**Q80. What is saving grace?**

Saving grace is God’s love, forgiveness, and redemption freely and effectively given in Jesus to the elect, who are undeserving of this.

**Q81. What is opposed to God’s grace?**

Opposed to God’s grace are the lies that we are worthy or that we can work hard enough to earn God’s love and forgiveness or that we can seek, will, or choose Jesus without the Holy Spirit giving us new life and saving faith.

1. What is saving grace? What did we learn tonight about our ability to earn saving grace?
2. What did we learn tonight about our ability to choose God and work for His forgiveness?
3. Have you looked upon others with self-righteousness like the Pharisee did toward the tax collector in the Luke passage?
   1. How does the gospel help us to correct this view of others and ourselves?
4. If we trust in ourselves, what does that do to our relationships with others? Reference Luke 18:9.
5. There are various religions in our world that push salvation by works. How are you tempted to see your standing with God by how well you perform?
6. Secular society pushes a salvation by self-worth. Explain why this ultimately fails in comparison to salvation by grace alone.
7. Why can’t the law save us?
8. Many churches plead with people to simply, “Make a decision for Christ.” If we understand that saving grace is only by God, how is this message damaging?
9. The tax collector stood far off from God and sincerely feared God. The Bible teaches that fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. How can these principles change our prayers with God?
   1. How does the work of Christ change our fear of God’s wrath?

**\*\*Close in a time of prayer focused on exultation and praise and thankfulness for God’s sovereign saving grace.**