

# Relentless Love: Grace

## ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS

Describe a time when someone gave you an unexpected gift?

## WORD

The relentless love of God is God's unwavering, unyielding, and persistent love for humanity. It is a love that pursues, forgives, and never gives up, no matter how often people turn away from Him or fall into sin. God's love is characterized by its steadfastness and grace, and it is not dependent on human actions or worthiness. Instead, it flows from God's very nature as love

### ***Hosea 3:1-5 (NIV)***

*1 The Lord said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes." 2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. 3 Then I told her, "You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you." 4 For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. 5 Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the Lord and to his blessings in the last days.*

Hosea is one of the books of the Minor Prophets.

Hosea is a symbolic and poetic chapter that uses the troubled relationship between Hosea and his unfaithful wife, Gomer, as a metaphor for Israel's spiritual unfaithfulness to God.

The chapter portrays God's message to Israel through Hosea, where Israel is represented as an unfaithful wife who has turned to other lovers (idolatry and false gods), and God is portrayed as a loving but rejected husband. Despite this betrayal, God's love for Israel remains, and He plans to restore

the relationship after a period of discipline and judgment. ***This is how God showed His Relentless Love to His people.*** In spite of God's relentless love to His people, why can't they love Him faithfully?

In spite of His words, His act of kindness and blessings, why can't they love the LORD faithfully?

One of the lessons Hosea teaches in this book is, "***My people are destroyed with lack of knowledge.***" Knowledge of what??? Do we really, really, really have knowledge on how much God loves us? Why are we keep on sinning?

If we don't understand the love of God, we cannot truly appreciate it. We fail to understand and appreciate the relentless love of God because we don't fully grasp the destructiveness and magnitude of sin in our lives.

## DISCUSSION

How is God's relentless love speaking to your life throughout this series so far?

## WORD

In the Bible, grace refers to the unmerited favor and kindness of God toward humanity.

It is God's gift of love, mercy, and salvation offered freely to people, not based on their actions or worthiness, but because of God's own goodness and generosity.

Grace is foundational in Christian theology, especially in the context of salvation, where it is understood as God's initiative to forgive sins and offer eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

In the New Testament, grace is highlighted in the writings of Paul, such as in Ephesians 2:8-9, which states that salvation comes by grace through faith, and not by works.

Grace represents God's ongoing, undeserved support and empowerment for living a righteous life. It's not something that can be earned, but rather received through faith.

### **Hosea 3:1 (NIV)**

*1 The Lord said to me, “Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes.”*

## **DISCUSSION**

Describe a “GRACE” moment in your life?

## **WORD**

Three Points about God’s Grace:

### **\*RELENTLESS GRACE**

Relentless grace - is God pursuing grace , unconditional grace, despite of our unfaithfulness.

Pursuing grace - “Go, show your love to your wife again.

Unconditional grace - Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites.

Just as Hosea was commanded by God to pursue her even after her unfaithfulness, God continues to pursue us with His grace, even when we turn away.

Even though Israel had turned to idols and engaged in practices that were offensive to God, He still loves them and desires to restore the relationship. God’s grace is relentless, like Hosea’s love for Gomer. He doesn’t stop loving us when we stray, but actively seeks to bring us back.

### **Hosea 3:2 (NIV)**

*2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley.*

## **\*REDEMPTIVE GRACE**

### **1 Corinthians 6:20 (NIV)**

*“You were bought with a price [you were actually purchased with the precious blood of Jesus and made His own]. So then, honor and glorify God with your body.”*

Just as Hosea pays a price for Gomer, God “pays” to redeem Israel from the consequences of their sin, not with silver, but through His grace and mercy.

Let us understand deeper the meaning of God`s Justice and God`s Mercy

#### **\*God’s Justice:**

God’s justice means He is perfectly righteous and fair. He cannot tolerate sin and must judge it according to His holy standard. The Bible describes God as just in many places, *Deuteronomy 32:4: “He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.”* Justice ensures that wrongs are addressed and that there is accountability for sin and evil.

#### **\* God’s Mercy:**

God’s mercy is His compassion and willingness to forgive, even when punishment is deserved. *Psalm 103:8: “The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.”* Mercy means God does not give sinners the punishment they deserve but instead offers forgiveness and grace.

How do we reconcile the two attributes of God? Justice and Mercy are reconciled in the person and work of **Jesus Christ**. The Crucifixion of Jesus is where God’s justice and Mercy meet perfectly.

- Justice: God’s justice demands that sin be punished.
- Mercy: God’s mercy provides a way for sinners to be forgiven.
- Reconciliation: God’s justice and mercy are reconciled through Jesus Christ, who bore the penalty for sin, allowing God to be just (since sin is punished) and merciful (since forgiveness is offered).

Therefore, the two attributes are not in conflict. Rather, they work together, with God's mercy being extended through His just handling of sin on the cross.

***Ephesians 1:7***

*"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace"*

**\*AMAZING GRACE**

Grace, by its nature, is unmerited. This means it is not something people can earn or deserve through good works or moral effort. In Ephesians 2:8-9, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."

Our salvation and God's blessings come solely as a gift from Him. Grace does not just forgive sins but transforms lives. When people receive God's grace, they are changed from within. It empowers believers to live righteously, even though they are still imperfect. This grace renews and strengthens individuals to grow in holiness and to become more like Christ.

***2 Corinthians 5:17,***

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"*

God's grace is endless and unfailing. It is not just a one-time gift but a continuous offer of God's love, strength, and forgiveness. No matter how often people stumble, God's grace is always available.

***Lamentations 3:22-23***

*"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."*

## DISCUSSION

Share an experience when you tried to break free of a specific sin but couldn't. Did you feel hopeless and powerless?

## **LIFE APPLICATION**

Grace isn't cheap. Hosea's payment reminds us of the high cost Christ paid on the cross to offer us forgiveness and reconcile us to God. Although God's grace is freely given to us, it cost Him greatly. Therefore let us humble and respond with gratitude and obedience. God's grace cost us nothing. His son Jesus paid it all for us. Therefore, our salvation is a gift to receive and not a goal to achieve.

God's grace offers us hope especially when we feel lost, broken, or unworthy. His grace assures us that no matter what our past is, God's grace redeemed and restored us. That's why the song "Amazing Grace" by John Newton, he reflects on how God saved us from a life of sin: *"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see."*

God's amazing grace is a demonstration of His boundless relentless love and mercy, freely offered to us. His grace forgives our sins, transforms our lives, and gives us hope for a restored relationship with Him. The grace of God represents the profound, unshakable love that God has for all the people. Even when we feel unworthy or far from God, His grace is still extended to us, calling us back to Him.

## **DISCUSSION**

How have you seen God's amazing grace at work in your life this week?

## **VERSE TO MEDITATE ON**

*Titus 2:11-12*

*11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,*

## **PRAYER**

Share your prayer request and answered prayer. Pray for one another and throughout this week.



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