

**Discussion Guide #3 for 5G Groups**  
**2022 “A 5G Connected Faith” Lenten Journey**  
**The G of GRACE**  
**Pastor Fritz**

*“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” **Ephesians 1:2***

*“Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’” **Luke 15***



- THANKS EVERYONE for making time to be part of what God is doing in our “A 5G Connected Faith” series.
- Thank you, leader, for pulling this 5G Group together.

**Let’s Get Started!** Share your name and if you have any siblings.

Opening prayer: *Thanks God for gathering us together for these fun and holy 30 minutes. We know our world can feel pretty DISCONNECTED at times. Thanks for your gifts to help us feel more CONNECTED to you, our families, our sense of purpose, and the world. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*

Discuss:

1. What are some various definitions of grace you’ve heard? Which one is your favorite?
2. In her Wednesday video devotional, Robbi Martin shared her experience of grace, growth and connection here at Christ Our Shepherd. If you had a chance to watch, share your thoughts and reactions.
3. In her sermon, Pastor Miriam provided a variety of illustrations of the gift of grace. Which one struck you and why?
4. Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer was hung by the Nazis in Germany because of his involvement in the failed assassination attempt on Hitler. Bonhoeffer coined the term “cheap grace,” implying that some Christians take lightly the fact that Jesus died on the cross in order to win our freedom. It cost God a lot to give us the gift of forgiveness and new life! What are your thoughts about how we avoid “cheap grace” lifestyles?
5. At meals, sometimes people call saying prayers “saying grace.” What’s going on there?

6. In the world-famous song, Amazing Grace, the first verse's lyrics include "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me." For some secular people today, calling oneself "a wretch" is confusing. They might wonder, "do I have to think of myself as a wretch in order for grace to be applicable?" How might we helpfully "translate" this idea to our children and secular friends. Ideas?
7. How have you ever been shown grace by another person?

Bonus: Last week's G was GIFTS. Did you take the online spiritual gift inventory? If so, share with the group one of your top God-given gifts. In case you missed it, here's the link: <https://www.elca.org/our-work/congregations-and-synods/faith-practices/spiritual-renewal/assessment-tools>

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*Closing Prayer: Dear Lord, thanks again for these holy moments together with my friends in Christ. Thanks for your provision of our third G of connection, GRACE. Thanks for continually lavishing us with a treasure-trove of undeserved and unearned love and gifts which make our lives so wonderful. Empower us to treat others in our lives with the same generosity. Yes, we can go faster alone. But since we want to go farther, we'll go with YOU and those you place in our lives! Be with us this week. In Jesus's name, Amen.*

Thanks everyone!  
See you next week!