## **Established and Abounding**

## Established in: God's Grace

 The Bible does not provide a definition of grace in a dictionary-like manner. However, it clarifies what grace means in many passages. Read the following verses and identify what grace is contrasted with in each:

1 Peter 5:5

Galatians 5:4

Romans 11:6

Romans 4:4

- For each contrast, write an antonym (a word that means the opposite of that word) next to it. Then, using those antonyms, create a basic dictionary-style definition for grace.
- 3) How is God's grace to humanity seen in Creation? (cf. Psalm 8:3-9)
- Read the following verses and identify what God gives to human beings by grace in each: Ephesians 1:6

Ephesians 1:7

Ephesians 2:8-9

- Define each of the items identified above and explain why they had to come from God's grace.
- Contrast how false teachers view the grace of God in Jude 4 with how the true grace of God is shown in Titus 2:11-14.
- Write down how the actions of people are described in the following verses in reference to God:
  - 1 Thessalonians 4:1

Colossians 1:10

Ephesians 4:30

Ephesians 5:8-10

8) Someone might ask how the Bible can say God is pleased and/or grieved by our actions and still say that God's grace is freely, undeservedly, and fully set on us. Can you think of a good illustration to explain how God's favor can be on us, but, at the same time, He can be pleased and/or grieved by our actions?

## Abounding with Thanks for: God's Grace

- 9) In 1 Peter 2:1-3, we are reminded that we should come to God because we have tasted that He is gracious. How does God's grace help us draw near to Him, no matter what is going on in our lives or in our walk? What are some ways that you can be encouraged by His grace to draw near to Him this week?
- 10) Titus 2:11-14 says that we can be good students of the grace that brings us salvation from our sin. How can you learn from God's grace the lessons that He wants you to learn from it this week?