

Giving Grace  
Its Rightful Place

# Grace

# Filled Marriage 2

VIDEO STUDY

Dr. Tim & Darcy Kimmel



Leader's Guide

# Grace

# Filled Marriage 2

VIDEO STUDY

Dr. Tim & Darcy Kimmel

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



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Grace Filled Marriage Video Series Part 2:  
Giving Grace its Rightful Place.  
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This leader's guide is to be used in conjunction with the *Grace Filled Marriage Video Series Part 2: Giving Grace its Rightful Place* and is not meant to be a stand alone piece.

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# **Grace Filled Marriage Video Study Leader's Guide**

## **Welcome**

We are delighted that you are leading this video study. You are going to have the opportunity to lead a study that will have a direct and profound effect on many generations to come. It will also have a life-changing effect on the couples who study along with you.

This Leader's Guide is designed to help you easily succeed in your role. You will not only succeed, but you'll find your own life affected as well. During this study, people are going to laugh, cry, and make commitments to a whole new standard of raising their families.

We want to orient you to the material you will be using and help you use this study in such a way that everyone participating will be able to raise their stock value as a spouse and as an individual. This study is not just about handling the everyday challenges of marriage. It's about changing the way you think as a married person. We want to equip couples to be the best they can be. Thanks for your willingness to be a part of this transformational study.

# Getting Started

The first step is to get the word out about this great study. Get couples excited by talking about the Grace Filled Marriage class/group you are going to start. Announce the class publicly from the pulpit, in existing classes, on facebook, twitter and through email. Hand out flyers, add the class to your church bulletin and website, and show the promotional video. Promotional materials are available online at [gracefilledmarriage.net](http://gracefilledmarriage.net).

Below is a suggested timeline to use as you promote and prepare for your class/group.

## **Six Weeks Out**

- Read this leader's guide in its entirety.
- Become familiar with [gracefilledmarriage.net](http://gracefilledmarriage.net).
- Begin publicity and class sign-ups.
- This video study is meant to be used in conjunction with the participant workbook/discussion guide and is 100% more effective when done so. Each individual should have their own personal workbook in order to follow along, fill in the blanks, discuss with each other, dig deeper into related scripture, and record thoughts and action points.
- The workbooks are the most important tool your participants can have in order to have a transformational experience. Order now for quick delivery at [gracefilledmarriage.net](http://gracefilledmarriage.net).
- You can defer the cost of this study by asking each participant when they register to pay for their workbook/discussion guide and if they want, a copy of the book, *Grace Filled Marriage*, which will also enhance their takeaway from the study. (Pricing info available at [gracefilledmarriage.net](http://gracefilledmarriage.net))

## **Four Weeks Out**

- Continue publicity and class sign-ups
- Recruit other small-group discussion leaders if it appears

that you will have more than 10-12 people participating in the study. Use these leaders to facilitate discussion groups of 8-10 people.

## **Two Weeks Out**

- **Order workbooks/discussion guides at [gracefilledmarriage.net](http://gracefilledmarriage.net) for each participant** (additional may be ordered for late sign-ups).  
The workbooks are the most important tool your participants can have for them to have a valuable and transformational experience.
- **Participants who read along in the corresponding chapters of the book, *Grace Filled Marriage*, get a more comprehensive and complete view of this great grace adventure.** In addition to their workbook/discussion guide, participants can order a copy of the Grace Filled Marriage book at [gracefilledmarriage.net](http://gracefilledmarriage.net).
- If applicable, hold a discussion group leaders' meeting. Watch the first session and review the discussion questions provided at the end of each session.
- Final publicity and sign-ups.
- Make reminder calls, texts or emails about the first meeting.
- Make plans to have a fun, inviting meeting environment. Consider having snacks, comfortable seats and greeters to make everyone feel welcome.

## **Keys to Success**

### **1. Determine a Format**

- This video study is meant to be flexible and can be used in a variety of ways such as a:
  - Small Group Study
  - Individual or Couples Study
  - Church Sunday School Study
  - Retreat or Evening Church Study

Your format will determine how much time you can devote to discussion. You may have to choose some of the questions to discuss in your group and encourage them to do the rest at home. The most important questions when it comes to applying the new principles to their own lives will be found in the *Bringing It Home* section. **Make sure everyone fills in an answer to the last question of the *Bringing It Home* section before you close your time.**

We have designed the video portion of the study to be about 25-30 minutes in length, with the remaining time to be used with your workbook/discussion guide. This study is all about creating a Grace Filled Marriage philosophy and making grace the DNA of your marriage. In order to do that, one must not only learn this model, but also apply it. That's why discussion is the primary focus of this study. Through discussion, the individuals learn how to apply these principles and create change within their families.

## **2. Prior to each meeting**

- Review the session outline and watch the session on the DVD or online. If you experience any problems with your DVD, please contact Family Matters immediately. If for some reason the DVD needs to be replaced, you can show another lesson until you receive your replacement.
- Pray for wisdom and understanding as you lead. Also pray that your participants will be receptive, empowered and encouraged by the lesson and sharing.
- Get your room ready by arranging chairs for watching the DVD and by making sure all your audio/visual equipment works.
- Make a commitment to start and stop your group on time.
- Begin reinforcing the benefits of going through the entire video study at the first meeting. Some people will not be able to make all the classes, but most will try if there is accountability within the group.

### 3. How to use this Study

- **This video study is meant to be used in conjunction with the participant workbook/discussion guide and is 100% more effective when done so.** Each individual should have their own personal workbook/discussion guide in order to fill in the blanks, take notes, and answer the discussion questions. To order go to [gracefilledmarriage.net](http://gracefilledmarriage.net).
- Each session has fill-in-the-blanks so that participants can easily follow along with the concepts that are being presented and discussion questions at the end of each session. If a person misses a fill-in-the-blank, the answers are in the back of each workbook.

### 4. Small Group Techniques

- Promote interaction! Your role is to facilitate conversation; allow participants to hold each another accountable.
- Give everyone a chance to speak; don't allow the talkers to dominate the conversation. Encourage those who are quiet to participate by directly asking them a question.
- Set the pace by being honest and transparent yourself.
- Use humor and share personal stories.
- Don't be afraid of silence. Sometimes you have to wait for a response, especially when the subject matter is difficult.
- Allow participants to cry if they are hurting. Show your group that you genuinely care.
- Be excited about accomplishments! Applaud transformation.

### 5. Keys to An Effective Study

**Group Commitments That Ensure Success** (you might want to read these at the first meeting):

- **Courtesy** – Each participant should commit to arriving to each session on time.
- **Acceptance** – Each participant should affirm the other participants' verbal contributions.
- **Confidentiality** – Each participant should be careful to not talk about personal issues shared by fellow

- participants outside the context of this study.
- **Honesty** – Each participant should be forthright and truthful when they speak.
  - **Respect** – Each participant should be careful not to stand in judgment, give quick advice, or criticize his or her fellow participants. The goal is to make the group a safe place for participants to talk openly about their marriage and about their family.

## Suggested Schedule

Below is a suggested time schedule to complete each session in a 60 minute time frame. If you have more time, then we suggest you use it in the ***Bringing it Home*** section.

The video itself is laid out in the following format:

### Introduction

- (1 – 2 minutes) – Darcy Kimmel introduces the topic being addressed during this session and gives an overview.

### Teaching

- (approx. 25-30 minutes) – Tim Kimmel presents the topic for this session. Each session is supported by corresponding chapters in the book, ***Grace Filled Marriage***. Though not required, we highly recommend that the leader and participants read the chapters of this book for a richer and fuller understanding of the principles discussed.

### Discussion

- (remainder of time) – ***Making this Yours*** is the key transformational component of the video study. At the end of each session, there are questions in the workbook/discussion guide to get the discussion going on what was presented. These questions are broken up into the

following 3 sections:

### **Getting it Started**

- (approx. 9 minutes) Basic questions aimed at getting people comfortable and talking.

### **Taking it Deeper**

- (approx. 9 minutes) These questions and scriptural passages help solidify the concepts presented by Dr. Kimmel in the video.

### **Bringing it Home**

- (approx. 10 minutes) These questions help the participants think about how these principles can be applied in their own lives and marriages.

At the end of each session, there is a prayer for your group with which you and/or your spouse can close. This is a time when you ask God for his help in taking what you've learned as a group and turning it into individual benefit. If time permits, this is a good spot to share special prayer needs focused on the marriages of the participants. It might be tempting to broaden the scope of these requests, but in consideration of the time, those requests should be addressed at another time.

# Session Overviews

## Session 1: Giving Grace its Rightful Place

- Marriage is hard. Without grace, it's impossible. With all the things in this world, in our pasts, and in our hearts that are stacked against a thriving marriage, grace is the answer that will help us endure.
- In this session, you will learn how grace fits into a marriage and maintains a lasting love.

## Session 2: Fighting Graciously

- All couples will have disagreements and conflict, which is why all couples need grace. If conflict isn't handled properly, it can cause a growing rift between you and your spouse.
- In this session, you will learn how grace can help direct conflict into deeper intimacy, as well as heal past conflict that continues to damage trust.

## Session 3: A Grace Filled Money Makeover

- Money is one of the biggest sources of conflict in any marriage. Whether it's how it's made, how it's spent, or how it's saved, money can cause a lot of problems within a marriage. But it doesn't have to be!
- In this session, you will learn the bigger picture about money, practical tools in managing them, and how grace changes the way you see and talk about money in your marriage

## Session 4: Grace Filled Generosity

- God is graciously generous towards us. One of the greatest joys couples can have in marriage is being generous. Generosity builds our faith and frees us up to be generous with one another.
- In this session, you will learn about God's generous heart, the value of generosity in your marriage, and ways to cultivate a lifestyle of generosity in your home.

## **Session 5: In-laws and Outlaws**

- You never just marry your spouse, you marry your spouse's family as well. For some, this is really good news, for others, this can be quite challenging. Regardless of your situation, God is calling you as a couple to treat your in-laws with grace.
- In this session, you will learn how to bring God's grace into your relationship with your in-laws/parents by helping to set expectations, boundaries, and habits in speaking to them and about them.

## **Session 6: Caution: Kids Can Be Dangerous to Your Marriage**

- Kids are truly a blessing from the Lord, but can become a liability in a marriage if they don't take their proper place. Without grace with each other and intentional prioritization of the marriage, kids can serve to drive a wedge between you and your spouse.
- In this session, you will learn an overarching philosophy of grace in your home, how to build a healthy balance between marriage and parenting, and develop a plan for building an atmosphere of grace in your home.

## **Session 7: Dealing with the ghosts in your bed**

- God created intimacy and sex to be an incredible blessing and joy for couples to enjoy in their marriage. But there are past hurts and mistakes, as well as present issues and misconceptions that can turn sexual intimacy from something that gives joy to something that brings pain.
- In this session, you will learn how grace can help heal us from our past sexual wounds, bring forgiveness to current sexual problems, and find freedom and joy in the sexual intimacy experienced as a couple.

## **Session 8: The legacy of your marriage**

- Marriage has a deeper and bigger significance than what it does for each other and our kids. Our marriage is a way to glorify God and show his love to the world around us. It is a real life walking example of God's grace to a culture that deeply needs it.
- In this session, you will learn the larger significance of your marriage and how God uses grace-filled marriages to show his grace and love to the world.

# Final Thoughts

You did it! You've raised the stock value in your own marriage and the marriages of the participants by going through this study. You've formed some great relationships during this eight session study and we encourage you to continue these relationships. Here are a few suggestions:

## 1. Do another small group study together.

- *Grace Filled Marriage Part I*
- *Grace Based Parenting Part 1: Creating an Atmosphere of Grace*
- *Grace Based Parenting Part 2: Building Character*
- *Grace Based Parenting Part 3: Aiming your Child at True Greatness*
- *The Hurried Family: Help for the Hurried Home*
- *Extreme Grandparenting: The Ride of your Life*

## 2. Do a book study together.

- *Little House on the Freeway*
- *High Cost of High Control*
- *Grace Based Parenting*
- *Raising Kids Who Turn out Right*
- (All of these helpful tools are found at [familymatters.net](http://familymatters.net))

## 3. Encourage the participants to lead another group of couples or pre-marrieds through this study.

## 4. Look into bringing a *Grace Filled Marriage Conference* to your area. Go to [familymatters.net/events](http://familymatters.net/events) for more information.

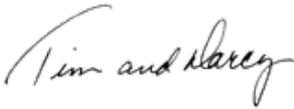
## 5. Have a *Grace Filled Marriage* study reunion in six months.

**6. Plan a marriage retreat using the theme of a Grace Filled Marriage.**

**7. Keep up with the prayer needs of each other via social media.**

Thank you for being used by God in the lives of others. May God richly bless you!

Because Every Family Matters,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim and Darcy". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and connected.

Tim and Darcy Kimmel

