

Real.Life.Journey – Week 1: GROWTH BY GRACE

- 1) When you hear the word “Saint,” what do you think of? Who do you think of?
- 2) Do you consider yourself a saint? Why or why not?
- 3) Why do you think the doctrine of “Salvation by grace alone” is so hard for people to accept? In other words, why do you believe (or even assume) that salvation is something we must work for?

Read Philippians 1:1-11.

- 4) Looking at verses 9-11, which is a description of “a saint,” someone who is mature in Christ, take a few minutes on your own to reflect on how you are doing in each of the areas mentioned:
 - a. Abounding in love (for God and others)
 - b. more and more (growing in faith)
 - c. knowledge and insight (feeding on the Word)
 - d. discerning what is best (wisdom)
 - e. pure and blameless (outward behavior)
 - f. filled with righteousness (inward character)
- 5) Share with the group what you see as your strongest area and your weakest area.
- 6) You are God’s project – it is only by God’s grace that you will be transformed into the person God sees you as. In order to tap into that transforming grace and power of the Holy Spirit, what is one thing that you could start doing related to your strongest area that would have a positive impact on your weakest area?
- 7) Read aloud together Philippians 1:6, and make a commitment to memorize this verse before the next time you meet:

***being confident of this,
that he who began a good work in you
will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.***

(Spend some time in prayer for one another)