



## AND: Grace AND Truth | October 11, 2017

### Discussion Guide

#### The Scoop

God gets a bad reputation when we choose either or when it comes to grace and truth.

#### Key Verse

**John 1:14 (NIV)**

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of **grace** and **truth**.

#### Discussion

We live in a world that seems to operate in either grace or truth, but rarely a combination of the two. At just about any sporting event or concert you can find someone yelling that this group or that group is condemned for all eternity. We also all know individuals that exude only grace without truth for fear of conflict or rejection.

1. What is your default setting—grace or truth? Why?
2. What would you say are the consequences of being unbalanced between the two?

While there is nothing inherently wrong with grace or truth, the best way to help others experience God is to stand in the middle of both grace and truth. If we act only with grace, there are no consequences for bad choices that hurt others or ourselves. If we find ourselves adhering only to truth with no grace, we can never measure up, thus everyone is condemned with no chance for redemption.

3. Can you think of a time when you (or someone else) exemplified both grace and truth?
4. What are some ways you can incorporate both grace and truth in your life?

In John 1:14 we are given a description of Jesus as both grace and truth. Uniquely, the way Jesus is portrayed is through relationships..."dwelling among us." This combination of grace and truth in our relationships is how we live and portray a more accurate picture of God's desires for us.

5. Can you think of a time when God used both grace and truth to positively change your life?

#### What's Next?

Picture grace and truth on opposite ends of a spectrum. If you lean more toward one side, consider ways you can be intentional about moving toward the middle. This week in your faith journey practice living in a more balanced relationship with grace and truth.