<u>Grace People</u> Jonathan Cleveland & Mark Windle August 19, 2018

Small Group Discussion Questions

If there is anywhere that grace should be found it would be among the people of God We are learning together to become people of grace.

*What are you learning through this series about becoming more full of grace?

'It doesn't matter what our faith looks like, it matters what it is'. Bob Goff What God sees is the actual state of our hearts, not the appearance.

*Discuss this quote – what does it mean? *What are some fundamentals of our faith that can't be faked?

Read and discuss

Mark 5:43-48 (NIV)

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor^[a] and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? ⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

*What is this passage telling us about grace?

Grace People extend grace through time with 'difficult people'

Often times 'difficult' really just means 'different'.

*Who is someone in your life that is difficult or different? What would spending some time with that person look like?

Read and discuss

Mark 5:38-42

³⁸ "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.'^{[2]39} But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. ⁴¹ If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

Grace people do not orient their lives around balancing the scales

There is no moment you are more like God than when you set the scales down.

*How do you find yourself tracking the balance of the scales in your relationships?

*What would it look like for you to set your scale down?

This week, spend just 8 minutes with someone you find 'difficult'. Ask the Lord to help you set down the scales in this relationship to be Christlike in those moments.