

# Questions for Grace Week 4

- Did you know which hymn was inspired by the passage from 1 Chronicles 17?
  - Were you surprised that Amazing Grace was inspired by that passage? There are so many others it could have come from.
- What is the difference between a covenant and a contract?
  - Why is that so important to understand?
  - What areas in society do you see people confuse the two? (They treat a covenant like a contract or a contract like a covenant)
  - How does knowing the difference enrich your understanding of God's covenant of grace with us? Your covenant of marriage with your spouse?
- Have you ever had a burning desire to do something special for God?
  - What was it that you wanted to do?
  - How did that turn out?
- Did you ever have God turn that around on you as He did with David?
  - David wanted to build a house for God, and God says I will build you a house.
  - How do you think you would feel if God made such a grand offer to you?
- God walked David back through his life and reminded him of where he came from, and how God has blessed him.
  - Have you ever thought back over your life, and how God has blessed you and grown you from where He found you?
  - What would your story be?
- After hearing all of the amazing promises God was making to David, he responded, "Who am I Lord, and what is my family that You have brought me this far?"
  - As you look at your life with God, what things make you feel this way?
- After the awe of what God was going to do for David, he moved into praising God by saying, "There is no one like you!"
  - How do you respond when you look back at your life and how God has raised you up?
  - In what ways might you praise God? Singing? Prayer? Poetry? Art? Witness? Encouraging others?
- As we looked back over the chapter, we saw the marks of grace in the fact that God was not like other gods, demanding a place of worship. God raised David from obscurity to king. God made a place for Israel. God was going to build David's house forever.
  - As you have looked over your journey with God, and even where you feel God may be moving you to, where do you see the marks of God's grace in your life?
- Had you heard the full story of John Newton's life before?
  - He called himself a wretch in his now famous hymn. Did you ever think he was exaggerating before you heard his story?

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- Take time to consider the words of the cherished hymn that John Newton left us
  - Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me
  - I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see
    - 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved
    - How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed
  - Through many dangers toils and snares I have already come
  - 'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home
    - The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures
    - He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures
  - Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease
  - I shall possess within the veil, a life of joy and peace
    - The earth shall soon dissolve like snow the sun forbear to shine
    - But God who called me here below, will be forever mine
  - Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me
  - I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see
- Finally, John Newton's hymn was born out of a life that was changed by God, and deep reflection on the Scriptures.
  - Do you ever take time to reflect on the Bible?
  - How might your life be different if you built in time to think more deeply about God's Word?