

# TUESDAY MORNING

# QUIET TIME

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Students at the Mill United Camp 2025! Whether this is your first time at camp, first time at church, or you've attended Church at the Mill for a long time, the NextGen Team is so honored that you took time out of your Summer to join us!

As part of the schedule this week, you will be spending about 30 minutes alone every day studying Scripture and spending time with the Lord. These times are an opportunity to reflect on what you have learned and are designed to help you build good devotional habits that, hopefully, follow you beyond this week at camp. Your Scripture for the devotion this week comes from the "5 Solas" of salvation that you will learn about during each session at camp!

If this is your first time opening the Bible to do personal devotion time, then we hope this will be an inviting, simple introduction to the power and joy of God's Word. Just follow the instructions, read the Scriptures, and we believe God will meet you in a mighty way. We can't wait to see what God teaches you through His Word!

## DOCTRINE OF THE DAY: SOLA GRATIA

We are declared righteous before God...

- **by grace alone**
- on the basis of Christ's work alone,
- through faith alone,
- for the ultimate glory of God alone,
- according to Scripture alone.

Sola Gratia means "Grace Alone." When we preach "Sola Gratia" we mean that **we are saved by God's grace alone.**

Before we let Scripture define this for us, how would you define the word "grace?"

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Read this scripture: **EPHESIANS 2:1-10**

"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins [2] in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—[3] among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. [4] But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, [5] even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—[6] and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, [7] so that in the coming ages he might show

the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. [8] For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, [9] not a result of works, so that no one may boast. [10] For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

We see God’s grace all over Scripture, but it’s really clear in this passage in Ephesians. “Grace,” according to Scripture, is the goodness of God given to those who believe in him that is completely and utterly undeserved. Here, Paul is writing this letter to a church that he dearly loves, and he wants to remind them of the goodness of God towards them. In chapter 2, Paul starts by reminding them what their lives were like before Jesus saved them (verses 2:1-3). He says that apart from Christ, they were dead in their sins, completely unable to save themselves. But in verse 4, we see the truth of the Gospel: “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.” Even when we were dead, God made us alive!

Why do you think Paul used the image of “death” and “life” to teach about God’s grace?

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What does Paul say immediately after this? (At the very end of verse 5!)

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“By grace you have been saved...” We were dead, and then God made us alive. What can dead people do for themselves? Absolutely nothing! Paul compares our ability to earn God’s grace to a dead person trying to bring themselves back to life—impossible. Just like dead people can’t make themselves live again, we have no hope of earning God’s grace. We cannot earn it, deserve it, or work for it. The good news is that if you entrust yourself to him as your Savior and Lord, God pours his grace on undeserving people without reservation. “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.” Praise the Lord, we are saved by grace alone.

Do you actually believe that God’s grace is a gift? Do you catch yourself worrying that God’s grace doesn’t apply to you?

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What part of this passage stuck out to you? Why?

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# WEDNESDAY MORNING QUIET TIME



DOCTRINE  
OF THE DAY:

## SO LA CHRISTUS

We are declared righteous before God...

- by grace alone
- **on the basis of Christ's work alone,**
- through faith alone,
- for the ultimate glory of God alone,
- according to Scripture alone.

Today, we're going to be looking at the doctrine of salvation on the basis of "Christ alone." When we preach salvation through Christ alone, we mean that our salvation is made possible by Jesus's work on the cross, and that his sacrifice is completely sufficient to accomplish our salvation—Christ, and Christ alone, is what makes us righteous before God.

Before we read the Scripture for today, answer these questions about who you think Jesus is:

If someone asked you "who is Jesus?" how would you answer?

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Do you believe Jesus is God?

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Do you believe Jesus was a real person?

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Do you believe Jesus actually died on a cross? Do you believe he actually rose from the dead?

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Read this scripture: **Hebrews 9:12-14**

"[12] he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. [13] For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, [14] how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God."

According to Scripture, Jesus is the Son of God and completely equal to God in every way. Jesus shows us the heart of God the Father, and is his perfect reflection to us. If we have seen him, we "have seen the Father" (John 14:7). The reason

Jesus's identity matters so much is because of what Jesus did. When Jesus came to earth, he was still God. And the Bible tells us that Jesus died. The Son of God died. The Creator of heaven and earth, the One who holds all things together, came to earth and then he died—heartbeat-stopped, lungs-empty, buried-in-a-tomb, dead. Why did he have to die?

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The reason Jesus had to die is because we have a great need. We were made to be with God, but we sin. We fail. We miss the mark. Every single one of us is hopelessly not holy and without holiness, we cannot be with God. When we stand before God, holiness is the standard, and we don't qualify: "no one is righteous, no not one" (Rom 3:10).

We need a substitute. We need someone to make us holy. For a while, in the Old Testament, God provided a temporary solution through the sacrificial system. People would bring offerings of animals (that's "the blood of goats and bulls" that Hebrews is talking about) and their blood would cover their sins until they sinned again, and then they had to find another goat and go to the temple again. But what does Hebrews say? Jesus "entered once for all into the holy places" and offered his own blood as the sacrifice. Not an animal slain for your sin, but the Son of God—beaten, nailed, and hung on a cross to be your substitute. Your sin, but his blood.

On the cross, the punishment for your sin fell on Jesus and the holiness of Jesus is now offered to you. There is no one and no thing that can accomplish your holiness before God apart from Christ—**salvation through Christ alone**. "Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!" (2 Cor 9:15).

Have you ever trusted in Christ alone to save you from your sins?

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If you have, take a few minutes to think about all that God has done for you in Christ.

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Is there any part of your heart or mind that thinks you still have to earn your salvation?

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# THURSDAY MORNING

# QUIET TIME

## DOCTRINE OF THE DAY: SOLA FIDE

We are declared righteous before God...

- by grace alone
- on the basis of Christ's work alone,
- **through faith alone,**
- for the ultimate glory of God alone,
- according to Scripture alone.

Today, we are looking at the doctrine of salvation through "Faith Alone." When we preach "Sola Fide," we mean that we are saved through our faith in Christ alone. We do not trust our own ability to follow Jesus or earn salvation. God does not declare anyone righteous unless they call on God to save them. Salvation is a free gift of God, received by faith in him.

Before we read the Scripture for today, answer these questions:

If someone asked you what having "faith in Jesus" meant, what would you tell them?

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Have you put your faith in Jesus to save you from your sins? If you have, what was that like? How does that affect your daily life?

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Read **Romans 5:1-2** slowly, and then put it in your own words here:

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

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Let's take a moment to make sure we understand this passage. Paul tells the church in Rome that we have been "justified by faith"—what does it mean to be justified? To be "justified" speaks to our standing before God, and it means "to be declared just." To be "justified" means God looks at someone "just as if they had never sinned." Paul tells us here that we are "justified," declared righteous, "by faith." The only thing we have to do to receive God's free gift of salvation is have faith in Christ.

But what happens once we have believed in him? The rest of verse 1 tells us that "since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Faith alone allows us to have perfect peace with God. Have you ever felt like God was angry with you? Have you ever been convinced that God secretly resents your failure to obey him? We have a tendency to think that God treats us the same way sinful people do, and that one day his mercy and love for us will run out. According to his Word that never changes, if we have faith in Christ, we are justified before God. If we have faith in Christ, we have peace with God.

No matter what you have done, no matter how broken your life is, no matter how long you've been away from God's presence—you can have peace with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Come into his presence today with great confidence knowing that Jesus Christ has secured your eternal redemption through his blood, and the only thing you have to do is believe and receive his never-ending grace.

Do you feel like you have "peace with God?" Why or why not?

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Do you find it difficult to trust God? What are some areas in your life that you need to surrender to God today?

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# FRIDAY MORNING QUIET TIME

## DOCTRINE OF THE DAY: SOLA SCRIPTURA

We are declared righteous before God...

- by grace alone
- on the basis of Christ's work alone,
- through faith alone,
- for the ultimate glory of God alone,
- **according to Scripture alone.**

Today, we are looking at the doctrine of salvation according to Scripture alone. This one may seem different from the others because God's Word is a thing we can hold in our hands, unlike the concepts of grace and faith. Hopefully this week you have spent lots of time in your Bible during quiet times, sermons, and breakout sessions. But why is God's Word such a big deal to us? Why does it matter that we receive and walk out our salvation on the basis of Scripture alone?

Write your initial thoughts here:

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Many of us get our ideas about things from all kinds of places. You may get ideas about how to dress, how to talk, things to cook, or video games to play from friends and social media. Just for a moment, think about all the different places you could go to find answers to the questions you have in your daily life—there are so many options for us, many more than there have ever been. And we see the effects of this all the time. Video games and fashion choices are so much less important than the condition of your soul, and yet so many people go to the same place to learn about God and about what to eat for dinner. This is why God's Word is so important, especially now.

Have you ever heard someone talking about God or the Bible on social media? Was it true or false information? Did it make you question anything you thought was true?

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Read **Jude 3-4** and **2 Timothy 3:14-17** (the book of Jude is only one chapter, so just read verses 3 & 4!)

"Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ."

“But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

Jude tells us that false teachers have “crept in unnoticed...”—what does Jude say these false teachers are guilty of in verse 4?

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In 2 Timothy 3:16, Paul lists things that God’s Word is “profitable” or “useful” for—list them here:

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We believe that God’s Word is written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, which means the Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Old and New Testaments to write God’s words (this is what Paul means when he calls Scripture “God-breathed” in 2 Timothy). We believe that because the Bible is “God-breathed,” that it is also inerrant, which means “without error.” We also believe that the Bible is authoritative, which means that God’s Word has the final say on all things—culture, circumstances, and opinions bow to the ultimate authority of God’s Word. It is the ultimate and absolute truth.

Do you believe in God’s Word as “authoritative?”

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What are the challenges you could face if you stand for truth in your family, in your school, or in your community?

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From God’s Word we understand God’s redemptive grace, we see the character of God on display in Jesus, we understand what it means to have faith in Jesus’s finished work on the cross, and we see God’s ultimate glory. In a world full of subjective truth and compromise, we have to stand on what is ultimately true about God and about us. And, if what the Bible says about God is true, (which we believe it is!) then we believe submitting to Scripture is discovering God’s best for us. He has promised us “life, and life in abundance” (John 10:10).

# SATURDAY MORNING QUIET TIME



DOCTRINE  
OF THE DAY:

## SOLA DE GLORIA

We are declared righteous before God...

- by grace alone
- on the basis of Christ's work alone,
- through faith alone,
- **for the ultimate glory of God alone,**
- according to Scripture alone.

"Sola deo Gloria" means "Glory to God Alone." When we preach "Sola deo Gloria," we mean two big things:

1. We believe that God is the only one who deserves glory.
2. We believe that glory should be given to nothing besides God.

Before we read the Scripture for today, what are your first thoughts about God's glory? What does that mean to you?

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Read this Scripture: **Titus 2:11-14**

"[11] For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, [12] training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, [13] waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, [14] who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works."

The book of Titus written to a young believer who was given a hard task and facing lonely leadership. Paul, the author of this letter, writes to encourage Titus and remind him of the most important thing: the Gospel that saves and sustains him. These verses in chapter two are where we see Paul connect everything together: "the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people..." God's grace has appeared in Jesus, and He brings the message of salvation to all who would believe in Him. Praise the Lord! But have you ever stopped to wonder why God did this? If God is all-powerful, why would he go through all the trouble of sending his Son, only to have him die? Write your thoughts here:

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He has brought salvation to all people and, by his grace, teaches us how to live godly lives as we “wait for our blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.” Yes, God loves us and wants us to know him—but the ultimate purpose of our salvation is to bring glory to God alone. We wrongly think that God gives us gifts, talents, relationships, and opportunities so that we will be happy and live easy lives. God does want our joy, but more than that, God desires his glory to be known among all people.

Everything you are given, including your salvation, is ultimately so that God would be glorified. Here’s the good news: if you belong to Christ, his greatest glory is also your greatest good. For “from him and to him and through him are all things. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.” (Rom 11:36)

Do you think your life is bringing glory to God?

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Is there anything in your life that you know does not bring glory to God?

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Consider the things in your life that you know don’t glorify God—and take this time to confess them to God, knowing that His grace is sufficient to cover all of our sins.

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