



Reflecting Grace Galatians 2:3-10

In case you somehow missed it, Sunday was Trinity Chapel's Art Day. All the art on display was created by members of the church. Who knew we had so many talented people? Of course, yesterday was a forum for only one particular form of creativity. Part of us being made in God's image is an element of creativity we all possess. Exercising this creativity enables us to connect with God in a unique way. Read to get creative? We're going to talk about the *art* of relationships this week.

Getting Started

Creativity is an essential element of who God is. Since we've been made in His image and been called to emulate Him, we are challenged to exercise this God-given creativity. Let's talk about this idea before diving into our study.

- What do you think about the idea of creativity being an aspect of us being made in God's image?
- What forms of creativity are most meaningful to you?
- Do you consider yourself to be a creative person? Why or why not?
- How can you bring glory to God through your creativity?
- Do you see some creativity as better than others?
- What areas does your creativity most flourish?
- What will you do to exercise your creativity this week?

Let's review what we've studied before looking at this week's passage.

- What has Paul talked about so far?
- What challenges are the Galatians facing?
- What themes has Paul developed?
- What is Paul's solution to these challenges?

Now that we have reviewed, let's look at Ted's outline and begin our discussion.

Our understanding of grace is reflected in the way we treat others. verse 3

- What do we know about Titus?
- How did this confirm Paul's message?
- How do our expectations affect our relationship with other people?
- Why was circumcision an issue? What's the issue?
- What expectations confuse the gospel today?
- How have you been affected by expectations?

Our understanding of grace is clouded when we surrender our freedom. verses 4-5

- Who are the false brothers? What was their message?
- Who are our false brothers today?
- What challenges your freedom in Christ?
- How can being around people just like us affect our freedom?
- Why did they sneak in? What was their purpose?
- How can we be on guard against them?
- What are our tools against these attacks?
- How can you break free from external constraints?

We reflect God's grace as we ...

- 1. refuse to focus on the outward appearance. verse 6**
- 2. recognize the grace of God in others. verses 7-8**
- 3. receive those who are different into our lives. verse 9**
- 4. remember to care for each other's needs. verse 10**

- Why does Paul refer to the apostles as he does in verse 6?
- What standards do people usually employ with others?
- Why is it difficult to be around those different from us?
- What do we need to do in order to know each other's real needs?
- Why do we treat people differently?
- How can we benefit from different people?
- How do we use grace to guide our interactions?
- Why is it difficult to share our needs with others?

Application

Each group member should come up with a specific application from the study.

- Which study point challenged your thinking the most?
- Who can you reach out to and learn from that is different from you?
- How is God speaking to you through this passage?
- What relationships need attention in your life?

Prayer

Group members should have an application-specific item as their first prayer request. Pray for the staff of TCBC. Thank God for their commitment, service, and dedication to the church. Praise God for His work in our body. Ask God to continue being faithful and active in the lives of His people.