

THEO

week four
10.12.2011

intro: God is HUGE! He really is! As much as we talk about God and read our Bibles, sometimes we don't actually spend a lot of time thinking about God or getting to know Him. The word *theo* in latin literally means God, so the focus of our series is actually God. We will spend each week getting to know Him, His characteristics, attributes and His role in our lives.

week four: God, the basics (He is grace and mercy!)

scripture:

•Romans 11:6

And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

•Ephesians 2

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

•2 Corinthians 8:9

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

•2 Timothy 1:9

He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

•1 Peter 1:3

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

•1 Peter 2:10

Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

discussion

1. Spend some time checking in with your group and seeing how their week is going
2. What did we learn about God the first week? (God is HUGE!)
3. What did we learn about God the second week? (God is LOVE)
4. What did we learn about God the third week? (God is HOLY)
5. Have the ideas that GOD is HUGE and GOD is LOVE and GOD is HOLY impacted your life or your picture of God at all these past two weeks?

Go through some of the verses listed above.

6. What does grace mean?
7. What does mercy mean?
8. Why do you think God gives us grace and mercy?
9. GOD is HUGE, GOD is LOVE and GOD is HOLY, GOD is GRACE and MERCY... How do all three of these work together?
10. How can God's grace and mercy affect your life? How can it impact your daily life?