GRACE GROUP STUDY GUIDE FALL WEEK #8

Week of November 8, 2026 | Joel 2:18-32

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1-MIN OVERVIEW

Joel's message takes a dramatic shift away from impending judgement, and describes our compassionate God mercifully sparing His people from destruction and restoring what they'd lost. He assures them of His faithful presence and promises to fill them with His Holy Spirit, extending abundant grace that He continues to offer to everyone who calls on His name.



WARM UP

1. *Share about a time when something you had lost or broken was unexpectedly restored or replaced. What was your emotional response to that experience?*



KNOW IT

1. *Read **Joel 2:18-27** and share your initial impressions. What repeated words or phrases do you see in this passage? What attributes or characteristics of God do you see on display here?*

2. *According to **verse 18**, what prompted God to spare His people? What do you think it means that God is jealous, and how is His jealousy different from the human envy we're commanded to avoid? (see Exodus 20:17)*

3. *How does God's intervention and rescue compare to the devastation we saw earlier in Joel? What is being reversed and restored for God's land and God's people? What are they experiencing and what response they are called to?*



SHARE IT

1. *What does **verse 27** tell us about the ultimate purpose of God's mercy and provision? Read **Exodus 29:45-46, Exodus 33:14-16, 1 Corinthians 3:16** and **Revelation 21:3** together. What is so significant about God's desire to dwell with His people, and how do we see that unfolding in the past, present and future?*

2. *How does the assurance of God's faithful, personal presence impact our response to fear, shame, loss and uncertainty, like the people faced in Joel 1-2? Why is His presence a greater blessing than physical provision, and how does it move us to trust and worship?*

3. *Now read **verses 28-29** together. What do you notice about the extent of God's promise, and who will receive His Spirit? What is surprising about this promised outpouring?*



LIVE IT

1. *In a powerful sermon recorded in Acts 2, the apostle Peter identifies the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost as the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy. Read **Acts 2:38-39** and **Titus 3:4-7** and discuss how these verses echo the promises God made through Joel. How do you see each member of the Trinity (God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit) at work in our salvation?*

2. *Read **Acts 1:8, John 14:26, Romans 8:26** and **Galatians 5:22-23**. What do these verses tell us about the role of the Holy Spirit and His purposes in the lives of believers? Which aspects of His work do you most need to remember and rely on right now?*

3. *What do you notice about the description of the Day of the Lord in **Joel 2:30-32**? How does it compare with what we've seen earlier in Joel, and how does it provide an answer to the desperate question in Joel 2:11? How does **Romans 10:9-13** help us understand what it means to "call on the name of the Lord"?*

Suggested Daily Reading and Reflection

Passages: Day 1: Joel 2:18-32; Day 2: Exodus 34:5-7; Day 3: Acts 2:16-21; Day 4: John 3:16-18

Memory Verse: John 3:16

Opening Prayer *Dear God, open my eyes so I may see wondrous things in your word. (Psalm 119:18). May your Holy Spirit help me to understand and apply it to my life for your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

Observe - 1st Reading Read the passage to get the general flow. What does the passage say? Write 1-2 sentences summarizing key thoughts or themes. Also, write down a verse you think is significant.

 **Digging Deeper** - **2nd Reading** Underline action words and repeated phrases. Answer the questions: Who… is the author? are the recipients? are the key people involved? What events, teachings, commands, or promises do you see? Why was the passage written? What problems are addressed?

 **Searching for Gold - 3rd Reading** Write down key words, themes, and observations. Dig for meaning in repeated phrases or theological terms. How does this passage ultimately point to Jesus?

 **Respond** Since God's Word is true, is there something new about God to ponder, commands to obey, promises to claim, sins to avoid, challenges to face, or examples to follow? Pick one of these and spend time reflecting on how this truth can affect the way you think and live.

 **Connect** with God on what you learned. Praise Him for who He is (consider the attributes of God revealed in today's reading). Thank Him for what He's done. Listen to Him. Confess sin. Bring requests to Him.

 **Memory Verse** Choose one verse from reading and write it down each day.

LOOKING AHEAD - Get a head start on next week's readings and prepare for the upcoming sermon:

Day 1: Joel 3:1-21; Day 2: Zechariah 12:1-9; Day 3: Zephaniah 3:8-20; Day 4: Revelation 21:1-8