

The Purpose of Grace Growth Groups:

Growth Groups help you take your next step with God by developing meaningful friendships built around God's Word. As we connect with one another and with God's Word, incredible things take place and we naturally grow. In community, this growth occurs through 4 primary activities:

We SHARE Life

Each week we'll take time to connect and share what is happening in our lives. This will become more natural as we begin to feel more comfortable with one another. Sharing life and accepting each other is essential to the healthy relationships needed for growth groups.

We STUDY God's Word

Each week we'll study the previous week's sermon text, though we will not rehash the sermon. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life. Accountability to God's Word is transformational and brings spiritual growth in our lives. We also take time to seek God in prayer for relevant needs and issues present in our group.

We SUPPORT Each Other

Each week we'll learn how to care for one another as Christ instructed us. People who know each other well, care for each other well. This care will take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging, accountability, advice, and meeting real needs.

We SERVE Together

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. Jesus reminds us that the world will know we're his disciples by our love. The role each member fills in serving one another and the local community is essential; for we were created to serve others, not ourselves. Throughout the semester, we will serve the other members of our group and together the group will serve the local community through one service project.



MESSAGE SERIES: 1 Chronicles
Message: Census Consensus
Sermon Text: 1 Chronicles 21:1-30

Pastor Darrell Jones
Grace Evangelical Church
September 16, 2018

Sermon Notes

I. What's wrong with David's counting the people?

A. _____ said not to.

B. The idea was prompted by _____.

II. David's personal repentance:

A. David chooses a personal _____.

B. David gives God a personal _____.

Growth Group Guide

For the week of September 16, 2018

Welcome to week 2 of Grace Growth Group's Fall Session. We pray that week 1 went well for you all. If you are not in Growth Group but would like to be please see Pastor Ken Maxey (or any Pastor) to find out how to join one. If you are part of a G3, we strongly urge you to read, ponder, and even write down how you would answer the following questions. This week our passage is **1 Chronicles 21**.

MY STORY:

1. This week's passage is full of people who had to make choices. So let's play "Would you rather". Everyone in the group must vote between two options. So here you go – WOULD YOU RATHER.....

- lose your sense of taste OR lose your sense of hearing
- be able to run 100mph unlimited distances OR fly up to 10 mph unlimited distances?
- be super funny OR a super singer?

QUICK REVIEW:

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

EXPLORING THE PASSAGE

1. In the sermon this Sunday the point was made that David could legitimately say that Satan prompted the idea to take the census; or as the late comedian Flip Wilson would say "the devil made me do it". As a kid when was a time or two you wish you could have used that excuse with a parent or teacher? How did most authority figures respond to your excuses?

2. Why do you think God allowed Satan's prompting? Remember, David was an older, battle tested, wealthy king who already had a long up and down history with God. Does it worry you that at any stage of life or with God you can be tested like this? Why or why not?

3. How did Joab respond to David's command? (vss. 3-6) In your opinion should Joab have been held accountable too? Do you think where he drew the line in verse 6 was good enough? How have you responded when given a choice to either follow or draw a line (w/ a friend, boss, or family member)

4. Verse 9 – The sermon this Sunday talked about David's difficult choices in regards to his actions. His decision would negatively affect thousands, maybe millions of people. Discuss David's options and whether anyone in the group would have chosen differently. Also, discuss possible reasons The Lord gave consequences that affected the nation and not just David and his house (vs 17)?

5. Have you ever had to pay the consequences for someone else's poor choices? Have you ever had to make a choice that either way would negatively affect people? Describe what happened, how you dealt with your decision and how those affected reacted?

6. Verse 24-27– What was the difference between David's heart at the beginning of the chapter versus this moment?

TAKING IT HOME:

1. Would anyone like to share their list from last week of things they are pursuing and whether God added or deleted from that list?

2. *ON YOUR OWN THIS WEEK:* Would you have responded like Ornan in verse 23? Before you answer just know 600 gold shekels equals about \$288,000 in TODAY'S money. (1918 = \$4.7 million). Now what's your honest answer? *This week jot down some "items" you might have a hard time freely and completely giving away to God to be used by Him. Then pray about releasing ownership.*

G3 SERVICE PROJECT OPPORTUNITY

Being part of a Growth Group means that you will commit to serving each other and our local community. We have been asked to provide homemade cookies for Open Door food kitchen. They need about 200-250 cookies each month. If your group would like to volunteer to bake cookies for just one month please let the church office know (816-279-2090) we can even arrange for use of the kitchen & ovens.