

Why Can't I Stop?

Opening Questions:

What were some funny habits that you had when you were a kid?
What part of the message was most impactful to you and why?

Define GRACE:

- Find a couple of passages in the Bible that talk about grace.
- What do each of the passages specifically say about grace?
- Based on those scriptures, how would you define grace?
(Don't try to give a perfect definition, just highlight major ideas)
- Does your definition of grace challenge any of your former understandings of it?

Read Romans 3:23-24

- What words jump out to you in that passage and why?
- What does it mean when Paul says all fall short of the glory of God?
- Do you think the 'all' in these verses applies to people that don't have faith? If so, how?
- Is grace needed if there is no sin?

Pastor David spend a lot of time explaining the relationship between God's work in grace and our effort in sanctifying grace.

- Can someone explain the relationship between the two to the rest of the group?
- What happens when we try to change without grace?
- What happens if we don't put forth effort in our own sanctification?

Have you ever experienced the freedom God brings through the means of grace (i.e. the regular practices of Christian faith - prayer, Bible reading, fasting, giving, worship, etc.)

- If so, share with the group your story.
- Did you realize God's grace playing a role in your experience of change?

Application:

What do you need to do in your life to 'put up your sail and catch the wind of the Holy Spirit, the power of God's grace?'

Prayer

- Share praises and prayer requests with one another.

Guided prayer: Father, it can be really easy to believe we need to earn Your approval. Remind us of Your grace, which not only forgives our sins but also frees us from them, too. Please help us have hearts focused only on You. In Jesus' name, amen.