

### **Introduction: How do we live for Christ in a divided world?**

*The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, **full of grace and truth.***

John 1:14

God sent us to show His \_\_\_\_\_ and His \_\_\_\_\_ to people He wants in heaven.

### **Our mission:**

To show God's heart of grace and truth to specific people in our lives.

**Who is one specific person in your life who God wants to be in heaven?**

### How to be full of grace and truth in a rapidly changing world:

#### 1. We remain rooted in God's Word.

In a world where truth is feelings-based, we will remain rooted to the Scriptures and its life-giving direction.

Psalm 119  
Colossians 3:16a  
2 Timothy 3:16  
2 Corinthians 10:4-5

#### 2. We train our young.

We will train our young in the freedom and power of Christian truth.

Deuteronomy 11:16-21  
2 Timothy 2:2

#### 3. We are known for doing good.

We will be known for doing good, serving the least of these and loving our neighbors.

1 Peter 2:12  
Matthew 5:16  
Romans 12:21

#### 4. We dignify all people as image bearers of God.

In a world where people are treated as commodities or as opponents, we will dignify all people as image bearers of God.

Colossians 3:12-15  
1 Corinthians 13:3

### 5. We behave as ambassadors.

We will be ambassadors, behaving diplomatically.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

Philippians 3:20

### 6. We love our persecutors.

In a world where opponents are vilified,  
we will love our persecutors.

John 1:14

Matthew 5:44

Romans 12:14-21

### 7. We remain calm.

In a world driven by fear and unrest, we will remain calm,  
confident that our Father provides our daily bread.

Matthew 6:11

Philippians 4:19

### 8. We will be invincible.

We will be invincible as we serve God's purposes  
for which we are placed here, now.

John 10:18

John 18:36

John 19:11

Matthew 10:28

Daniel 3:19-30

Daniel 6

Esther 3-8

### 9. We will be fearless.

In a world divided by violence, terrorism, and war,  
we will be fearless.

Isaiah 8:12-13

Matthew 24:6

2 Timothy 1:7

### Discussion Questions:

1. In John 1:14, most translations use the phrase “full of grace and truth” to describe the behavior of Jesus on earth. How does the idea of being “full of grace and truth” help you navigate a situation you are facing?
2. Which of the 9 responses that we can adopt in order to be “full of grace and truth” in a changing world spoke the most to you? What do you like or see as helpful about this response?
3. Take the time to read the Scripture passages for the 9 responses. How does God’s Word direct your response to a changing and divided world?
4. Choose one response that you can apply this week, and take a moment to pray for God’s strength to live this way.