

God's Amazing Grace

June 19: God's grace is PLANNED

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will... -Ephesians 1:4-5

Discussion Questions

1. In the book the authors compare accepting the gospel to a bride-to-be saying yes to her loved one's proposal. She is courted by her fiancé but still makes her own choice. In your opinion, how is accepting Christ similar to or different from accepting a proposal of marriage?
2. The idea that God chose us before we ever chose him is meant to bring us comfort. So much of life is outside of our control, and even the bits we do seem to control—our jobs, our families, our health—we often discover we don't. Still, we have so much trouble trusting that God knows what He is doing. Why is that?
3. Scripture describes us as adopted children of God. How does the metaphor of adoption help us to understand how our choice to love God is a reaction to His already loving us?
4. If you were God, would you save *everyone*—even people who are convinced that they don't want to be saved? If you weren't willing to save those who refused your grace, where *would* you draw the line? (And why?)
5. God has loved his people since before the creation of the world, and he has planned for their salvation just as long. And here's the good news: God's plans never fail. How does knowing that God has chosen to love you and has planned "all things to work together for your good" change how you view difficulties and uncertainties in your life?