

THE GREENHOUSE ASSEMBLY MINISTRIES

# GOSPEL FOUNDATIONS

A six-part guide for understanding grace, new life, faith and the shared life of a people reconciled to God.

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SCRIPTURE / REFLECTION / PRACTICE / CONVERSATION

WELCOME

# How to use this guide

The Gospel is not a private improvement plan or a religious escape from the world. It is the good news that God has acted in Jesus Christ to reconcile, restore and form a people for His life. Move through these sessions slowly. The aim is not to collect correct phrases, but to receive the truth of Christ in ways that change allegiance, attention and practice.

## A steady rhythm

Read the passages in your preferred Bible translation. Notice what they reveal about God, people and faithful response. Read the teaching slowly. Journal or discuss the questions without rushing for a polished answer. Finally, take the weekly practice into real life and return to share what you noticed.

## A note on care

These guides are designed for formation, not for bypassing pain, complexity or the need for responsible care. If a session raises significant personal, relational or safeguarding concerns, bring them to an appropriate pastoral, professional or emergency support route.

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SESSION 01

# The good news begins with God

Creation, gift and the purpose of human life

READ

Genesis 1:26-31; Psalm 8; John 1:1-5

TEACHING

The biblical story begins with a generous God, not with a human problem. Before sin fractures trust, people are created to receive life from God and to bear His image in the world. This means identity is received before it is achieved, and vocation is rooted in relationship before it becomes a question of performance.

REFLECT OR DISCUSS

1. Where have you made achievement carry the weight of identity?
2. What would it mean to receive life, ability and opportunity as gifts?
3. Where might ordinary work become a way to represent God's good care?

PRACTISE THIS WEEK

Begin each morning this week by naming three gifts before naming three tasks. Let gratitude set the order of your attention.

SESSION 02

# Sin names a real rupture

Worship, desire and the loss of true communion

READ

Genesis 3:1-13; Romans 1:18-25; Ephesians 2:1-5

TEACHING

Sin is more than isolated mistakes. It is a turning of trust away from God that bends worship, desire, relationship and the use of power. It disorders life from the inside out. Naming this truth is not an invitation to shame; it is the beginning of honesty about why self-repair is never enough.

REFLECT OR DISCUSS

1. What forms of self-protection become automatic when you feel exposed?
2. How does misplaced worship affect the way you use people, time or success?
3. What is the difference between conviction and condemnation?

PRACTISE THIS WEEK

Write one sentence that names a pattern without excuse. Follow it with a prayer that asks for mercy, courage and a truthful next step.

SESSION 03

# Grace meets us truthfully

The cross, mercy and reconciliation

READ

Romans 3:21-26; Romans 5:6-11; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

TEACHING

In Jesus, God does not minimise the rupture. Christ enters it, bears its cost and opens reconciliation. Grace is therefore neither denial nor indulgence. It is mercy with substance: God acts where we cannot save ourselves, then draws us into the life His mercy makes possible.

REFLECT OR DISCUSS

1. Which part of the Gospel feels hardest to receive: need, forgiveness, surrender or change?
2. How does the cross challenge both pride and despair?
3. What reconciliation may need a faithful beginning in your life?

PRACTISE THIS WEEK

Read Romans 5:6-11 aloud. Write a short prayer of gratitude that names what you cannot achieve for yourself and what Christ has freely given.

SESSION 04

# Faith becomes allegiance

Repentance, trust and a new centre

READ

Mark 1:14-15; Romans 6:1-14; Galatians 2:19-20

TEACHING

Faith is more than agreement with a set of claims. To trust Christ is to receive His grace and to allow that gift to change direction. Repentance is not merely regret; it is the turning of a life toward a new Lord. The Gospel frees people from the old master so they can learn the life of Christ with others.

REFLECT OR DISCUSS

1. Which old allegiance most competes with trust in Christ?
2. What would repentance look like beyond regret?
3. How can grace become visible without making truth optional?

PRACTISE THIS WEEK

Choose one concrete response that expresses new allegiance: a repair, a boundary, a confession or a practice of truthfulness.

SESSION 05

# New life is learned in community

Belonging, gifts and the body of Christ

READ

Acts 2:42-47; Ephesians 4:1-16; Colossians 3:12-17

TEACHING

The Gospel does not create isolated spiritual consumers. It gathers people into a reconciled body where gifts become service, truth is spoken in love and maturity is shared. Community does not remove difference or difficulty. It gives people a place to practise forgiveness, responsibility and durable love.

REFLECT OR DISCUSS

1. Where do you tend to treat faith as private?
2. What gift or responsibility could strengthen another person?
3. What habits make a community safer for truth and repair?

PRACTISE THIS WEEK

Offer one quiet act of service this week. Notice whether you are seeking visibility or genuinely seeking another person's good.

SESSION 06

# Grace sends people into real life

Witness, work and faithful presence

READ

Matthew 5:13-16; 1 Peter 2:9-12; Titus 2:11-14

TEACHING

Grace forms people for the places they already inhabit. The purpose is not to withdraw from the world, but to carry the character of Christ into homes, work, leadership, creativity and public responsibility. A formed life becomes a credible witness when its truth is joined to mercy, courage and usefulness.

REFLECT OR DISCUSS

1. Where has God already placed you to carry life?
2. What would faithful influence look like without self-promotion?
3. Which ordinary responsibility can become a form of witness?

PRACTISE THIS WEEK

Identify one place you influence. Pray for the courage to make it more truthful, more generous and more life-giving this week.

CONTINUE THE JOURNEY

## A thirty-day response

Choose one daily practice, one weekly practice and one relationship in which you will make room for truth, prayer and accountable growth. Keep the rule modest enough to be honest. Review it after thirty days with a trusted person, and adjust it in the direction of greater love, clarity and faithfulness.

### Closing prayer

Lord Jesus, centre us in Your life. Give us patient attention to Your word, courage to name what is true and grace to practise the next faithful step. Form us into people whose love becomes useful in homes, work, communities and every place entrusted to us. Amen.

THE GREENHOUSE ASSEMBLY / KNOW. BECOME. BELONG. SERVE. INFLUENCE.