



THE
GRACE MESSAGE
with Dr. Andrew Farley

YOUTH CURRICULUM LEADER'S GUIDE

A 24-Week, Two-Semester Curriculum for Junior High and High School

Purpose

This manual equips youth pastors, youth leaders, homeschool parents, and small-group facilitators to teach teens the gospel of grace, the finished work of Christ, their new identity in Him, and the practical freedom that flows from living under the new covenant.

Audience

- Junior high
- High school
- Combined youth groups

Teaching Philosophy

Every lesson uses the exact same ingredients so leaders never have to guess what is missing. Each lesson includes:

1. Lesson Title
2. Main Topic
3. Big Idea
4. Primary Scriptures
5. Supporting Scriptures
6. Lesson Goal
7. Memory Verse
8. Supplies Needed
9. Leader Prep
10. Welcome and Opening
11. Icebreaker / Game
12. Teaching Hook
13. Teaching Plan
14. Key Analogy / Illustration
15. Interactive Activity
16. Small-Group Discussion Questions
17. Gospel Connection
18. Common Confusions to Address
19. Weekly Challenge
20. Parent / Family Follow-Up
21. Closing Prayer

Recommended Weekly Flow (60–75 minutes)

- Welcome / hangout: 5–10 min
- Icebreaker or game: 10 min
- Teaching hook + lesson: 15–20 min
- Interactive activity: 10–15 min
- Small groups: 10–15 min
- Prayer + challenge: 5 min

Tone for Leaders

Keep the message warm, confident, Scripture-soaked, and engaging. Avoid angry, harsh, or overly technical wording. Explain big truths in teen language. Keep bringing students back to the powerful truths about Jesus.

SEMESTER 1:

GOSPEL FOUNDATIONS

Lesson 1: What Is the Gospel?

Main Topic: Salvation by grace through faith

Big Idea: The gospel is not advice about what to do for God; it is good news about what Jesus has done for us.

Primary Scriptures: Ephesians 2:8–9; Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:3–4

Supporting Scriptures: John 3:16; Romans 6:23

Lesson Goal: Students will understand the basic gospel message and be able to explain it simply.

Memory Verse: Ephesians 2:8–9

Supplies Needed: Whiteboard, markers, index cards, wrapped gift box

Leader Prep: Be ready to explain sin, death, the cross, resurrection, and faith using plain language.

Welcome and Opening: Welcome students and say, “Tonight we’re starting with the biggest question in the universe: What is the gospel?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Good News / Bad News”

Go around the room and let each student share one funny bad-news/good-news pair. Transition by saying that the gospel is the greatest good news ever.

Teaching Hook: Hold up a wrapped gift box. Ask, “If I hand you this, what do you have to do to earn it?” After a few responses, say, “That’s the point. A gift is received, not earned.”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Our problem:** Sin is not just bad behavior; it is our human problem apart from Jesus.
2. **God’s love:** God did not wait for us to improve before moving toward us. Christ died for us while we were still sinners.
3. **Jesus’ work:** Jesus died for our sins and rose again.
4. **Our response:** We are saved by grace through faith, not by works.
5. **Why this matters:** If salvation is a gift, then boasting is gone and Jesus gets the glory.

Key Analogy / Illustration: A drowning person does not coach the lifeguard. Rescue works because of the rescuer, not the victim.

Interactive Activity: Give students index cards and ask them to write one sentence answering, “What is the gospel?” Read a few aloud and refine them together.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do people naturally assume they must earn God’s love?
2. What is the difference between good advice and good news?
3. Why is the resurrection essential to the gospel?
4. How would you explain salvation to a friend in one minute?

Gospel Connection: The gospel is not “try harder.” The gospel is Jesus’ death and resurrection for us.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Christianity is mainly about being a good person.”
- “If I try harder, God will finally accept me.”

Weekly Challenge: Practice explaining the gospel to one person using the words *gift*, *cross*, *resurrection*, and *faith*.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen to explain the gospel to you in three sentences.

Closing Prayer: “Jesus, thank You that salvation is Your work, not ours. Teach us to trust You fully.”

Lesson 2: Saved by Grace Through Faith, Not Works

Main Topic: Grace versus works

Big Idea: We do not begin the Christian life by grace and then keep it going by performance.

Primary Scriptures: Ephesians 2:8–10; Titus 3:5

Supporting Scriptures: Romans 11:6; Galatians 3:2–3

Lesson Goal: Students will recognize the difference between grace and earning.

Memory Verse: Titus 3:5

Supplies Needed: Two posters labeled GIFT and PAYCHECK, sticky notes

Leader Prep: Prepare a few real-life examples of earning versus receiving.

Welcome and Opening: Recap last week: “The gospel is good news. Tonight we answer: Can salvation be earned?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Earn It or Gift?”

Call out examples: birthday present, allowance, paycheck, trophy, inheritance. Students move to the side of the room labeled GIFT or PAYCHECK.

Teaching Hook: Ask, “What would happen if your parents handed you a birthday gift, then mailed you a bill?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Grace means gift.**
2. **Works means earning.**
3. **You cannot mix the two without destroying grace.**
4. **Good works (fruit-bearing) matter, but they come after salvation, not before it.**
5. **The Christian life begins and continues by trusting Jesus.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A paycheck is owed. A gift is freely given. Salvation is not divine wages for human effort.

Interactive Activity: Students write common religious phrases on sticky notes and place them under GIFT or PAYCHECK. Examples: “Do your best,” “Believe in Jesus,” “Try harder,” “God’s grace,” “Earn your place.” Discuss.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do humans love earning systems?
2. What are some ways churches can accidentally turn grace into a paycheck mentality?
3. Why is it good news that salvation does not depend on your record?
4. What changes when a believer knows they are loved by grace?

Gospel Connection: The cross proves salvation is accomplished, not achieved.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “If grace is free, then works do not matter.”
- “God saves us because we are sincere.”

Weekly Challenge: Every time you hear a “paycheck” thought this week, replace it with: “Jesus already did what I could never do.”

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Talk about one way your family tends to drift into performance thinking.

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that Your grace is bigger than our effort.”

Lesson 3: The New Covenant

Main Topic: What the new covenant is

Big Idea: Jesus brought a new covenant that is better than the old because it is built on better promises and centered on Him.

Primary Scriptures: Hebrews 8:6–13; Hebrews 9:15

Supporting Scriptures: Hebrews 7:18–22; Luke 22:20

Lesson Goal: Students will understand that Christianity is new covenant life, not updated old covenant religion.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 8:12

Supplies Needed: Marker board, two columns labeled OLD and NEW, paper “contracts”

Leader Prep: Be ready to define covenant as a binding arrangement and explain why the new covenant matters.

Welcome and Opening: “Some people think Christianity is just Old Testament rules with Jesus sprinkled on top. It isn’t.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Old or New?”

Show random objects or images and let students choose which is newer/better: flip phone vs smartphone, cassette vs playlist, paper map vs GPS.

Teaching Hook: Hold up two paper contracts. Say, “If one contract is obsolete and a better one replaces it, which one are you living under?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **The old covenant exposed sin and human inability.**
2. **The new covenant is better because Jesus is its mediator.**
3. **God promised forgiveness and an internal work, not just external rules.**
4. **The old is obsolete; the new is superior.**
5. **The right response is confidence, rest, and drawing near to God.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: An outdated operating system cannot run the new life God designed. Jesus did not patch the old system; He brought a new one.

Interactive Activity: Students create a simple comparison chart: Old = external law, repeated sacrifices, distance. New = Jesus, once-for-all sacrifice, closeness, forgiveness.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think people drift back to old covenant thinking?
2. What does it mean that God remembers our sins no more?
3. Why is “better promises” such good news?
4. How would your week look different if you really believed you could draw near with confidence?

Gospel Connection: Jesus’ blood put the new covenant into effect.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “The Christian life is basically Moses plus Jesus.”
- “The new covenant is just for mature believers.”

Weekly Challenge: Read Hebrews 8 and underline every word that describes what God does.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen to explain the difference between old covenant and new covenant in plain language.

Closing Prayer: “Lord Jesus, thank You for a better covenant and better promises.”

Lesson 4: Dead to the Law

Main Topic: Freedom from law

Big Idea: Believers died to the law through the body of Christ so they can belong to Jesus and bear fruit to God.

Primary Scriptures: Romans 7:4–6; Galatians 2:19

Supporting Scriptures: Galatians 3:24–25; Galatians 5:18

Lesson Goal: Students will understand that the law is not their source for growth or closeness to God.

Memory Verse: Romans 7:4

Supplies Needed: Rope or string, name tags, small whiteboard

Leader Prep: Learn the marriage illustration in Romans 7 well.

Welcome and Opening: “Tonight’s message may shock some people: Christians are not under the law.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Rule Explosion”

Split students into teams and give absurd mini-rules for a simple task. Example: clap twice before speaking, hop to the table, only use your left hand. Debrief how exhausting rule systems feel.

Teaching Hook: Use rope to show “bound” versus “released.” Explain that Romans 7 says we died to what once bound us.

Teaching Plan:

1. **The law had a role: it showed sin.**
2. **But believers are no longer under its supervision.**
3. **Death changes relationships.** Romans 7 uses marriage language to show our old relationship ended.
4. **We now belong to Christ, not the written code.**
5. **Fruit comes from Jesus, not from pressure.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: You do not chain an apple to a branch. Fruit comes naturally from connection.

Interactive Activity: Ask students to list “religious rules people trust to feel spiritual.” Then ask: “Can any of these give life?”

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why does law feel safer than grace to some people?
2. What is the purpose of the law according to Scripture?
3. Why can't law and faith be mixed?
4. What does it mean to belong to Another?

Gospel Connection: Jesus fulfilled what the law could never accomplish in us.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Freedom from law means moral chaos.”
- “The law is my daily coach as a Christian.”

Weekly Challenge: When you fail this week, resist turning to self-punishment. Turn to Jesus and thank Him that you belong to Him.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Discuss one difference between being motivated by love and being motivated by pressure.

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that we have died to what once bound us and now belong to Christ.”

Lesson 5: Are the Ten Commandments an Exception?

Main Topic: The Ten Commandments and the ministry of death

Big Idea: Even the commandments written on stone were part of the old covenant ministry that condemns, while the Spirit brings life.

Primary Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 3:6–9; Romans 7:7–10

Supporting Scriptures: James 2:10; Romans 6:14

Lesson Goal: Students will understand why the Ten Commandments are not the believer's covenantal source for life.

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 3:6

Supplies Needed: Flat stones or paper “tablets,” markers

Leader Prep: Be ready to explain this carefully and respectfully.

Welcome and Opening: “Some truths are surprising because tradition has shouted louder than Scripture.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Perfect Score”

Give a ten-question pop quiz with one intentionally impossible item. Debrief with James 2:10: fail one point, fail the whole law.

Teaching Hook: Hold up paper tablets labeled “Do Not Covet.” Explain that Romans 7 specifically shows that commandment aroused coveting.

Teaching Plan:

1. **The law is holy and good, but not life-giving.**
2. **The Ten Commandments were written on stone.**
3. **Paul calls that ministry one of condemnation and death.**
4. **The commandment against coveting stirred up coveting in Romans 7.**
5. **The Spirit, not stone tablets, is the believer's source of life.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A mirror can show dirt on your face, but it cannot wash you.

Interactive Activity: Students write on paper tablets: “What rules do people trust to fix the heart?” Then discuss why rules can expose but not transform.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why is this lesson hard for some Christians to hear?
2. What is the difference between the law being good and the law being our source of life?
3. How does the Spirit accomplish what rules cannot?
4. Why is Jesus better than rule-centered religion?

Gospel Connection: Jesus did not leave us with stone; He gave us Himself.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “If we are not under the Ten Commandments, anything goes.”
- “The Spirit leads by repeating Moses.”

Weekly Challenge: Read 2 Corinthians 3 and list every contrast between the old and the new.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen what the difference is between conviction by the Spirit and pressure from rules.

Closing Prayer: “Spirit of God, thank You for bringing life where rules could only condemn.”

Lesson 6: Once-for-All Forgiveness

Main Topic: Total forgiveness

Big Idea: Jesus took away our sins once for all; believers do not live in installment-plan forgiveness.

Primary Scriptures: Hebrews 10:10–18; Colossians 2:13–14

Supporting Scriptures: Hebrews 9:26–28; 1 John 2:12

Lesson Goal: Students will understand the finality of Jesus' sacrifice.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 10:14

Supplies Needed: Paper IOUs, shredder or trash can, red marker

Leader Prep: Be ready to explain that forgiveness was accomplished at the cross, not paid out little by little.

Welcome and Opening: “Tonight is huge: How forgiven are you, really?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Debt Stack”

Pile fake bills or IOUs on a table. Ask how it would feel to carry an impossible debt.

Teaching Hook: Write “PAID IN FULL” across an IOU. Say, “That’s the cross.”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Old sacrifices repeated because they never finished the job.**
2. **Jesus offered one sacrifice for all time.**
3. **Believers have been forgiven and cleansed.**
4. **There is no more sacrifice for sin because the work is finished.**
5. **This means confidence, not guilt-management.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: If a debt is truly canceled, no collector can come back for a second payment.

Interactive Activity: Students write common guilt thoughts on IOUs. Destroy or stamp them with PAID IN FULL.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do so many Christians still think forgiveness is in pieces?
2. What changes when you know Jesus sat down because the work was finished?
3. How can total forgiveness make someone more secure instead of less serious about sin?
4. What would it look like to live today as someone fully forgiven?

Gospel Connection: The blood of Jesus is enough.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “God forgives me one sin at a time.”
- “If I do not feel forgiven, I am not forgiven.”

Weekly Challenge: Every day this week, thank Jesus specifically for total forgiveness.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen to explain what “once for all” means.

Closing Prayer: “Jesus, thank You that Your one sacrifice was enough forever.”

Lesson 7: No Condemnation, No Fear of Final Judgment

Main Topic: Freedom from condemnation

Big Idea: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Primary Scriptures: Romans 8:1–2; John 5:24

Supporting Scriptures: John 3:17–18; Hebrews 10:19–22

Lesson Goal: Students will understand the difference between conviction and condemnation and will know they are safe in Christ.

Memory Verse: Romans 8:1

Supplies Needed: Gavel or mallet, chair as “judge’s bench”

Leader Prep: Be ready to distinguish accusing fear from Spirit-led correction.

Welcome and Opening: “Many teens live spiritually like they are always in court. Tonight we talk about the verdict.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Courtroom Charades”

Act out silly courtroom roles, then transition to the serious question: what is God’s verdict over the believer?

Teaching Hook: Bang the gavel and say, “Case dismissed? Not enough. The believer’s verdict is no condemnation.”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Condemnation means guilty under judgment.**
2. **Jesus did not come to condemn but to save.**
3. **Believers have crossed from death to life.**
4. **No condemnation means no pending wrath for the believer.**
5. **We can relate to God with confidence.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A student who already graduated does not fear being called back to fail the class.

Interactive Activity: Have students compare two voices on the board: Condemnation says, “You are trash.” Conviction says, “Come back to truth.”

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. What does condemnation sound like in a teen's life?
2. Why is "no condemnation" different from "sin does not matter"?
3. How does fear distort our view of God?
4. How can confidence before God actually help us be more honest with Him?

Gospel Connection: The cross removed the believer's condemnation forever.

Common Confusions to Address:

- "If I mess up badly, God puts me back under condemnation."
- "Fear is the healthiest way to stay close to God."

Weekly Challenge: Replace one condemning thought each day with Romans 8:1.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Talk about the difference between discipline in love and punishment in wrath.

Closing Prayer: "Father, thank You that in Christ the verdict is settled forever."

Lesson 8: Your New Spiritual Past (Crucified, Buried, Raised)

Main Topic: Co-crucifixion and resurrection with Christ

Big Idea: The believer's story includes Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection.

Primary Scriptures: Romans 6:3–11; Colossians 3:3–4

Supporting Scriptures: Ephesians 2:4–6

Lesson Goal: Students will see that Christianity is not self-improvement but death and resurrection with Jesus.

Memory Verse: Romans 6:11

Supplies Needed: Large paper timeline, markers

Leader Prep: Know how to explain union with Christ simply.

Welcome and Opening: “God did not just forgive the old you; He included you in Jesus’ death and resurrection.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Before and After”

Show funny before/after examples and then transition to the spiritual “before and after” of salvation.

Teaching Hook: Draw a timeline: In Adam → Cross → Burial → Resurrection → In Christ.

Teaching Plan:

1. **In Adam, we were dead in sin.**
2. **God included us in Christ's death.**
3. **The old self was crucified.**
4. **We were raised to newness of life.**
5. **Therefore we count ourselves dead to sin and alive to God.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: God did not remodel the old house; He moved you into a new life.

Interactive Activity: Students create personal spiritual timelines using the words dead, buried, raised, alive.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why is “new life” bigger than behavior improvement?
2. What does it mean that your old self is gone?
3. How can this truth help a teen who feels trapped by past failure?
4. What difference does it make to count yourself alive to God?

Gospel Connection: The resurrection is not just history; it is our new story in Christ.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “I am just the same old person trying to be more Christian.”
- “My past defines me more than Jesus does.”

Weekly Challenge: Write three “old story / new story” statements. Example: “I was condemned; now I am alive in Christ.”

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen what it means that their old self was crucified with Christ.

Closing Prayer: “Jesus, thank You that our story is hidden in Yours.”

Lesson 9: Your New Identity: Holy, Righteous, Blameless

Main Topic: Identity in Christ

Big Idea: God does not merely tolerate believers; He has made them righteous, holy, and blameless in Christ.

Primary Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 1:30; Colossians 1:21–22; 2 Corinthians 5:21

Supporting Scriptures: Ephesians 1:4; Romans 5:17

Lesson Goal: Students will reject shame-based identity and embrace who they are in Christ.

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:21

Supplies Needed: Sticky labels, mirror or hand mirror

Leader Prep: Be ready to explain identity as what is true of the believer at the core.

Welcome and Opening: “What labels have people put on you? Tonight we talk about God’s labels.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Label Tag”

Put silly labels on students’ backs for a quick game, then talk about how labels affect behavior.

Teaching Hook: Hold up a mirror and ask, “When God looks at the believer, what does He actually see?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **The world hands out labels based on performance.**
2. **God defines the believer by Christ.**
3. **Jesus is our righteousness, holiness, and redemption.**
4. **Blameless does not mean sinless performance; it means secure standing.**
5. **A teen who knows who they are can stand strong in a confused world.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: Adoption changes your family name and status, not because you earned it but because you were chosen and placed there.

Interactive Activity: Students write false labels on sticky notes, then replace them with true identity words from Scripture.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Which false labels hit teens hardest today?
2. Why is identity deeper than feelings?
3. How can knowing you are righteous change the way you face temptation?
4. What is one identity truth you need to hear again this week?

Gospel Connection: Jesus became sin for us so we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “God only sees Jesus instead of the real me.”
- “I am basically a dirty sinner with better manners.”

Weekly Challenge: Say one identity verse out loud every morning.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen which label from God means the most to them right now.

Closing Prayer: “Father, renew our minds to see ourselves the way You see us in Christ.”

Lesson 10: Christ in You: Union with Jesus

Main Topic: Union with Christ

Big Idea: Christianity is not mainly imitation of Jesus from a distance; it is Christ living in us.

Primary Scriptures: Colossians 1:25–27; Galatians 2:20

Supporting Scriptures: John 14:19–20; Colossians 3:4

Lesson Goal: Students will understand that the Christian life is lived by dependence on Christ in them.

Memory Verse: Galatians 2:20

Supplies Needed: Extension cord, unplugged lamp or device

Leader Prep: Prepare a simple explanation of union and dependence.

Welcome and Opening: “How do you actually live the Christian life? By trying harder? Or by Christ in you?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Connected or Disconnected”

Show examples of things that only work when connected: Wi-Fi, charger, lamp, speaker.

Teaching Hook: Hold up an unplugged lamp. Ask, “Can this shine by trying harder?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **We were dead and needed life, not merely advice.**
2. **Jesus is our life.**
3. **Christ in you is the believer’s hope.**
4. **Dependence is not passivity; it is active trust.**
5. **Because He lives, we live.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: An unplugged lamp does not need a pep talk. It needs a power source.

Interactive Activity: Students list common “try harder” messages they hear. Then convert each one into a “trust Jesus in you” statement.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. What is the difference between imitation and union?
2. Why is “Christ in you” such good news for teenagers?
3. What situations tempt you to live independently from Jesus?
4. How can you depend on Christ during pressure, stress, or temptation?

Gospel Connection: The resurrection life of Jesus now indwells the believer.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “God just tells me to be like Jesus from far away.”
- “Dependence means doing nothing.”

Weekly Challenge: In one stressful moment each day, pray: “Jesus, You are my life in this moment.”

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen what “Christ in you” means in ordinary daily life.

Closing Prayer: “Lord Jesus, teach us to depend on You in us.”

Lesson 11: Security of the Believer

Main Topic: Eternal security

Big Idea: Because Jesus lives forever, believers are saved completely and securely.

Primary Scriptures: Hebrews 7:23–25; John 10:27–29

Supporting Scriptures: Ephesians 1:13–14; Hebrews 13:5

Lesson Goal: Students will know that salvation is secure because of Jesus, not because of their own consistency.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 7:25

Supplies Needed: Lock and key, sealed envelope

Leader Prep: Be ready to answer fear-based questions gently.

Welcome and Opening: “Can a believer lose salvation? Tonight we talk about the strongest security system in the universe.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Secure or Not?”

Read funny scenarios and let students vote secure/insecure: unlabeled lunch in a school fridge, diary without a lock, money in a bank vault.

Teaching Hook: Show a sealed envelope and a lock. Explain that believers are sealed with the Spirit and held by Jesus.

Teaching Plan:

1. **Jesus has a permanent priesthood.**
2. **He saves completely because He always lives.**
3. **No one can snatch believers from His hand.**
4. **The Spirit seals believers.**
5. **Our security rests in God’s promise, not our emotional ups and downs.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A child adopted into a loving family does not wake up each morning wondering if the papers disappeared overnight.

Interactive Activity: Let students write common security fears anonymously. Read a few and answer each with Scripture.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do so many believers fear losing salvation?
2. What would it do to a teen's peace to know they are secure forever?
3. Why is security based on Jesus better than security based on your own performance?
4. How should eternal security affect the way we respond when we fail?

Gospel Connection: The same Jesus who saved us keeps us.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Security makes people careless.”
- “My failures are stronger than Jesus’ saving work.”

Weekly Challenge: Read John 10 aloud this week and underline every promise Jesus makes.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Talk together about one reason security in Christ produces peace instead of laziness.

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that our security is anchored in Jesus forever.”

Lesson 12: Resting in Christ

Main Topic: Sabbath rest in Jesus

Big Idea: The believer's deepest rest is not found in trying harder but in resting in Christ's finished work.

Primary Scriptures: Hebrews 4:9–11; Matthew 11:28–30

Supporting Scriptures: Hebrews 10:19–23

Lesson Goal: Students will understand biblical rest as trust in Jesus rather than spiritual laziness.

Memory Verse: Matthew 11:28

Supplies Needed: Backpack, books or weights

Leader Prep: Be ready to explain rest as a response to finished work.

Welcome and Opening: “How many of you are tired? Jesus speaks directly into that.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Heavy Load Relay”

Students carry overloaded backpacks in a simple relay. Debrief with the feeling of spiritual burden.

Teaching Hook: Set down the backpack and say, “Some of us treat Christianity like this every day.”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Religious striving is exhausting.**
2. **Jesus invites the weary to come to Him.**
3. **Hebrews says there remains a Sabbath-rest for God's people.**
4. **Rest is not laziness; it is trust in completed work.**
5. **Rest produces confidence, peace, and fruitfulness.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: You do not keep repainting a finished wall to prove the painter did a good job.

Interactive Activity: Students write burdens on slips of paper and place them in the backpack. Then one by one, remove them while reading truths from Scripture.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. What kinds of burdens do teens carry spiritually?
2. Why is it hard to rest?
3. What is the difference between rest and apathy?
4. How can a student practice resting in Christ during a busy week?

Gospel Connection: Because Jesus finished the work, believers can rest in Him.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Rest means I stop caring.”
- “God is pleased when I stay spiritually stressed.”

Weekly Challenge: Spend three minutes each day thanking Jesus for one finished-work truth.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Have your teen explain what “Sabbath rest” means in Christ.

Closing Prayer: “Jesus, teach us to live from rest instead of religious pressure.”

SEMESTER 2:

LIVING IN FREEDOM

Lesson 13: Grace Is Not Weak

Main Topic: The power of grace

Big Idea: Grace is not permission to sin; grace is God's powerful way of teaching us and empowering us.

Primary Scriptures: Titus 2:11–14; 2 Corinthians 12:9

Supporting Scriptures: Romans 6:14; Romans 5:20

Lesson Goal: Students will see grace as active, powerful, and life-shaping.

Memory Verse: Titus 2:11–12

Supplies Needed: Two signs labeled PRESSURE and GRACE

Leader Prep: Be ready to contrast grace with pressure-based religion.

Welcome and Opening: “Some people talk like grace is risky. The Bible talks like grace is powerful.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Push or Pull”

Simple relay with one object being pushed awkwardly and then pulled smoothly. Debrief the difference between pressure and grace.

Teaching Hook: Ask, “What teaches better: shame or grace?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Grace brings salvation.**
2. **Grace teaches us.**
3. **Grace is sufficient in weakness.**
4. **Sin does not master us because we are under grace.**
5. **Grace produces eager fruit-bearing, not passive indifference.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: Sunlight grows a plant better than yelling at it.

Interactive Activity: Students compare how people change under pressure versus under love and truth.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do some Christians fear grace?
2. What does it mean that grace teaches us?
3. How is grace stronger than shame?
4. Where do you most need to trust God's grace right now?

Gospel Connection: Grace does not just pardon; grace empowers because grace gives us Jesus Himself.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Grace is soft on sin.”
- “Fear is stronger than grace.”

Weekly Challenge: Replace one shame-driven motivation with a grace-driven truth this week.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Talk about the difference between raising a teen by fear and guiding a teen by grace and truth.

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that Your grace is enough and Your power is made perfect in weakness.”

Lesson 14: What About “Hypergrace”?

Main Topic: Answering fear of grace

Big Idea: God’s grace is not dangerous to believers; it is dangerous only to the lie that law produces holiness.

Primary Scriptures: Romans 6:1–4; Romans 5:20–21

Supporting Scriptures: Galatians 5:1

Lesson Goal: Students will be able to respond to the charge that grace gives people a license to sin.

Memory Verse: Romans 6:2

Supplies Needed: Toy driver’s license or printed “license” card

Leader Prep: Prepare to answer objections without being defensive.

Welcome and Opening: “Have you ever heard someone say, ‘If grace is that big, people will just sin more’?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Licensed?”

Hand out silly fake licenses: license to burp, license to nap, license to dance. Then ask, “Does grace give a believer a license to sin?”

Teaching Hook: Hold up the fake license and say, “People accuse grace of this. The Bible does not.”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Romans 6 asks the question directly.**
2. **The answer is no because believers died to sin.**
3. **Grace and identity go together.**
4. **Law actually stirs up sin, while grace breaks its mastery.**
5. **Real freedom is not more sinning; it is living from Christ.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A fish does not need a license to breathe underwater; it simply lives according to its nature. Believers are designed for life in Christ.

Interactive Activity: Students work in pairs to answer the objection: “If everything is forgiven, why not sin all you want?”

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do people assume rules change hearts?
2. How does union with Christ answer the grace objection?
3. What is the difference between freedom and rebellion?
4. How would you explain “dead to sin” to a friend?

Gospel Connection: Grace is as big as the cross and resurrection.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Bigger grace means more sin.”
- “Holiness is mainly produced by threat.”

Weekly Challenge: Memorize your best short answer to the phrase “grace gives people a license to sin.”

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen to explain why grace does not encourage rebellion.

Closing Prayer: “Lord, anchor us in the truth that Your grace is both radical and holy.”

Lesson 15: Tithing or Grace Giving?

Main Topic: Giving under grace

Big Idea: New covenant giving is free, cheerful, and from the heart, not pressured law-keeping.

Primary Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 9:6–8; Acts 4:32–35

Supporting Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 8:9–12; Matthew 6:3–4

Lesson Goal: Students will understand giving as a joyful response to grace, not a quota to earn blessing.

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 9:7

Supplies Needed: Envelopes, fake money or paper slips

Leader Prep: Be ready to speak carefully about generosity without manipulation.

Welcome and Opening: “Money reveals a lot about what we trust. Tonight we talk about generosity under grace.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Budget Challenge”

Give teams a silly fictional budget and ask how they would spend it. Debrief priorities.

Teaching Hook: Ask, “What’s the difference between pressured giving and cheerful giving?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Tithing belonged to Israel under the law.**
2. **New covenant giving is not under compulsion.**
3. **God loves a cheerful giver.**
4. **Generosity flows from knowing Christ’s grace.**
5. **Teens can live generously in lots of ways.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A forced thank-you note is not the same as heartfelt gratitude.

Interactive Activity: Students discuss practical ways teens can give: time, encouragement, money, service, hospitality, attention.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why can money make people feel pressured at church?
2. What does cheerful giving look like for a teenager?
3. How does grace make generosity possible?
4. Why is compulsion a poor motivator for giving?

Gospel Connection: We give because Christ first gave Himself for us.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “God likes me more if I hit the number.”
- “Giving only counts if it is money.”

Weekly Challenge: Participate in one loving act of generosity this week.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Talk about one way your family can practice cheerful generosity together.

Closing Prayer: “Father, make us cheerful givers shaped by Your grace.”

Lesson 16: The True Sabbath (Resting in Christ)

Main Topic: Sabbath fulfilled in Jesus

Big Idea: Jesus Himself is our rest; the believer's deepest Sabbath is found in Him.

Primary Scriptures: Hebrews 4:9–11; Colossians 2:16–17

Supporting Scriptures: Matthew 11:28–30

Lesson Goal: Students will understand that Christ is the reality to which Sabbath pointed.

Memory Verse: Colossians 2:17

Supplies Needed: Stopwatch or timer, stress ball

Leader Prep: Be ready to explain shadow versus reality.

Welcome and Opening: “Does God want us to obsess over a day, or enjoy a Person?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Race, Then Rest”

Quick timed challenge followed by one minute of silence. Debrief how hard it can be to settle down.

Teaching Hook: Write SHADOW and REALITY on the board. Ask, “Which matters more: a shadow or the person casting it?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **The Sabbath was part of the old covenant sign system.**
2. **Colossians says such things were shadows.**
3. **The reality is Christ.**
4. **Hebrews says there remains a Sabbath rest for God's people.**
5. **We enter that rest by faith, not by religious anxiety.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: If your friend arrives at the door, you stop hugging the shadow and hug the friend.

Interactive Activity: Students list “rest substitutes” teens chase: sleep, scrolling, sports, food, isolation, entertainment. Then ask which of these can calm the conscience.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do people confuse spiritual rest with taking a break?
2. What kind of rest does Jesus give that entertainment cannot?
3. How can a busy teen practice resting in Christ?
4. What steals your sense of rest most often?

Gospel Connection: Jesus fulfilled what the Sabbath pictured.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Rest in Christ means I never feel stress.”
- “Keeping a day can calm the conscience better than Jesus can.”

Weekly Challenge: When stress hits, stop and pray Matthew 11:28 slowly.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen to explain why Jesus is our Sabbath rest.

Closing Prayer: “Jesus, be our rest in the middle of noisy, pressured lives.”

Lesson 17: Forgiveness and Forgiving Others

Main Topic: Living from forgiveness

Big Idea: Because believers are fully forgiven, they are free to forgive others from the heart.

Primary Scriptures: Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:13

Supporting Scriptures: Hebrews 10:17–18; Matthew 18:21–35

Lesson Goal: Students will understand both God’s forgiveness toward them and how that shapes their treatment of others.

Memory Verse: Ephesians 4:32

Supplies Needed: Crumpled paper, tape, small trash can

Leader Prep: Be sensitive; some teens carry deep wounds.

Welcome and Opening: “Forgiveness is one of the hardest things Jesus calls us into, but it starts with what He has done for us.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Uncrumple It”

Have students crumple paper, then try to smooth it back out. Discuss how hurt leaves real effects.

Teaching Hook: Ask, “What is the difference between forgiving someone and pretending they did not hurt you?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **God forgave us in Christ.**
2. **That forgiveness is complete and costly.**
3. **Forgiving others is not calling evil good.**
4. **Forgiveness releases revenge to God.**
5. **Boundaries and forgiveness can coexist.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: Forgiveness is opening your clenched fist and releasing the debt to God.

Interactive Activity: Students write one non-specific hurt category on paper and silently pray over the choice to trust God with justice.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why does forgiving others seem so hard at times?
2. How does God's forgiveness empower ours?
3. What is forgiveness not?
4. How can a teen start forgiving without pretending everything is okay?

Gospel Connection: The cross shows both the seriousness of sin and the depth of forgiveness.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Forgiveness means there should be no consequences.”
- “If I forgive, I must instantly trust again.”

Weekly Challenge: Make an appointment to sit down privately with God and choose to forgive one person who has hurt you.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Have an honest conversation about what forgiveness means in real relationships.

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that in Christ we are forgiven. Teach us to extend what we have received.”

Lesson 18: The Lord's Supper: Focus on Jesus

Main Topic: Communion under grace

Big Idea: The Lord's Supper is about remembering Jesus and celebrating His finished work, not obsessing over our sins.

Primary Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

Supporting Scriptures: Luke 22:19–20; Hebrews 10:14

Lesson Goal: Students will understand communion as Christ-centered remembrance.

Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 11:26

Supplies Needed: Bread/crackers and juice props if desired, simple table setup

Leader Prep: Be ready to explain “examine yourself” in context as a relational and body-life issue, not a hunt for unconfessed sins.

Welcome and Opening: “What is communion really about?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Remember This”

Show ten objects quickly, cover them, and ask what students remember. Transition: communion is a purposeful act of remembering Jesus.

Teaching Hook: Point to the table and ask, “Who is the hero at this table?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Jesus gave the supper as remembrance of Him.**
2. **The bread and cup proclaim His death.**
3. **The Corinthians’ abuse of the meal involved selfishness and division.**
4. **Self-examination means taking the body seriously and honoring Jesus.**
5. **Communion should strengthen confidence in Christ’s finished work.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A wedding anniversary is not the day you panic over all your flaws; it is the day you celebrate the love that joined you.

Interactive Activity: Let students write one sentence beginning: “When I think about the Lord’s Supper, I want to remember...”

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. What have you been taught communion is about?
2. Why is Jesus the center of the meal?
3. What happens when we make the Lord's Supper mainly about our failures?
4. How can communion encourage, rather than scare, believers?

Gospel Connection: Communion proclaims the finished work of Jesus.

Common Confusions to Address:

- "I need to become worthy before taking communion."
- "Communion is mainly a sin inventory exercise."

Weekly Challenge: Read one Gospel account of the Last Supper and reflect on Jesus' words.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen what they think the Lord wants remembered most at His table.

Closing Prayer: "Jesus, keep our eyes on You and Your finished work."

Lesson 19: Temptation, Sin, and the Real Battle

Main Topic: Not an inner civil war of two selves

Big Idea: The believer's old self is gone; our struggle is not against our new identity but against the flesh and the power of sin.

Primary Scriptures: Romans 6:6–12; Romans 7:17–25

Supporting Scriptures: Galatians 5:16–17

Lesson Goal: Students will understand that sin is real but not their truest identity.

Memory Verse: Romans 6:11

Supplies Needed: Two signs labeled WHO I AM and WHAT I FEEL

Leader Prep: Explain flesh, sin, and identity clearly.

Welcome and Opening: “When a believer sins, who are they really?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Fact or Feeling”

Read statements and let students decide whether they reflect objective fact or passing feeling.

Teaching Hook: Stand by the two signs and say, “A lot of spiritual confusion happens when we mix these up.”

Teaching Plan:

1. **The old self was crucified.**
2. **The flesh is not the same thing as the old self.**
3. **Sin still seeks opportunity in our bodies, but it is not our identity.**
4. **Believers count themselves dead to sin and alive to God.**
5. **Freedom grows as we live from who we really are.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A smoke alarm going off does not mean the house became fire; it means danger is present and needs attention.

Interactive Activity: Create two columns: “Who I am in Christ” and “What temptation feels like.” Let students fill each side with examples.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why does shame grow when a believer thinks sin is their core identity?
2. What is the flesh?
3. How does Romans 7 help explain struggle without redefining the believer?
4. What practical difference does it make to say, “This temptation is real, but it is not the real me”?

Gospel Connection: Jesus did not merely forgive sins; He gave us a new self.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “If I still struggle, I must still be the old me.”
- “The Christian life is two equal selves fighting inside me.”

Weekly Challenge: In a moment of temptation, say aloud: “I am dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.”

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Talk about how to address sin without using shame-based identity language.

Closing Prayer: “Father, ground us in our true identity and teach us to walk in truth.”

Lesson 20: You Do Not Need to Die to Self Daily

Main Topic: The old self is already dead

Big Idea: Believers are not called to keep killing the old self; Scripture says the old self already died with Christ.

Primary Scriptures: Romans 6:6–11; Colossians 3:3

Supporting Scriptures: Galatians 2:20

Lesson Goal: Students will replace “die to self” language with biblical union-with-Christ language.

Memory Verse: Romans 6:6

Supplies Needed: Dry erase board, markers

Leader Prep: Prepare a clear contrast between “die to self” slogans and Romans 6 language.

Welcome and Opening: “Have you ever heard, ‘You need to die to self every day’? Let’s ask if that’s what the Bible actually says.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Already Done or Still Doing?”

Call out statements and students vote: already done / still doing.

Teaching Hook: Write on the board: “Your old self was crucified.” Ask, “Past tense or future goal?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Romans 6 says the old self was crucified.**
2. **Colossians says you have died.**
3. **The believer’s call is not to keep re-killing the old self but to count on what Jesus accomplished.**
4. **Daily Christian living is renewing the mind to what is already true.**
5. **This removes fake humility and puts confidence back in Christ.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: You do not hold a second funeral for someone already buried.

Interactive Activity: Students rewrite popular religious slogans into biblical language. Example: “Die to self” becomes “Count yourself dead to sin and alive to God.”

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why is “die to self daily” so popular?
2. What is the actual language of Romans 6?
3. How does this truth affect daily discipleship?
4. What is the difference between denying fleshly thoughts and denying your true self?

Gospel Connection: Jesus already included us in His death.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “My true self is my biggest enemy.”
- “The Christian life is mostly self-erasure.”

Weekly Challenge: Whenever you hear a self-hating message, answer with Romans 6:6.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen to explain why “already dead with Christ” is better news than “keep trying to die.”

Closing Prayer: “Jesus, thank You that what needed to die already died with You.”

Lesson 21: Already Close, Still Growing

Main Topic: Growth without distance

Big Idea: Believers do not grow by getting incrementally closer to God; they grow while already fully accepted and close in Christ.

Primary Scriptures: Hebrews 10:19–22; Ephesians 2:13; Colossians 2:9–10

Supporting Scriptures: 2 Peter 3:18

Lesson Goal: Students will understand that growth means learning and maturing, not earning more closeness.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 10:22

Supplies Needed: Measuring tape, chair at front labeled CLOSE

Leader Prep: Be ready to explain the difference between intimacy by location and maturity by understanding.

Welcome and Opening: “Can a Christian get closer to God? Let’s define what we mean.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Closer?”

Students try to estimate distances in the room. Then discuss spiritual nearness.

Teaching Hook: Put a chair at the front labeled CLOSE and ask one student to stand next to it. Say, “Could this student get more geographically close to this chair?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **Believers have confidence to enjoy God’s presence now.**
2. **We were brought near by the blood of Christ.**
3. **In Christ we have fullness.**
4. **Growth is real, but it is growth in grace and knowledge, not growth from far away to near.**
5. **This means church, Bible study, and prayer do not create closeness; they help us enjoy and understand the closeness already given.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A child in a loving home can grow up and mature without becoming more adopted over time.

Interactive Activity: Students sort practices like prayer, worship, church, Scripture reading into two categories: create closeness / help me enjoy closeness. Discuss why the second is biblical.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why do people talk about “getting closer to God”?
2. What is the danger of treating spiritual disciplines as ladders?
3. How can a teen grow while already fully accepted?
4. What changes when you realize God is not far away?

Gospel Connection: Jesus’ blood brought us near once and for all.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “If I don’t have a quiet time, God feels distant because I moved away.”
- “Spiritual maturity means becoming more accepted.”

Weekly Challenge: This week, begin one prayer with: “Father, thank You that I am already perfectly close to you because of Jesus.”

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen what the difference is between growth and earning closeness.

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You that we grow while already loved, accepted, and near.”

Lesson 22: Growing in Grace and Truth

Main Topic: Maturity

Big Idea: Spiritual growth is learning to think, respond, and live from what is already true of us in Christ.

Primary Scriptures: 2 Peter 3:18; Colossians 2:6–7

Supporting Scriptures: Philippians 2:12–13; Romans 12:2

Lesson Goal: Students will understand growth as mind renewal and increasing dependence on Jesus.

Memory Verse: 2 Peter 3:18

Supplies Needed: Seeds or small plant, potting soil optional

Leader Prep: Prepare one or two examples of real-life maturity under grace.

Welcome and Opening: “If you are already complete in Christ, why do Christians still grow?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Baby vs Mature”

Read funny scenarios and let students identify immature vs mature responses.

Teaching Hook: Hold up a seed or plant and say, “The life is already there. Growth is not adding life; it is development.”

Teaching Plan:

1. **You received Christ by faith.**
2. **You continue in Him the same way.**
3. **God works in us, and we work out what He has worked in.**
4. **Growth includes renewed thinking, increasing wisdom, and healthier responses.**
5. **Maturity is not performing for God; it is becoming more established in truth.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A tree grows because it is alive, not in order to become alive.

Interactive Activity: Ask students to complete the sentence: “A mature believer is someone who...” Compare worldly answers and grace-shaped answers.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. What does growth look like for a teenager?
2. Why is it important to distinguish growth from earning?
3. How does God's work in us fuel our growth?
4. What truth do you need your mind renewed to right now?

Gospel Connection: The same grace that saves is the grace in which we grow.

Common Confusions to Address:

- "Growth means climbing into God's favor."
- "If I am growing slowly, God must be disappointed."

Weekly Challenge: Journal one area where God is renewing your thinking.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Discuss what real maturity looks like in your home this week.

Closing Prayer: "Lord, root us and build us up in Christ."

Lesson 23: Christ Is Your Reward

Main Topic: Rewards and fulfillment

Big Idea: The ultimate reward of the Christian life is Christ Himself.

Primary Scriptures: Colossians 3:4; Philippians 3:7–9

Supporting Scriptures: Psalm 73:25–26; Revelation 21:3

Lesson Goal: Students will see that Christianity is not a points system but a relationship with Jesus as our treasure.

Memory Verse: Colossians 3:4

Supplies Needed: Trophy or ribbon, gift bag

Leader Prep: Keep the focus on Jesus, not speculative reward charts.

Welcome and Opening: “What if the greatest reward is not a thing, but a Person?”

Icebreaker / Game: “Prize Pick”

Offer silly small prizes and ask students to pick. Then ask what kinds of rewards matter most in life.

Teaching Hook: Hold up a trophy and ask, “Would this satisfy your heart forever?”

Teaching Plan:

1. **The Bible talks about reward, but the Jesus is our reward.**
2. **Paul counted everything loss compared to knowing Christ.**
3. **Christ is our life now and our glory (our reward) then.**
4. **A reward-centered mindset can easily become selfish, materialistic and legalistic.**
5. **The deepest joy of Heaven is unbroken life with Him.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: Kids may come for the birthday cake, but the real joy is being with the one they love.

Interactive Activity: Students write what they think would satisfy them most, then discuss how even good gifts are not enough without the Giver.

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. What kinds of rewards do teens chase most often?
2. Why is Jesus better than any created reward?
3. How does realizing Christ is your treasure change daily living?
4. What would it mean to say, “Christ is enough for me” and really mean it?

Gospel Connection: Jesus gives us Himself.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Christianity is mostly about earning extra prizes in Heaven.”
- “Jesus is useful, but other things satisfy more.”

Weekly Challenge: Spend one quiet moment each day thanking Jesus not just for His gifts, but for giving Himself to you.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen what they think it means for Christ to be our reward.

Closing Prayer: “Jesus, be our treasure, our joy, and our reward.”

Lesson 24: Living the Grace Life

Main Topic: Putting it all together

Big Idea: The Christian life is Jesus expressing His life through believers who know the gospel, rest in grace, and live from their new identity.

Primary Scriptures: Galatians 5:22–23; Philippians 2:13; Colossians 2:6

Supporting Scriptures: John 15:4–5

Lesson Goal: Students will review the entire curriculum and leave with a clear picture of grace-based living.

Memory Verse: Philippians 2:13

Supplies Needed: Review sheets, poster board, markers, certificates optional

Leader Prep: Review all major course themes and prepare a short commissioning challenge.

Welcome and Opening: “Tonight we put the whole journey together.”

Icebreaker / Game: “Grace Message Review”
Create a quiz game from the previous lessons.

Teaching Hook: On a board, write the course arc: Gospel → New Covenant → Forgiveness → Identity → Union → Security → Freedom → Rest → Growth.

Teaching Plan:

1. **We are saved by grace through faith.**
2. **We live under the new covenant, not the old.**
3. **We are fully forgiven and free from condemnation.**
4. **We are new creations with Christ in us.**
5. **We are secure forever.**
6. **Grace teaches and empowers us.**
7. **We grow while already close and complete in Christ.**
8. **The Christian life is not self-effort but dependence on Jesus.**

Key Analogy / Illustration: A sailboat moves not by straining harder but by catching the wind. The believer lives by yielding to Jesus, not by manufacturing life.

Interactive Activity: Students create one-page “Grace Life Statements” beginning with phrases like: “Because of Jesus...” “I am...” “I no longer...” “I now...”

Small-Group Discussion Questions:

1. Which lesson changed your thinking the most this year?
2. What truth do you most need to remember next month?
3. How can this message help a struggling friend?
4. What does grace-based living look like at school, at home, online, and with friends?

Gospel Connection: Jesus is the beginning, middle, and end of the Christian life.

Common Confusions to Address:

- “Now that I know grace, I have arrived.”
- “Grace is just one topic among many.”

Weekly Challenge: Share one powerful truth from this curriculum with someone else this week.

Parent / Family Follow-Up: Ask your teen to give you their top five truths from the entire curriculum.

Closing Prayer: “Father, thank You for Your Son, Your grace, and Your Spirit. Keep these students anchored in Jesus and confident in the gospel.”

APPENDIX A: CORE TRUTHS SUMMARY FOR LEADERS

1. Salvation is by grace through faith, not works.
2. The new covenant is better than the old.
3. Believers are dead to the law and alive to God.
4. Jesus forgave all our sins once for all.
5. There is no condemnation for those in Christ.
6. The believer's old self died with Christ.
7. The believer is a new creation with a new identity.
8. Christ lives in the believer.
9. Eternal life is secure because Jesus lives forever.
10. Grace teaches and empowers holy living.
11. Jesus is our rest.
12. Spiritual growth happens while already accepted and close.

APPENDIX B: LEADER TIPS FOR MIXED AGE GROUPS

- Keep explanations short and concrete.
- Let older students help lead small-group discussion.
- Use examples from school, friendships, sports, family pressure, anxiety, temptation, and social media.
- Repeat key phrases often: “Jesus plus nothing,” “once for all,” “Christ in you,” “no condemnation,” “already near.”

APPENDIX C: OPTIONAL MEMORY VERSE REVIEW PLAN

Weeks 1–6: Review every week in opening

Weeks 7–12: Add recitation in pairs

Weeks 13–18: Use team competitions

Weeks 19–24: Invite students to choose one life verse from the curriculum

APPENDIX D: TEACHER QUICK-CHECK BEFORE EACH LESSON

- Did I keep Jesus in focus?
- Did I avoid vague religious language?
- Did I distinguish law from grace clearly?
- Did I give students time to respond and discuss?
- Did I end with hope, not pressure?