



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Acts 15	Title:	“Salvation by Grace Alone”
Author	Ps Rebecca Yong		
Summary of Chapter	Acts 15 captures how the early church dealt with the issue of circumcision and the Law of Moses, clarifying that both Jews and Gentiles alike are saved purely by the grace of God through the finished work of Christ on the cross, and not by works.		

Key Verse(s) NLT How does it speak to me?

11 “We believe that we are all saved the same way, by the undeserved grace of the Lord Jesus.”

Some Jews from Judea came teaching a doctrine of salvation by works, saying to the Gentile converts that no one can be saved except by circumcision and adherence to the Law of Moses. Peter reminds them that salvation is by grace through faith alone, both for the Jews and Gentiles alike.

Growing up as a Christian, I’ve often found the second greatest commandment “to love your neighbour as yourself” to be really difficult to obey. When I witnessed bullying in school against a classmate, nothing in me was persuaded to love these bullies in school. To love those who are difficult to love is a great challenge. Yet I am convicted to not just love those who are easy to love but also those who are difficult to love. Such experiences always remind me of my great need for God to change me and empower me to love with His love. While struggling to fulfill this commandment in the Bible, I am reminded of how Christ came to fulfill all the Law of the prophets, so that through Him, we are justified as righteous before God. It is impossible for us to fulfill all these Laws and commandments by our own human effort. I am so thankful that we are saved by God’s grace alone and not by our works because we will surely fail. I thank God that out of His own grace, God sent Jesus to save us by dying on the cross for you and me. What gripped my heart is the high price that Jesus paid with His life to save us. If God can love and save me, a great sinner, I can also love someone else who do not deserve it. It was really after a year of molding by God that I initiated a conversation with these bullies and ultimately grew my friendship with them with God’s help. I am so glad that it is not by our works that we are saved. If it is because of works, I would have surely fail as a human, I will always struggle to keep all of Gods commandments and my works will never measure up. Let us not give in to the temptation of thinking that by our own good works, we can gain our salvation and in so doing, nullify what Christ has done for us on the cross.

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	How does it make you feel to know that your salvation is by God’s grace alone and not by works? How does it affect how you live your Christian life?
Youth:	Do you give thanks to God for your salvation often? If you are truly thankful, how would it change how you live your life?
Child:	Imagine you are drowning in a swimming pool and Jesus comes to save you. How would you feel towards Jesus and what would you do?

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Dear heavenly Father, thank you so much for saving us by sending your only Son, Jesus to die on the cross for us. We cannot earn our salvation or save ourselves. We are grateful that we are saved by your grace alone and not by works. Help us to love others with the same grace that we have received.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus’ Name I/we pray. Amen.