



This week's sermon
Too Good To Be True?
Romans 4:1-8

“Justified” is a legal term meaning, “as innocent as one who has committed no crime at all”.

“To believe” is to trust God and his word, because you know His character; you know Him to be both great and good. This is faith.

4 Reactions among believers to Grace

1. Pride
(too easy camp, or that's-not-fair camp)

2. Foolishness
(too lazy camp, or good-I'll-do-what-I-want camp)

3. Passive assent
(too insecure camp, or there's-no-way-He-likes-me camp)

4. Wow
(it's-really-true-isn't-it camp)

Digging Deeper into the Message

Read the following passages and record what you learn about grace.

John 11:25-26

Romans 4:1-8

Ephesians 2:8-9

Hebrews 4:16

Romans 5:8

Titus 2:11-14

2 Timothy 1:9

2 Corinthians 9:8

How can you apply this to your life this week?

Community Group

ICEBREAKER: What's harder for you: to give grace to someone when they've wronged you, or to receive grace from someone when you've wronged them?

QUESTIONS:

- Read the first two points on the MAP. Someone define the meaning of "grace"... What does it mean that we are saved by grace and what does grace have to do with Abraham? (For help, see Romans 4:1-8)
- Pastor Mike said the idea of grace is one of the hardest lessons for a person to believe. Why do you think it is so hard for us to believe that we really are saved by grace? What are some ways this idea goes against the way our culture thinks? How about the family you grew up in? Does your personal experience make it easier or harder for you to accept God's grace for you?
- Read the first of the "4 reactions among believers to grace" on the front of the MAP. Who is a person or type of person that if they were to get saved on their deathbed, you really would have a hard time accepting that they would be in heaven? How does this reveal pride in your heart?
- Read the second reaction. If we really are saved by grace, and we won't be punished for any of our sins, what's the point of being good? Why not just do whatever we want and then rely on grace?
- Read the third reaction. How often do you still find yourself feeling guilt or shame? What are some of the things you feel guilty about on a regular basis? What are some bible verses you can memorize when the devil whispers that God doesn't really like you? (see the digging deeper portion for help [\[2\]](#))

APPLICATION: Read the last point on the front of the MAP. Think about which of the four camps you are in currently, and ask God to help you to rest in the "Wow" camp!