The Unsettling Solution For Just About Everything Pt. 3

Jeremy Edelen

INTRODUCTION

Grace is undeserved, unearned and unbearable. You can't give what you don't have. You can't extend grace to others if you first don't know what it means to receive grace yourself. In order to embrace it, we have to shift out perspective on what God's grace for us is really all about.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Icebreakers: Favorite Christmas movie and why?
- 2. Why do you think we are unable to give grace if we can't first receive it? Have you ever found this difficult in your life and relationships?
- 3. Read the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:12-32) —what personally sticks out to you the most in this story?
- 4. When you read this story, do you relate more with the older brother or the younger in terms of how you approach God? (hint: do you approach more out of fixing your bad works or trying to stay on top of all your good works)
- 5. Do you feel like your relationship with God is defined more by trying to please him in your life or attempting to trust him with your life? Why?
- 6. What's keeping you from embracing God's grace for yourself?
- 7. If you do choose to embrace God's grace for you and understand that it isn't based on what you do... what does that mean for how you treat others? Is there a relationship that you need to view differently?
- 8. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. If you chose to accept this not just in your mind but in your heart as well, how would it change the way you live? How would God's grace change your life day to day?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"Grace tells us that we are accepted just as we are. We may not be the kind of people we want to be, we may be a long way from our goals, we may have more failures than achievements, we may not be wealthy or powerful or spiritual, we may not even be happy, but we are nonetheless accepted by God, held in his hands. Such is his promise to us in Jesus Christ, a promise we can trust."

- Brennan Manning, Ragamuffin Gospel