11,12a

4. What does Philippians 2:5 say about the mind of Christ?

## **CHAPTER 8: FUEL**

1. Have you ever thought about why you - or anybody - should serve God? What conclusions have you come to?

2. Judging by your church experiences, what do you think motivates most Christian service in our land today?

3. Which of Michael Green's motivations resonates most with you? Why?

4. What does Romans 5:5 say about our spiritual fuel?



## **CHAPTER 9: BOUNCERS**

1. Have you ever felt like you didn't belong (fit in) in a certain church? What made you feel that way?

2. Have you ever thought a certain person didn't belong in your church? Or your kids' youth group? Why?

3. Describe a time when you've seen a Jonah or elder brother in action.

4. What does Luke 14:21 indicate about the people God extends grace to?



## CHAPTER 10: THE CROSS

1. What comes to your mind and emotions when you think of the Cross?

2. How does the Messianic Secret help make sense of Christ's ministry?

3. How familiar are you with the theological terms in this chapter? Do any jump out at you, or have special meaning for you? Do they intimidate you?

4. What does 1 Corinthians 2:2 tell you about the centrality of the Cross?

## CHAPTER 11: SANCTIFICATION

1. Which of sanctification's four "planks" resonates most with you? Do any seem weird or even wrong? Why?

2. Have your efforts to be holy worn you out? Feel more like Martha in the kitchen than Mary in the living room with Jesus? What changes can you make?

3. How does the idea of sanctification by grace sit with you?

4. How might Colossians 2:6 support the idea of sanctification by grace?

## **CHAPTER 12: SECURITY**

1. Have you ever heard of eternal security? Has it been portrayed positively or negatively?

2. Which of the twelve reasons do you struggle with most? Why?

3. Which reasons are most powerful for you? Amazing? Meaningful? Why?

4. What does Hebrews 13:5 say about your security in Christ?

## **CHAPTER 13: ASSURANCE**

1. How confident are you of your salvation? Is it okay to be confident?

2. Why do you think this chapter offers one proof and two evidences? What's the difference between evidence and proof? Why not just call them all proofs?

3. Has anyone ever perceived your assurance with arrogance? How did you handle that?

**“FOR YOU  
KNOW THE  
GRACE OF  
OUR LORD  
JESUS  
CHRIST,  
THAT  
THOUGH HE  
WAS RICH,  
YET FOR  
YOUR SAKES  
HE BECAME  
POOR, THAT  
YOU  
THROUGH  
HIS  
POVERTY  
MIGHT  
BECOME  
RICH.”**

**2 CORINTHIANS 8:9,  
NKJV**

4. How might Romans 8:31 contribute to your sense of assurance?

#### **CHAPTER 14: LIBERTY**

1. What extra-biblical rules did you (or others you might know) associate with Christianity? What did you think about those rules?

2. Have you ever been slimed with the "weaker brother" argument from a veteran legalist? How did that go for you?

3. Does the idea of following your heart feel scandalous to you? What would Jesus say?

4. What can you learn about your heart's deepest desires from Psalm 37:4?

## *God's Riches At Christ's Expense*

#### **CHAPTER 15: GLORY**

1. How does the assertion that God is glorified by his grace sit with you? What are your thoughts?

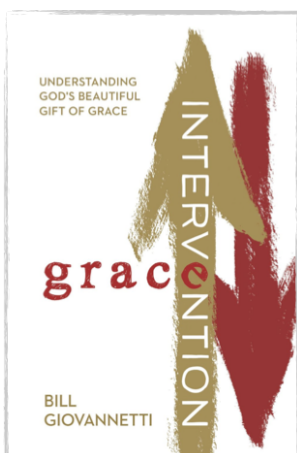
2. How often do you think most Christians think about or care about the glory of God? How high is it on your radar?



3. How might confidence of heaven affect a person's life on earth? How might the idea of heavenly reward affect a person's life on earth?

4. What does Colossians 3:1-4 say about a heaven-centered mindset?

The Cross has endless power to recalibrate your soul to grace. Return to it over and over and over again. All through life, until death, keep coming back to the Cross. Delve into its meaning. Embrace its rich vocabulary. Speak the blood-accented language of the heavenly realms.



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