## **Abundant Grace Small Group Guide**

**Warm-up Question:** (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

- 1. Describe a time when you received something valuable for free.
- 2. Growing up, did you find it difficult to share with others? Explain.

Read the following passages: Genesis 12:1-3; Luke 1:26-30; Romans 4:13-17.

In Luke 1, an angel appears to a frightened teenager named Mary and gives her an unexpected message: "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you. Do not be afraid. You have found favor with God." This was more than Mary could wrap her mind around. And yet, the angel's message is surprisingly consistent with the message God delivered each time he formed a covenant with his people. In fact, Genesis 1:28 indicates that God's fundamental posture toward humanity is blessing and grace. The apostle Paul begins and ends each of his New Testament letters by extending a blessing of grace to his readers. God wants us to live with a conscious awareness that he desires our good.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

- 1. Give a practical definition for grace. What are some ways that God has extended grace to you?
- 2. How was God gracious to Abram? How are God's gracious promises to Abram relevant to us today?
- 3. What happens when we lose sight of God's grace? What is the impact on our identity, our attitude, our relationships, and our approach to life?
- 4. Think about a recent occasion when the grace of God slipped out of view. What caused you to lose sight of God's grace? How can we live with a conscious awareness of the grace of God?
- 5. What does it mean to lead with grace in your relationships with other people? Are your interactions with others grace-filled? Explain. What is one relationship you would like to engage in a more grace-filled way?
- 6. Read Titus 3:3-8. Describe in your own words what it means to be saved by God's grace. Have you received the salvation that God offers in Jesus Christ? If so, when? What happened?
- 7. What is one thing you can do this week to live a more grace-filled life?