



## **Grace**

Outlandishly Generous

*Matthew 7:3–5; Romans 5:8*

**The Bottom Line:** Don't just say grace. Live grace.

**Welcome Verse:** Ephesians 2:4-5

### **Introduction:**

Do you know what you call a group of...

Lying, cheating, greedy, covetous, lustful, porn-watching, tax-dodging, racist, jealous, judgmental, lonely, angry people who eat too much, spend too much, drink too much, medicate too much, worry too much, smoke too much, who gather together because they believe Jesus is the light of the world and they need more light?

You call them...

The Church

Did I miss anybody?

God sent Jesus to save us from sin and from ourselves. We're now responsible to extend to one another and others what God freely extended to us.

Grace: God and sinner reconciled.

Grace becomes amazing when it's extended to others.

God's amazing grace to you is an invitation for you to be amazing.

### **Tension:**

Grace is our greatest opportunity, yet giving grace is difficult for most of us. Jesus tells us why by asking one of the most challenging questions ever asked by anyone, anywhere, at any time.

Matthew 7:3, "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?"

**Truth:**

Matthew 7:4-5, “How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite ...”

**Jesus took it all into consideration, and then ... Jesus decided to extend grace to you anyways!**

Romans 5:8, “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Matthew 7:5, “You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

Planks get in the way of grace.

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*The more aware I am of what God has yet to do in me,  
the less aware I am of what he has yet to do in you.*

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Jesus was full of grace and truth.

What are you full of?

The church is most appealing when grace is most apparent.

Taking the plank out of your own eyes is good preparation for Christmas.

**Conclusion:**

Grace is the unsettling solution for just about everything.

Jesus was full of it. Jesus extended it to people who were nothing like him.

Then Jesus invited those same people to do something ridiculous and something amazing.

Jesus invited them to extend grace to people who were nothing like them.

Jesus invites you to do the same.

**Application:**

This Christmas season, let’s all do that. Let’s do something ridiculous.

Let's not just **say** grace. Let's **give** grace! Let's **live** grace!

Let's give someone what they don't expect and what they don't necessarily deserve.

When you do, you'll be like your Father in heaven.

You will be part of the solution.

You will be amazing. ...like **grace**.

### **Next Steps:**

- Memorize Romans 5:8.
- Be Amazing...Give Grace.

**1. What does this teach me about God?**

**2. What does this teach me about me?**

**3. How do I apply this to my life?**

**4. If I could ask a question about this it would be....**

