

## ▶ LESSON 7.1: GRACE

### STUDENTS STUDIED:

- » Acts 13
- » Acts 12:12; 13:1–5, 13; 15:36–41
- » Acts 13:44–15:41
- » Galatians 5

### ADDITIONAL READING:

- » Galatians 5:16–26;
- 1 Corinthians 15:10;
- 2 Timothy 2:1–2

### STUDENTS MEMORIZED AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING VERSES:

- » Galatians 2:20\*
- » 2 Timothy 2:1–2
- » Hebrews 11:15–16

## Students Learned the Following Definitions:

**MISSIONARY JOURNEY:** the travel of a team of people purposely sent out by a Church (Acts 13:1–4) to reach the lost, evangelize and establish Churches

**APOSTLE:** Greek for “messenger, one who is sent out”;<sup>5</sup> refers to the Twelve (Acts 1:25), but could refer to others (Acts 14:14; Romans 16:7; Ephesians 4:11)

**DISCIPLE:** a person who follows (Matthew 4:19), learns from (Matthew 11:28–30) and becomes like (Luke 6:40) their teacher

**GRACE:** unearned favor from a relationship with God, expressed most in the gift of salvation and the Christ-life that salvation is (1 Corinthians 15:10; Ephesians 2:8)

**CIRCUMCISION:** the physical symbol of the covenant God made with Israel, setting them apart from every other nation on Earth; although given to Abraham and his descendants, it became a rite of exclusion rather than a covenantal sign to the entire world of God’s spiritual blessing.

**RIGHTEOUSNESS:** the desire to be and do the right thing; obedience that comes from the heart. Jesus, in His perfection, is fully righteous.

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4
Students observed a shift in the ministry of the early Church.	Students read about the life and ministry of John Mark.	Students learned about contentions between some believing Jews and gentiles.	Students considered the message of Paul to the Church in Galatians 5.
They learned about the Antioch Church commissioning Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey and how the journey impacted the history of the Church.	They considered the difficulties of accepting change (even the good kind!) and how the grace of God restores us when we fail.	They read about members of the early Church and how these members resolved a position of inclusion by observing the ways God’s work in the world supported salvation by grace through faith alone.	They learned that following a list of religious rules will get them nowhere with God; but when they throw themselves on His mercy and accept Jesus’ gift of grace through faith, they can be saved.

## IDENTITY INSIGHT:

I am saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8–10). Nothing I do or say can make me more or less redeemed. Because I have been crucified with Christ, He lives in me (Galatians 2:20).

Students circled which verse they chose to memorize.

GALATIANS 2:20\*

2 TIMOTHY 2:1–2

HEBREWS 11:15–16

## DISCUSSION

### ► SHARE

Consider sharing a practical example from your journey of faith, of walking by and keeping in step with the Spirit. In what ways do the desires of your flesh struggle against the desires of the Holy Spirit, and how do you overcome those struggles daily with the help of the Holy Spirit?

### ► ASK

The teachings and writings of Paul show us there is nothing we can **do** to earn salvation. There is also no way we can live the life God wants without the help of the Holy Spirit. Read Ephesians 6:10–18 as a group. How does this passage inform what we **can** do as we strive to keep in step with the Holy Spirit?

### ► ACT

Encourage students to identify areas of their lives that conflict with the work of the Holy Spirit within them. Invite them to set aside time during the week to pray over these issues, asking the Holy Spirit for His help to make the right choices when conflict arises. Challenge them to pray through the armor of God as a way to start their day under the authority of the Spirit.

### TEACHING NOTES:

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