

**Amazing Grace: First Verse
Captured by Grace—Part 1
Ephesians 2:
August 13, 2017**

Today, I'd like to unpack this classic hymn and see if we can discover just how amazing God's grace really is:

1. The _____ presence of grace.

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound..."

Someone once said that grace is a five letter word often spelled _____-_____ - _____ - _____.

The Bible says that Christ "became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.... For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ" (John 1:14-17 NIV).

2. The _____ purpose of grace.

"that saved a wretch like me."

"No one is righteous—not even one. No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God. All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one" (Romans 3:10-12 NTL).

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8 ESV).

"All have sinned and are not good enough for God's glory, and all need to be made right with God by his grace, which is a free gift" (Romans 3:23 NCV).

3. The _____ power of grace.

"I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind but now I see."

"Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you." (Romans 8:5-9 NLT)