Leader note: This Message Guide is intended to help you facilitate discussion with your Grace Group. You can use the guide exactly as it is, ignore some of it, or add to it. We hope you view this guide as a flexible teaching tool, and not a rigid teaching task.

#### **WEEK OF JANUARY 29TH**

Please review this week's group leader announcements on the group resources page (www.gracefellowship.cc/groupresources).

#### **ICEBREAKER QUESTION**

Tell the story (if there is one) behind your middle name.

### **WORDS THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE - HELP (Scriptures: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)**

- 1. Tell a story about a time when you had to call a parent or friend for help.
- 2. What emotions do you have when you need to ask for help?
- 3. Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. What are the advantages mentioned here for not doing everything by yourself?
- 4. Read Galatians 6:1-2. What do you think Pauls means here by "restore that person gently?" (Paul doesn't assume we will fight our way out of sin entirely on our own. Instead, he instructs other, spiritually mature Christians to step in and restore us. It's a delicate job, though. These helpers will need to be spiritually mature, people who are clearly walking by the Spirit themselves. They will need to be gentle, not harsh or condemning. And they will need to be humble to avoid being tempted by sin themselves. from bibleref.com)
- 5. Read Proverbs 15:22. Describe a time when you sought wise counsel from several people around a decision you had to make.
- 6. Read Psalm 121:1-2. If your prayer life includes asking God for help, what do you typically ask him for?
- 7. In what ways do you feel like you help others?
- 8. What does this statement say to you? "When asking God for help, God already knows everything about you."
- 9. The last point in the weekend message was something like "in all things, in all times, run to God for help." Discuss these truths found in scripture:
  - Needing help has always been part of God's design for us.
  - Asking for help is a blessing for others.
  - Asking for help acknowledges the truth of our need for God's grace.

### **ACTION STEP**

The action step out of the weekend message was to pray this prayer: "Father, show me where I need help and show me where I could help."

# ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES (related to getting help)

John 14:13-16 Matthew 7:7 Isaiah 41:10 Philippians 4:6-7 Hebrews 4:16 Psalm 124:8 Isaiah 41:13 Joshua 1:9

## **SHEPHERDING / CARE / PRAYER**

Looking for new ways to pray for your group and group members? Check this out:

https://smallgroupnetwork.com/a-small-group-leaders-30-day-prayer-guide/