

# Grace Groups

*Growing in Grace and Watching Over One Another in Love*

## What is a Grace Group?

Grace Groups are small communities of 6 to 8 people who meet weekly to grow deeper in faith and watch over one another in love. They are a place to be honest about your faith journey, to notice where God is at work, and to pray for each other. The format is simple, the conversation is real, and over time these become the people who know your story.

A Grace Group IS	A Grace Group is NOT
✓ A place to be honest about your faith	✗ A Bible study or lecture
✓ A community that watches over one another in love	✗ A therapy group
✓ Real conversation and shared prayer	✗ A place to fix each other's problems
✓ A rhythm you can count on each week	✗ A drop-in event

### 1. Center

Open with prayer or a moment of silence. Take a breath. Let the week fall away. *God of every good gift, you have placed something in our hands and you trust us with it. Free us from the fear that buries what you gave, and make us faithful in the long stretches when no one is watching. Amen.*

### 2. Soul Tending

Check in with where you are spiritually. The five promises help us find our way into the conversation:

- **Prayers** — How is your prayer life?
- **Presence** — How has worship shaped your week?
- **Gifts** — Where are you giving your time, money, or energy?
- **Service** — Where are you serving right now?
- **Witness** — Where have you lived your faith out loud?

Pick the one or two that feel most alive, or most stuck, right now.

### 3. God Sightings

Share something from this week where you noticed God moving, in your life, in someone else's, or in the world around you. Big or small, it counts.

### 4. Growing in Grace

Name something you are carrying, a decision, a fear, a next step you have been avoiding. The group is not here to fix it. Just to hear it, sit with you in it, and pray.

### 5. Close

- Each person shares one prayer need in a sentence.
- Someone in the group prays for them out loud.
- Keep it simple. Hold the hard things to the light.

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## Grace Group Guide • Matthew 25:14-30 • June 28, 2026

*The Gospel on Stage and Screen, Week 2 · Faithful When No One's Watching*

**Setting the Scene.** In Jesus' day a single valuable coin, a talent, was an enormous sum, many years of wages. A master divides his property among three servants, each according to ability, then leaves on a long journey. The whole parable unfolds in the gap between his leaving and his return.

### Center

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### Soul Tending

- What has God entrusted to you, a talent, a season, a relationship, that you sometimes treat as too small to matter?
- The third servant buried his coin out of fear. Where does fear tempt you to play it safe with your gift?
- When is it hardest for you to be faithful, in the dramatic moments or in the long unwatched stretches?

### God Sightings

- Where have you seen quiet, unwatched faithfulness in someone else lately?
- When has someone named a gift in you that you had not seen in yourself?
- Where do you sense God trusting you with more than you feel ready for?

### Growing in Grace

- What is one buried gift you could dig up and put to work this week?
- The sermon named acts of mercy and family service. Which could you practice quietly this week?
- Whose gift could you call out and encourage, the way the master celebrated his servants?

### Close

Share one gift you are grateful for in a sentence, then pray for the person on your left. Close by asking God for courage to invest what you have buried.

Faithful over a little. Keep investing in the gap. Find a Grace Group at [mcpersonfirst.org/next](http://mcpersonfirst.org/next).

*McPherson First United Methodist Church • The Gospel on Stage and Screen*