



I LOVE MY CONNECT

STUDY 6

An Indescribable Gift

2 Cor 9:15, 2 Cor 8:9, 1 Pet 4:10, 2 Cor 9:8

"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" states Paul in 2 Cor 9:15. This gift is the same one mentioned in 2 Cor 8:9, 1 Pet 4:10 and 2 Cor 9:8. It's talking about the indescribable grace of God. A manifold or many layered grace that is by no means one dimensional. A grace which contains a sufficiency in all things and an abundance for every good work. There's the parts you can describe, such as a crucified Saviour between two thieves on a cross but what was accomplished is indescribable. And it's not just what happened then, for them, it's what still happens now for us. The effects of it keep on going on.

When we know what life is for it has so much more purpose. Whichever way it is that God blesses you; never, ever misunderstand what it's for because it's never just for us. It is for the good work that God has called us to. God is faithful to his word and he knows how to look after us but it is always about something that is much bigger than us. An abundance for every good work.

When someone decides they want to live their life for God and to live as vessels for everything He gave His life for, most of its impact, naturally speaking, we will never know. But in eternity what is happening is just physically indescribable. It has eternal effects. The impact is also manifold! It causes multiplication and increase, brings praise to God through you, makes a difference in people's lives, has a generational impact, makes our confession of faith authentic, spreads the gospel far and wide, and attracts prayer and favour.

CONNECTION AND ACTION Use these questions to promote conversation and connection.

- Q:** Describe a memorable gift you have received. ? (**Leaders Tip:** This is a conversation starter).
- Q:** How has your understanding or experience of God's grace grown recently?
- Q:** In what ways do you think God's grace can manifest itself in a person's life?
- Q:** How do you see God's grace outworked in each other's lives? (**Leaders Tip:** Use this question as a way for everyone to speak encouragement to each other in your group).
- Q:** What might "God's-grace-at-work-in-you-for-the-benefit-of-others" look like in your home, workplace, business or place of study?
- Q:** What things get in the way of us living a life for the benefit of others? How can we overcome them?
- Q:** God graces us to have an impact in the world and the lives of others that extends beyond our lifetime. What does this fact tell us about God?

HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- EASTER WEEKEND – Who can you invite to church during this powerful weekend!! From our Good Friday services (joining in Communion) to our Resurrection Sunday services (with Reinhard Bonnke Sunday night), we will be celebrating the Cross = Love message of Jesus. See easter.myhillsong.com for service times and everything you need to know.

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BIBLE AND BELIEF Use these questions and scriptures to help believers develop a Biblical worldview.

Read: 1 Peter 4:10, Rom 12:6-8, 1 Cor 12:4-7, 2 Cor 8:1-7, 9:8-11

Each of these passages explores how God has graced us for impact.

- Q:** Why do these passages use the term "grace" to describe God's empowerment?
- Q:** How does "grace for empowerment (service)" relate to "grace as undeserved favour (salvation & blessing)"?
- Q:** What kind of empowerment are these passages talking about?
- Q:** Where do natural talents and abilities fall in relation to the gifts described in these passages?
- Q:** What do these passages teach us about how to excel in gracious empowerment?
- Q:** What other passages can you think of that are relevant to this topic?
- Q:** What conclusions can you make from this study?
- Q:** What ways do you need to apply your findings from this study?

GROWING LEADERSHIP Use these questions to help people in your group grow as leaders.

- Q:** How ought grace be demonstrated in the life and ministry of a leader? (**Leader's Tip:** Think in two broad areas – the leader's generous attitude towards those they lead, and their supernatural empowerment for the task).
- Q:** How can this thought be applied in a non-church environment – like business, work or study?
- Q:** Describe how you got the revelation that your life was for a purpose larger than yourself, and God's blessing upon you was for others.
- Q:** How can we help those in our Connect Group or team get this revelation?

Check Up

Check in with leaders in your group on:

- How they are going to lead this study in their Connect Group.

PRAY TOGETHER

- Easter Weekend – People to encounter Jesus!
- People you can invite & bring to Easter
- Nation Builders Faith Goal
- Ps Brian & Bobbie Houston

PASTORAL CARE

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside of people in your group who may be going through a tough time
- Please contact the church office Sydney 02 8853 5353 or Brisbane 07 3422 8500 to let us know of anybody in your group (with their permission) who have sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, surgeries.

NATION BUILDERS Use this section to inspire and inform people on the difference their giving can make. Together we support

1. **Church Planting.** Amsterdam, Berlin, Japan, Moscow, Paris, Stockholm, Constance, Toronto.
2. **Gospel Missions.** Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) Hillsong TV and overseas workers in South East Asia (China, Thailand and South East Asia)

In previous years, we sowed seed into Churches in London, Kiev and Cape Town. Today we see incredible fruit! How exciting that we can now plant seed into new Churches like NYC and Germany. Your giving TODAY will make a difference in the nations TOMORROW!

If you haven't already done so, please take the time during you next meeting to set a new Nation Builders Faith Goal for your Connect Group in 2012.

