A red cross with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Everyday Stewards**

**Bible Study 1: Stewards Walking by Grace**

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your grace that makes all things possible. By Your grace, use us through our serving, witnessing, and giving, so that we can be about helping our neighbors, extending Your kingdom, and giving You praise. In Jesus’ precious name we pray. Amen.

**Defining Grace:**

All that we are and have give evidence of God’s grace at work in our lives. As God’s people, we live every day by the grace of God. By its very definition, God’s grace is not something we deserve or have earned. Grace is God’s gift to us. It is His undeserved favor. As God’s people, we receive forgiveness according to the riches of God’s grace. None of us can live the perfect life that the Law requires, so God sent His Son live that perfect life in our place and to atone for our sins and secure our salvation.

Grace is a foundational pillar of our faith. Understanding grace is essential for us as God’s people. Because we are sinful people incapable of doing anything in our helpless state, we need God’s grace. We do not deserve God’s love and mercy, but, by His grace, He gives us all things. Grace changes everything. Knowing that both our physical and redeemed lives are gifts from God, we thank, serve, and praise Him.

1. What is the difference among justice, grace, and mercy?
2. How would you define a steward? Stewardship?

**The God of Grace Reveals Himself**

In the beginning, God created the world, and this was a marvelous act of grace. The wonder and beauty of His creation reflect His grace. From the very beginning, God established His pattern of lavishing grace upon those He creates. From King David we hear, *“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork”* (Psalm 19:1). God is not visibly present, but the world shows His existence and nature. The world reveals God’s grace, deity, and power. His fingerprints are everywhere. By grace, God created this lavish and majestic world and then gave it to us.

During His six days of creation, God stated that what He had created for us was “good.” When His creation was ready, God said, *“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth”* (Genesis 1:26). God created Adam and Eve, and He gave them an abundance of everything. They had everything they needed to enjoy life to the fullest. God also blessed the couple with the opportunity and responsibility of having dominion over God’s creation. God made them stewards over all that He had created. They had a purpose for living. As stewards today, we are to be stewards in our homes, neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces.

1. Read Genesis 2:15; Psalm 8:6. What role/position/responsibility was God giving Adam?
2. Grace should mark our words and actions toward others. What does the Apostle Paul encourage?

Colossians 4:6

1 Peter 4:10

2 Peter 3:18

1. Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-7. What did the Macedonians do and how were they able to do it?
2. Read Hebrews 4:16. What will grace do for you?

**God’s Grace in Jesus**

The zenith of God’s grace is the gift of His Son, Jesus, Who gives us the gift of salvation. Because of Adam and Eve’s sin in the Garden, humanity was separated from God. Death and condemnation were warranted, but, because of God’s grace, He sent His Son to atone for that sin and to reconcile His people to Himself. Because of Jesus’ death on the cross and His resurrection on the third day, we have been given victory over sin, death, and the devil. God was not bound by necessity to rescue us. It is the result of God’s gracious love for us. Salvation is a gift.

1. Read Ephesians 2:4-5, 8-10. What does God’s grace in Jesus do for you?
2. Rev. James Ryle, founder of Truth Works Ministry, wrote, “Grace is the empowering presence of God enabling you to be who He created you to be, and to do what He has called you to do.” It has been written that “God’s grace gives us the desire and the power to do His will.” What do these two quotes mean for your life?
3. Read Acts 20:24. What is Paul’s attitude toward His life ministry? How does your life show that this goal is important to you?
4. Read Titus 2:11-12. What does God’s grace enable you to do?
5. Read Luke 15:11-32. Did the younger son receive what he deserved from his father? Why is this story of a restored relationship a remarkable story of grace for you and me?
6. Explain the connection among (and order of) grace, faith, and works?

**Prayer:** Dear good and gracious Heavenly Father, thank You for Your wonderful gift of grace. Open our eyes and hearts to see Your grace continually at work in our lives. Help us to receive Your grace and to show grace to others. In Your precious name we pray. Amen.