Sep 13, 2026

Grace Group Discussion Guide

“Remember the Gospel’s Power & Rejoice in It”
2 Timothy 1:8-11
Scott Ardavanis

Questions

Fear and Shame

1. What situations or relationships tend to tempt you to feel fearful or ashamed of Christ and the gospel?
2. What does that fear reveal about what you are trusting or valuing?
3. What specific step can you take this week to fight fear and openly identify with Christ?

Depending on God’s power - “Do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord… but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God.” — 2 Timothy 1:8

4. When you are afraid, what happens when you try to “do better,” try harder, or simply “pull yourself up by the bootstraps”?
5. Why is self-reliance inadequate when we are called to stand boldly for Christ?
6. What would it look like this week to depend on the power of God rather than your own strength?
7. Where specifically do you need to ask God for courage and strength?

Saved by grace, not by our works - “Who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace.” — 2 Timothy 1:9

8. What are some things people are tempted to rely on for their sense of worth or spiritual standing—family heritage, reputation, money, status, accomplishments, morality, or ministry?
9. Are there ways you are tempted to find your identity or security in what you have done rather than in what God has done?
10. How should the truth that God saved us according to His purpose and grace, rather than our works, affect the way we live?
11. How should grace produce both humility and boldness in the Christian life?

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God's eternal purpose - God's grace and purpose were given to us "before the ages began." — 2 Timothy 1:9

12. What does it mean to you that God's saving purpose and grace toward His people did not begin with your performance, but in His eternal purpose?
13. How should this truth affect the way you view your past, present circumstances, and future?
14. How should the reality of God's eternal purpose move us toward worship, gratitude, confidence, and obedience?

Be bold! Be courageous!

15. Pastor Scott challenged us: "Be bold! Be courageous!" Where is God calling you to be more courageous in your faith right now?
16. Is there a person, conversation, situation, or opportunity where fear is keeping you from speaking or acting for Christ?
17. What would biblical courage look like in that situation?
18. What specific action will you take this week to obey God and step out in courage?
19. How can the group pray for you as you take that step?

Memory Verse:

Psalm 56:3-4

Missions Prayer Requests – Stepanian Family

1. Please pray for revival in East Africa! Pray that God would pour out his Spirit and that many souls would come to Christ and be saved!
2. Please pray for our local church to be strengthened in knowledge of the Word, in wisdom, in practicing the one-another's, and by the addition of more qualified Elders.
3. Please pray for our hearts as we grieve the loss of Nina and Jack; and for faithfulness at home as we continue to train and teach, discipline and disciple the 10 kids around our table.
4. Please pray for the remainder of 2026 - That John Paul and Sarah would reengage the life of the ministry, our personal responsibilities, and all the opportunities for loving and serving and teaching and leading that the Lord gives to us as we finish out this year. And also for the youth conference in Karuma in December: for faithful and fruitful ministry.