GRACE groups

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20*

# Post Grad Group Agenda

## Lesson 9 – Week of November 30th

1. Mingling and catching up. (10 minutes) __:00 - __:10
2. Begin with a short prayer for your time together. (5 minutes) __:10 - __:15
3. Move to a time of accountability. (20 minutes) __:15 - __:35

   i. **Accountability Questions on your Marriage, Singleness & Family Life**
   - ☐ Married: Did you love and honor your spouse as Christ commands?
     Single: How are you using your singleness to serve the Lord without distraction?
   - ☐ Married/Parents: Did you pray with and disciple your children in God's Word?
     Single: Are you pursuing fellowship so you are not walking alone?
   - ☐ Married or Single: Have you modeled repentance, forgiveness, and godliness in your household or community?
   - ☐ Married or Single: Are you guarding against discontentment and trusting God's timing?
     *(Discontentment is dissatisfaction with one's circumstance which often comes when we compare our circumstances with others around us)*.

   ii. **Homework**
   - ☐ Did you accomplish at least five devotionals this week?
   - ☐ Did you read *Union with Christ*, Ch. 2, "Why Is This Position So Surprising Today?" & "Developments...From Luther to the Reformed Scholastics"?
   - ☐ Did you complete the Bible Study on Acts 2:22-24?

4. Lesson Time. (40-55 minutes) __:35 - __:15 __:35 - __:30

**From the Bible study on Acts 2:22-24**

i. Question 3: How does verse 23 hold together God's definite plan and genuine human responsibility for Jesus' death?
**Suggested answer:** Peter affirms both truths without making either unreal: the cross fulfills God's determined purpose, and the people involved remain morally responsible for their lawless action.

ii. Question 4: Why is it important that Peter neither excuses human guilt nor denies God's sovereign purpose?
**Suggested answer:** Removing either truth would distort the passage: denying sovereignty makes the cross an accident, while denying responsibility excuses evil that Peter explicitly condemns.

iii. Question 6: How does knowing that even the crucifixion — the greatest evil ever committed — was held within God's "definite plan" give you confidence about a difficulty or uncertainty you're currently facing?

**From *Union with Christ***

iv. Question 1: Billings offers two "snapshots" to illustrate how surprising his reading of Reformed teaching is to contemporary hearers. How did you summarize both?

v. Question 2: Billings explains Luther's target as "a theology of glory" versus a "theology of the cross." What is a theology of glory, and why did Luther consider the phrase facere quod in se est ("do what is in you") so dangerous?
**Suggested answer:** A theology of glory tries to reach God and establish righteousness through visible success or human capacity; a theology of the cross knows God through the crucified Christ. Facere quod in se est—'do what is in you'—is dangerous because it locates the decisive saving resource in the sinner rather than in Christ.

vi. Question 3: Reformed theologians affirm both the bondage of the fallen will and real human responsibility. Do these truths seem coherent to you, or do they remain in tension? Explain.

vii. Question 4: Where are you tempted to approach God on a 'do your best and he'll make up the rest' basis rather than resting in Christ?

5. Prayer time (15 minutes) __:15 - __:30 __:30 - __:45

i. Ask for specific prayer requests from members.
ii. Pray for one another as you wish.
iii. Write down these prayer requests so you can follow up in the next meeting.

## HOMEWORK

### Week of December 7th

- ☐ Complete Jeremiah 31:31-34 Bible study.
- ☐ Read *Billings* Ch. 2, "Why Is Total Communion So Surprising?"
- ☐ Decide who will be facilitating next week. The agenda can be **found online**.

** Make sure you fill out the "Weekly Feedback Form" and the "Post Grad Group Facilitator Evaluation" at http://gracehamptons.org/postgrad