



FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

GRACE

WEEK 1 HOW CAN I BE A GOOD PERSON?

Discussion Kick-Off

1. Kids **share** what their favorite thing was that happened during the past week.
2. **Check up** on past week's prayer requests and events.
3. **Discuss** the welcome question: **If you found a huge present, what do you think would be in it?**

Application Activity

You'll Need:

Supplies	1 I Never activity supplement 1 Plain white t-shirt for marking on 1 Plain white t-shirt to keep clean 1 Set of markers
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You'll Do:

1. **Take out** one t-shirt. (*Save the other t-shirt for later.*)
Say: Let's see what sinful choices do to this clean shirt. If I read a choice that is true for you, great! Don't do anything. If it's not true for you—make a mark on the shirt.
2. **Read** a statement from **I Never** activity supplement.
3. Kids (and you!) **use markers** to **make marks** on the t-shirt if the statement is false for you.
4. **Repeat** steps 2-3 until the shirt is all marked up.
Say: Ugh. This shirt shows how sinful choices leave permanent marks on our hearts. But God loves us. Watch!
5. **Cover** marked-up t-shirt with the clean t-shirt.
Say: God's *grace* wins! When we trust and follow Jesus, He covers us with *His* goodness. We're friends with God!
6. You can let the kids **decorate** *only* the marked shirt after for more fun.

Family Discussion

Say the point and Bible verse together.

Everyone sins, but God's grace wins.

Romans 6:23 NLT

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

1. **What is eternal life?** *Being close to God right now and living with Him forever in Heaven when you die*

Choose a few review questions.

1. **What do you think it means to "sin"?** *Answers will vary. Ideas: Make a wrong choice, hurt others, go against God's way, act mean, disobey, etc.*
2. **All people, including you and me, "sin." How do you think sin hurts us?** *Answers will vary.*
3. **What does God's grace give us when we choose to follow Jesus?** *Forgiveness for our sin, forever friendship with God, power to say, "No!" to sin, etc.*
4. **Who do you think deserves God's grace?** *Answers will vary, but no one really deserves God's grace because we have all sinned. It is a free gift only Jesus can give us because He is the only one who didn't sin.*

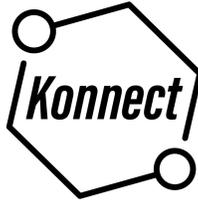
Choose an action step question.

1. **If you feel like your sin is too bad for God's grace, what can you do?** *Read the truth in the Bible, pray to God, talk to a trusted adult who follows Jesus, etc.*
2. **What can you do this week to show you're thankful for God's grace?** *Answers will vary.*

Pray together.

1. **Ask** kids to share things they'd like to pray about.
2. **Write down** their prayer requests.
3. **Pray** together over the prayer requests.

Not sure what to pray? Pray this: God, thanks for loving us even though we've all sinned. Please help us accept Your grace and forgiveness. In Jesus' name, amen.



I NEVER ACTIVITY SUPPLEMENT GRACE // WEEK 1

Reminder:

- If a statement is true for a kid (or for you!), they do nothing.
- If a statement is false for a kid (or for you!), they make a mark on the shirt.

Notes:

- Play along and make marks just like the kids as appropriate.
- DO NOT make kids feel ashamed about having to make a mark.
- DO remind kids that everyone—yes, everyone—sins. Help kids to see that most of us have done each and every one of these sins. And none of us have the power to make our hearts clean from our sins. But, God's grace wins!

I Never Statements

1. I never ignored my parent or any other leader when they told me to do something.
2. I never thought a mean thought about someone else.
3. I never have yelled at my brother, sister, or any other friend.
4. I never have been jealous that someone else got more attention or compliments than me.
5. I never sneaked a bite of something I wasn't supposed to eat yet.
6. I never stayed awake on purpose after my parents told me to go to sleep.
7. I never told a single lie in my life.
8. I never did something that was even a little bit rude to anyone.
9. I never stayed angry at someone after they apologized to me.
10. I never complained when it was time for me to do something I don't like to do.
11. I never argued when my parents or other leaders expected me to follow a rule I don't like.
12. I never did something that I needed to apologize for later.
13. I never took something that didn't belong to me without asking.
14. I never blamed something I did on someone else.
15. I never said something bad about someone else behind their back.
16. I never said a mean word to anyone.
17. I never did something wrong just because everyone else was doing it.
18. I never let someone else take the blame for something I did.
19. I never threw my food away or hid it and told a grown up I ate it.
20. I never skipped out on schoolwork just because I didn't want to do it.