



TALK IT OVER

KEY SCRIPTURES

²⁴ Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. ²⁵ All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen.

Jude 1:24-25

¹⁰ But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace.

1 Corinthians 15:10

SUSTAINING GRACE

The continual cooperative effort between you and God to reorient your heart toward Him.

KEY QUOTES

“Sustaining Grace starts and ends with God, but it doesn’t deny the need for our participation towards Christlikeness.”

Dr. David Busic

“Christlikeness is what happens when someone has made a thousand small choices, requiring effort and concentration, to do something which is good and right but which doesn’t ‘come naturally’—and then, on the thousand and first time, when it really matters, they find that they do what’s required ‘automatically,’ as we say.”

N.T. Wright

Select 1 or 2 questions from each section of this guide to lead your group or house church in a discussion. Feel free to adjust as needed. Each section is designed to follow each video segment of the message.

- **Video Section #1: Explore the Topic**
 - > Start it Out | Goal: Get people talking
- **Video Section #2: Explore what God says about the Topic**
 - > Talk it Out | Goal: Get the group talking about scripture
- **Video Section #3: Explore what we do with the Topic**
 - > Live it Out | Goal: Choose a question to encourage next steps
 - > Pray it Out | Goal: Lift of prayers, petitions, and praises

Start it Out | Goal: Get people talking

- In your opinion, what keeps a church from being raw, real, and gritty?
- Review the definition of **SUSTAINING GRACE**; What has been your experience with God’s sustaining grace
- **Say:** Pastor Steve mentioned four things people have confused as God’s Sustaining Grace: 1. Experience 2. Behavior 3. Knowledge and 4. Works. In what ways have these four failed to deliver to you the desired results of sustaining grace? Why do you think that is?

Talk it Out | Goal: Get the group talking about scripture

- Read **Jude 1:24-25**. What are the implications of God’s sustaining grace as outlined in the passage?
- Review Dr. Busic’s quote under **KEY QUOTES** What do you believe is God’s role towards sustaining grace and our participation towards Christlikeness?
- What do you think about the implication between “a miracle” and “acquired skill” for Capt. Sullenberger to land a plane safely on the Hudson River in New York? How does that relate to Christlikeness?
- Have the Group respond to N.T. Wright’s quote.

Live it Out | Goal: Choose a question to encourage next steps

- How can you live out both the “Spiritual” and “Practical” implications of God’s sustaining grace this week?
- N.T. Wrights Illustration of the gardener implies the necessity for us to tend to our spiritual gardens; What areas of your spiritual garden needs to be tended to this week?

Pray it Out | Goal: Lift up prayers, petitions, and praises

- How can we pray for you this week? *Take notes and follow up next week.*