

Hope rooted in Grace

2 Thessalonians 2.15-17

Key Points

Jane started with some questions about God's grace: how do we define it; what does it mean to us; do we feel close to it, immersed in it, or do we feel somewhat removed from it?

God's grace and salvation are a reality for us, if we've accepted Jesus as Lord - but do we feel ourselves to be living in it? How can we be more aware of God's grace? Jane suggested that we can start by immersing ourselves in the Bible - being more alive to of all that God promises us, and, in prayer, asking God to show us all the ways he is blessing us, moment by moment.

She also talked about our awareness of how we give and receive grace to others - how we are called to be grace-bringers - and that being more aware of God's grace makes it easier to demonstrate God's grace to others.

Questions

- 1) How would you define God's grace in a sentence?
- 2) How do you feel about God's grace - what it means for you and what it means for others? Is it close to you? Distant?
- 3) Do you feel as though you understand God's grace?
- 4) What does God promise us in this passage?
- 5) What does he ask of us?
- 6) Where do you see God's grace in your own life? (Generally, or specific recent examples)
- 7) How can knowledge of God's ultimate hope - of salvation - help us when things are difficult?
- 8) When do you find it easiest / hardest to be gracious? When are you most inclined to be ungracious?
- 9) How can we bring God's grace to others (more / more often) - in our workplaces, families and all the communities to which we belong?