

THE UNSETTLING SOLUTION FOR JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING

UNDESERVEABLE - WEEK 1

Small Group Time:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with key questions, add any optional Scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Main Idea:

There is an unsettling solution for just about everything, and we can sum it up in one word—grace. It's the undeserved, unearned, unearnable favor that Jesus came to offer us. So why wouldn't we want Christianity to be true? And where should you start if grace was never part of the equation for you?

Key Questions:

1. When we find something attractive, we want it to be true. Why do you think many people have trouble seeing Jesus/Christianity as attractive?
2. Has your experience with Christianity been more focused on grace or truth? How did that focus affect your view of Jesus? How did it affect your view of yourself?
3. Read **John 1:14**.
 - Grace can only be experienced in the context of a relationship. Why was Jesus coming to earth an essential part of God's plan to give us grace?
 - As a friend of Jesus and eyewitness to his ministry, what do you think John meant by, "We have seen his glory"?
 - What is the difference between keeping a balance of grace and truth and being full of grace and truth? Do you find yourself trying to keep the two in balance? How's it going?
 - Jesus never watered down the truth or turned down the grace. Which way do you tend to lean when confronted with someone else's sin?
4. Read **Luke 23:32–43**. Who in the passage do you identify with most? Why?
 - The people: Stood watching. Curious. Not willing to fully engage on either side.
 - The rulers and soldiers: Mocked Jesus. Unwilling to believe. Didn't want it to be true.
 - The criminal: Admitted his guilt. Recognized Jesus' innocence. Asked humbly for his grace.
5. Jesus disturbed the proper order of things when he extended grace to the criminal. And it wasn't because he forgot about his crimes. God doesn't forget our sin. It's better than that. What's the difference in having our sin forgotten and having our sin forgiven?
6. Grace is an invitation that says, "I know all about you, the good and the bad, and I love you anyway. Follow me and I will lead you away from your life of sin." If you've never seen grace for what it really is, what would it look like for you to accept this invitation?

Next Steps:

- What's one thing you will do this week as a result of something you learned from this message?