

Future Grace Questions

Chapter 1 – The Debtor’s Ethic: Should We Try to Pay God Back?

Grasping the Big Idea

1. Is there anything that stood out to you from this chapter? Any questions, observations, or encouragements?
2. How does Piper define the “debtor’s ethic,” and why does he argue that it undermines true grace?
3. Why is trying to “repay” God spiritually dangerous, even if motivated by gratitude?
4. How does living by faith in future grace better protect God’s glory than a repayment mentality?

Challenged to Change

1. Do you sometimes obey or serve God to “make it up” to Him? How does that shape your view of grace?
2. How might this mindset be influencing your motivation in prayer, service, or repentance?
3. What would it look like to rest in God's ongoing generosity rather than strive to earn back His favor?

Praying for Change

Ask God to deliver you from a mindset of spiritual repayment. Pray for the freedom to obey Him not as a debtor, but as a beloved child—trusting in grace for tomorrow as much as for yesterday.