

Sermon Notes for September 27, 2026

Title: Common Grace

Text: Psalm 145:8-9; Matt 5:43-48; Acts 14:15-17

Main idea: We can celebrate the God-given gifts that are common to all people, while acknowledging that these gifts fall short of our ultimate good.

1. Defining Terms:

- a. _____ grace – The realm of gifts God makes available to all, whether or not they are in Christ.
- b. _____ grace – The realm of God-given gifts relating to salvation and eternal life (e.g. God's Word, the Holy Spirit, the light of Christ, etc...).

2. Common grace can be celebrated:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____
- g. _____

3. Common grace falls short of:

- a. _____
- b. _____

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- a. _____
- b. _____

4. Speaking Truth in Love

- a. Common grace & _____
- b. Common grace & _____
- c. Common grace & _____

Discussion Guide

1. What stood out to you in today's gathering?
2. In your own words, what's the difference between common grace and special grace? Work together to come up with some examples of common grace. What's an area where you've experienced common grace? What's an area where you've experienced special grace?
3. In Matthew 5:43-48, Jesus gives an example of the Father's common grace to all people. He then urges His followers to imitate the Father's graciousness by loving their enemies. What was this example? How have we seen Jesus live this out? How can *we* live this out?
4. Because of common grace, neurologists can make accurate observations of how the brain works. Psychologists can accurately describe aspects of our mental processes. Therapists may be able to lead us through exercises that modify our mental processes. But if the God of the Bible is missing from their worldview, how does their knowledge fall short of our ultimate good? Can we accurately address life's most important questions without God's Word? How might this empower us as we offer counsel to one another, even though we're not neurologists, psychologists, or therapists?
5. What is one takeaway from today's message that you believe the Lord is prompting you to live out in your life?

4. Speaking Truth in Love

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