

7. What makes it possible for a person to live a new life (Rom. 6:4)?

8. Before a person is united to Christ, to what is he or she a slave (Rom. 6:6)? How does being united with Christ through His death change our relationship to sin (Rom. 6:7)?

9. How does God help a person discard old habits and tendencies?

**Let's Pray:**

For our missionaries:

*Ben and Jen Wood and family - ZOE - Thailand*

Pray for the Wood family as they seek to reach the lost in Thailand; for Jen's continued recovery from gall bladder surgery and the kids missing family during the holidays.

In what ways can you thank God today for the grace He has bestowed on you?

# Sermon Notes

"When Grace is No Longer Grace"

Romans 5:20 – 6:2

January 3, 2016

**Introduction:**

1. Jesus is able to save us from \_\_\_\_\_  
(5:20-21).

2. Jesus saved us \_\_\_\_\_  
(6:1-2).

## Conclusion:

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of 01-03-16

Questions adapted from James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 228, 229, 287.

## Getting Started:

1. Who are some people you know whose lives were dramatically changed at some point? How?

## Digging Deeper:

2. READ: Romans 5:20 – 6:14. What affect did God's righteous law have on rebellious people (5:20)? Have you ever observed this principle in yourself or others? Explain.
3. **Optional Further Study:** How do these passages contribute to the idea that God is able to forgive any and all sin?

1 Tim. 1:15-16  
Titus 2:14  
Heb. 10:10-14  
1 John 1:9

4. What about the "unpardonable sin" (Matt. 12:31-32; cf. Luke 12:10)? Isn't that a sin that cannot be overcome by God's grace?

To find out what this sin involves, read the whole context of this passage, Matthew 12:22-37. Also read the parallel passage in Mark 3:20-30. What were the religious leaders doing that Jesus warned against?

While there are some who would teach that this sin cannot be duplicated today, since it involved the visible presence of the Son of Man performing undeniable rescues of people from Satan's power. Others, while teaching that it can occur today, note that it is a "persistent and unrepentant resistance against the work of the Holy Spirit and his message concerning Jesus" (ESV Study Bible, n. at Luke 12:10) as typified by the religious leaders who opposed Jesus.

5. Why should a Christian make a strong effort not to sin even though he or she knows God has forgiven and will forgive those sins (Rom. 6:1-2)?
6. **Optional Further Study:** How do these passages teach that God's purpose is for life change?

2 Cor. 5:17  
Eph. 2:10  
1 Peter 1:15; 2:24  
1 John 3:2-3