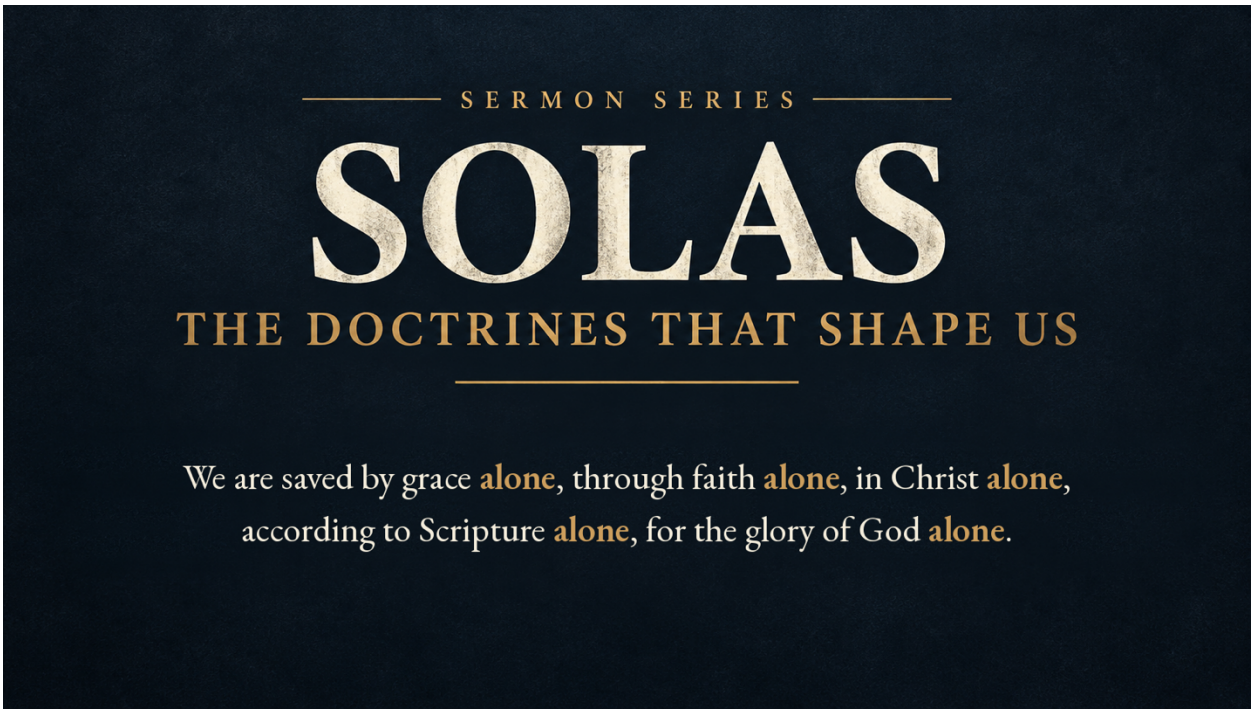
**Grace Alone: A Deeper Dive**
**Reading Plan**
Monday, November 9 through Friday, November 13




## WEEK 2 – But God, His Work for Our Good

**Grace Alone**

*Solas: Salvation by the Grace of God Alone*

*The Question It Answers: Where does salvation come from?*

### THE BIG IDEA

Grace is all God, helping those who cannot help themselves. It's God raising dead people to life.

### MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

> **8** For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **9** not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
>
> Ephesians 2:8–9 (ESV)

### THE WHOLE SERIES IN ONE SENTENCE

**Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, according to Scripture alone, for the glory of God alone.**

These are not five separate doctrines. They are the gospel seen from five angles, and each one answers a different question.

## FOR YOU, YOUR FAMILY, OR YOUR SMALL GROUP

Where do people today look to feel accepted and "good enough"? Where do you?

### The **SOAP METHOD** of Bible Study

SOAP is a popular and structured way to study the Bible that helps readers engage with Scripture on a deeper level. It stands for **Scripture, Observation, Application, and Prayer**.
Here is a short description of each step along with questions to guide your reading:

**Scripture**

- **Description:** What caught your attention in reading the passage? Physically writing it down helps you focus on the exact wording.
- **Questions:**
    - Which verse or phrase caught my attention?
    - What words or themes are present?

**Observation**

- **Description:** Analyze the context and meaning of the text. Look up the passage and read the surrounding text. Look at what is happening, who is speaking, and what the original message was.
- **Questions:**
    - Who wrote this, who is it written to, and what is the main setting?
    - What is the central truth, lesson, or command in this passage?
    - What does this tell me about God's character?

**Application**

- **Description:** Connect the scripture to your personal life. Consider how the truth you observed changes how you live, think, or act today.
- **Questions:**
    - How does this passage apply to my current life circumstances?
    - What changes do I need to make in my attitude, habits, or relationships based on this?
    - Is there a sin to confess, a promise to claim, or a command to obey?

**Prayer**

- **Description:** Turn your reflections into a conversation with God. Ask Him for the strength to apply what you have learned and thank Him for His word.
- **Questions:**
    - What do I want to thank God for after reading this?
    - How can I ask God to help me live out this truth today?
    - Who else can I pray for based on the themes of this passage?

DAY 1 · MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

# But God

## READ

Ephesians 2:1–10. **Also read:** Romans 5:6–8; John 6:37–44

## QUESTIONS TO GET YOU STARTED

- Read verses 1–3 slowly. Which description of life apart from Christ is hardest for you to admit was true of you?
- List everything God does in verses 4–7. What do we contribute?
- Verse 10 says you are "his workmanship." What are the kinds of good works that God has prepared for his people and more specifically you? How does this get "worked" out in your home, workplace, community, and church?

The **SOAP METHOD** of Bible Study (see page 2 for more info).

**S** **Scripture**

**O** **Observation**

**A** **Application**

**P** **Prayer**

**DAY 2 · TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

# Grace With Nothing Added

## READ

Acts 15:1–11. **Also read:** Galatians 2:15–21; Galatians 5:1

### QUESTIONS TO GET YOU STARTED

- The teachers in verse 1 preached "Jesus, plus." What do you add to Jesus to feel right with God?
- Peter calls the law a yoke "that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear" (v. 10). Where do you feel that weight?
- "We will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will" (v. 11). How hard is it for you to lean into God's saving grace? How shocking do you think this was for the Jewish believers?

### PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER

*"Our Father in heaven." Thank God that grace brings you to him as a child, not a hired hand, and pray that our neighbors in Big Timber and beyond would come to know him as Father.*

The **SOAP METHOD** of Bible Study (see page 2 for more info).

### S Scripture

### O Observation

### A Application

### P Prayer

**DAY 3 · WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

# Redeemed at a Price

**READ**

Ephesians 1:3–10. **Also read:** Romans 3:21–26; 1 Peter 1:18–19

**REFLECT**

Today is Veterans Day, a day to remember that freedom is never cheap. Someone paid for it. Redemption works the same way: "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace" (Ephesians 1:7). Grace is free to us, but it was not free to God. It cost him his Son.

**QUESTIONS TO GET YOU STARTED**

- How many times do you see "in him" or "in Christ" in verses 3–10? What does that tell you about where grace is found?
- Paul says God "lavished" his grace on us (v. 8). Do you live like someone lavished, or like someone barely getting by with God?
- What does it mean to you that you were bought, not just pardoned (1 Peter 1:18–19)?

The **SOAP METHOD** of Bible Study (see page 2 for more info).

**S Scripture**

**O Observation**

**A Application**

**P Prayer**

**DAY 4 · THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

# Grace That Trains Us

### READ

Titus 2:11–14. **Also read:** 1 Corinthians 15:9–10; Philippians 2:12–13

### QUESTIONS TO GET YOU STARTED

- Grace doesn't only pardon; it trains (v. 12). What is grace training you to say "no" to right now?
- In 1 Corinthians 15:10 Paul works hard, yet gives the credit to grace. How is effort that flows from grace different from effort to earn it?
- Verse 14 describes a people "zealous for good works." What would that zeal look like in your home or work this week?

### PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER

*"Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Ask for grace to say no to the specific temptation you are facing this week.*

The **SOAP METHOD** of Bible Study (see page 2 for more info).

**S Scripture**

**O Observation**

**A Application**

**P Prayer**

DAY 5 · FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

# Sufficient Grace

### READ

2 Corinthians 12:7–10. **Also read:** 2 Corinthians 9:8; Luke 15:11–32

### QUESTIONS TO GET YOU STARTED

- Paul asked three times for the thorn to be removed. What have you asked God again and again to take away?
- "My grace is sufficient for you" (v. 9). What would it look like to trust that grace is enough today, even if nothing changes?
- In Luke 15, are you more like the younger son or the older son this week? How does the father's grace meet you there?

### PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER

*"Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." Receive the grace you need today, and name one person you need to extend it to.*

The **SOAP METHOD** of Bible Study (see page 2 for more info).

### S Scripture

### O Observation

### A Application

### P Prayer

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Sunday, November 15: Faith Alone

*Empty of All, Ready to Receive*

The Question it Answers: How do I receive it?

Read Philippians 3:4–11 before Sunday, and notice what Paul counts as loss and what he gains in its place.

**MEMORY CHECK**

Can you say Ephesians 2:8–9 from memory? Try it with someone this weekend.

**ONE THING GOD SHOWED ME THIS WEEK**