

a script from



WORSHIP

The Search for Grace

By
Ken Long

- What** Three church members try to track down a missing woman named Grace after noticing she has not been around their church. Their search slowly reveals they are not missing a person, but the experience of God's grace in their own weary lives.
- Themes: Grace, Belonging, Forgiveness, Identity, Spiritual Fatigue, Acceptance, God
- Who** Linda: Faithful long-time church member, carries quiet guilt, tries to serve her way into peace.
Mark: Practical volunteer, believes faith should be disciplined and structured.
Rachel: Warm but recently discouraged church member who feels unseen.
Grace: Calm, steady presence who represents God's grace.
- When** Contemporary
- Costumes** Everyday church clothing. Grace dressed simply in neutral tones.
- Props** Church bulletin, folding chairs, coffee cups, small notebook labeled 'Grace?', trash bin
- Why** 2 Corinthians 12:9
- How** Keep the tone natural and conversational. Let humor come from ordinary church life. Avoid exaggeration. When Grace enters, slow the pace and allow stillness. Leave small pauses after important lines so the truth can settle.
- Time** 6 minutes

Lights up/Curtain.

Church foyer after a Sunday service. Folding chairs stacked nearby. Coffee cups in hand.

Linda: Have you seen Grace lately?

Mark: Which Grace? We have at least four.

Rachel: No, not people with the surname Grace. Just... Grace.

Mark: That is not helpful.

Linda: She used to feel closer. Lighter. Like church was easier.

Rachel: Yes. I noticed that too.

Mark: Church is not supposed to be easy. It requires commitment.

Rachel: I know. But lately it feels more like pressure, not peace.

Small silence. They sip coffee.

Linda: I keep volunteering for more things. I thought if I stayed busy enough, Grace would show up again.

Mark: Grace is not a volunteer.

Linda: You know what I mean.

Rachel: I used to sing without worrying who was listening. Now I wonder if I'm doing enough.

Mark: Maybe we just need better discipline.

Rachel: Maybe we're tired.

Linda: Maybe Grace left because we disappointed her.

A calm voice behind them.

Grace: I did not leave.

*They all turn together. **Grace** stands quietly.*

Linda: We were just talking about you.

Grace: I know.

Mark: We were trying to figure out where you went.

Grace: I have been here the whole time.

Rachel: Then why does everything feel heavier?

Grace: Because you picked up things I never asked you to carry.

Linda: Like what?

Grace: Shame.

Mark: Standards are not shame.

Grace: No. But fear can be.

Rachel: I thought if I prayed more, served more, addressed my own problem more, I would feel you again.

Grace: You do not earn me.

Linda: Then why do I still feel guilty about things God already forgave?

Grace: Because you remember them more than He does.

Silence. Pause.

Mark: If we stop pushing ourselves, what keeps us growing?

Grace: Dependence leads to more growth than fear ever did.

Rachel: So grace is not a feeling?

Grace: Sometimes it feels warm. Sometimes it feels quiet. *(pause)* But it is always true.

Linda: Even when I fail again and again.

Grace: Especially then.

Grace exits quietly.

The three remain standing. The room feels different. Not louder. Just lighter.

Linda: *(pensively)* I have spent years trying to pay God back for forgiving me.
(shrugs shoulders and shakes head)

Rachel: I have spent years trying to prove I was worth something. *(exhales)*

Mark: And I have spent years trying to manage what was never mine to control.

Silence. All thinking pensively.

Linda: *(deliberately)* Grace is not fragile.

Rachel: Grace is not temporary.

Mark: Grace is not performance-based.

Linda: It is God's gift.

Rachel: Given before we earned it.

Mark: Given knowing we never could.

Linda slowly sets down her coffee cup as if laying down a weight.

Linda: God's grace does not shrink when I fail.

Rachel: It does not withdraw when I doubt.

Mark: It does not tighten when I am weak.

Linda: It remains.

Rachel: Because it comes from Him, not from us.

Mark looks toward the sanctuary.

Mark: We were not missing Grace.

Linda: We were mistrusting her.

Rachel: No. *(pause)* We were mistrusting *Him*.

Mark: Then maybe faith is not striving harder. Maybe it's trusting deeper.

Rachel: Maybe it's believing that when Christ said "It is finished" He meant it.

Long pause.

Linda: Turns out Grace was never lost.

Mark: God never stopped giving.

Rachel: We just forgot how to receive God's grace.

They begin stacking chairs again — but this time there is no rush, no pressure.

Mark: Next week, I serve because I am secure in God’s love and his grace.

Linda: I worship because I am forgiven... unconditionally.

Rachel: I belong because He says I do.

They stand together, facing the audience.

All three: *(softly)* His grace is enough.

Blackout or exit.

PURCHASE
SCRIPT
TO
REMOVE
WATERMARK
AT
231WORSHIP.COM