



## STUDY GUIDE – August 16, 2020

**Message Title:** Fire In My Bones  
**Amazing Grace**  
**Teaching Pastor:** Bryan Pope

*This study guide has been designed for Small Groups in mind, and can be used by individuals as well.*

### Warm-up/Icebreaker:

RAPID FIRE questions:

- Cake or pie?
- Big dogs or small dogs?
- How many hours of sleep do you need?
- Say "G'day mate" in an Australian accent.
- How often is it healthy to cry?
- What's your favorite carb: bread, pasta, rice, or potatoes?

### Pray:

Dear Lord, prepare our hearts and minds to be open to looking reflectively at ourselves. We do not want to miss out on what you may be trying to accomplish in and through us. Teach us how to understand and share Your grace and truth and to reflect Jesus in all that we say and do. It's in His name that we pray. Amen.

### Get Started:

**Read Luke 6:37- 42.** This passage follows directly after Jesus' instruction to love one's enemies.

- What is the difference between being judgemental and being discerning? Why is this distinction important?

### Read Hebrews 4:12- 13.

- What applications can we make from verse 12? What is the relationship between verse 12 and 13?
- What character quality of God's is revealed in verse 13? How should this affect us?

### Watch and Discuss video:

#### Read John 1:14-16.

In the book "The Grace and Truth Paradox," author Randy Alcorn said that we should never approach truth except in a spirit of grace, or grace except in a spirit of truth. Jesus wasn't 50% grace and 50% truth, but 100% grace and 100% truth. Truth-oriented Christians love studying Scripture and theology. But sometimes they're quick to judge and slow to forgive. They're strong on truth, weak on grace.

Grace-oriented Christians love forgiveness and freedom. But sometimes they neglect Bible study and see moral standards as "legalism." They're strong on grace, weak on truth.

As Pastor Bryan Pope had shared in the video, Martin Luther the German theologian, described truth and grace in a word picture of riding a horse. "The devil does not care which side of the horse you fall off of as long as we don't stay in the saddle. We need to mount the horse with one foot in the stirrup of truth, the other in the stirrup of grace."

Luther shows us what it takes to stay in the race, our dependence on grace and truth. Our feet locked firmly in the stirrups as we fight the tension. A tension that our enemy does not want us tethered to.

- Countless mistakes in marriage, parenting, ministry, and other relationships are failures to balance grace and truth. Often we choose one over the other. Which do you lean towards?
- What is one step you could take toward more balance between grace and truth?

**Reflect and Commit:**

Grace didn't just justify us in the past, it sustains us in the present and will deliver us in the future.

**Read Ephesians 1:7 and John 1:16-17.**

- If we truly grasp God's grace, what should our reaction be? How will it change the way we live our life?

**Pray:**

Dear Lord, We praise you for the forgiveness you freely offer. Help us to clearly see our own sins and planks and to fully experience the beautiful grace you give to us. Please relieve our fear, tension and anxiety as we consider conversations and forgiveness that need to take place in our lives. Fill us with hope, peace and positivity as we receive Your grace and extend that grace to others, not just grace, but an AMAZING GRACE. In Jesus' name. Amen.