

THE GRACE AWAKENING
BRINGING GRACE UP CLOSE
SELECTED SCRIPTURES



The Heart of the Matter

More than three hundred years ago, John Bunyan wrote his immortal work, *The Pilgrim's Progress*. It's the fascinating story of one man's pilgrimage from earth to heaven and the numerous obstacles he encountered along the way. Those familiar with the story have no trouble remembering the pilgrim's name: Christian. However, most don't recall that Christian's given name was Graceless. All of us who claim the name of Christ as Savior have a similar story. Our name is now Christian, but it was not always so. Before Christ became part of our lives, we were people who lacked grace. Unfortunately, there are some whose names have been changed—who have believed in Christ as Savior—and yet their lives remain graceless. As we begin this lesson, stop and ask yourself, *Am I one of them?* Keep your answer in mind as we discover together the impact that grace can make in a person's life . . . especially in areas where virtually everyone struggles.



Discovering the Way

1. Understanding God's Goal

God seeks to transform us by His grace, a process that takes time, includes pain, and requires change.

2. Claiming God's Grace (1 Corinthians 15:6–10; 2 Corinthians 12:7–10; 1 Peter 5:5–6)

To overcome our many struggles, we must claim the grace to be who we are, to admit that we are weak, and to submit to what we need.



Starting Your Journey

We can accept God's plan by being *patient* during God's time, being *willing* to accept the pain, and being *open* to whatever changes.



Tools for Digging Deeper



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