

THE GRACE AWAKENING  
THE GRACE TO LET OTHERS BE  
ROMANS 14:1-17



## The Heart of the Matter

Grace comes to us in two dimensions: vertical and horizontal. Vertical grace centers on our relationships with God. Freeing us from the demands and the condemnation of the Mosaic Law, vertical grace gives hope to the sinner by not only providing eternal life but also freeing us from any requirement to pay back God. Vertical grace is truly amazing! Horizontal grace centers on our relationships with others. Relieved from our guilt and shame, when we walk in grace, we're free from the tyranny of pleasing people. We're free from their demands and expectations, and they're free from ours. When we demonstrate horizontal grace, we accept others as they are. We have no personal agenda to make anyone be someone he or she is not. Horizontal grace is truly charming! In this lesson, let's turn our attention to that horizontal dimension and learn to help others find the same freedom God grants us, as we accept them as they are and release them to learn and grow.



## Discovering the Way

### 1. Two Strong Tendencies That Nullify Grace

Some of us struggle with two tendencies that, when practiced, nullify grace: comparing ourselves to others and seeking to control others.

### 2. Four Biblical Guidelines That Personify Grace (Romans 14:1-17)

We can personify grace when we remember that accepting others is basic to letting them be, releasing others allows the Lord to direct the details we're not qualified to fill, freeing others means we never assume a role, and loving others requires us to express our liberty wisely.



## Starting Your Journey

These three actions will help you to magnify grace in your life: first, refocus on things that encourage peace; second, remember that sabotaging saints hurts God's work; and, third, refuse to play God in anyone's life!



## Tools for Digging Deeper



**The Grace Awakening**  
by Charles R. Swindoll  
CD series



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hardcover book



**The Grace Awakening Bible Companion**  
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