

The Sound of A Party
The Sound Of Grace – Part 2
March 10th & 11th, 2018
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- **Grace Restores.**

Four Observations About Restoration:

1. God Loves Us Enough To Release Us.

"...A man had two sons. The younger son told his father, "I want my share of your estate now before you die." So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living." Luke 15:11-13

2. Returning To God Is The Only Option That Make Sense.

"When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, "At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger!" Luke 15:17

3. Repentance Is The Catalyst of Grace.

"I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant." Luke 15:18-19

The core of rebellion = "**give me**"

The core of brokenness = "**make me**"

4. Grace Is Received Not Earned.

"But his father said to the servants, "Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found." So the party began." Luke 15:22-24

"The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in. His father came out and begged him, but he replied, "All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends." Luke 15:28-29

My Next Step This Week: ___ I will accept and extend grace.

Life Group Discussion Questions:

Looking back at your notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

1. What's a great memory you share with your siblings or childhood friends?
2. Pastor Jeff mentioned turning to God is the only option that makes sense. What are some things people are tempted to turn to when stressed or going through a trial? Can you think of any things you default to when running from God?
3. While it's okay to present our desires to God, we also need to be aware of the possibility of only having a self-seeking type of relationship where we only seek God when we need something. How could the following verses help move us away from only praying "God give me" prayers? (*Psalm 51:10-12 and Psalm 26:2-3*) Can you think of any ways they might benefit you?
4. In Luke 15, Jesus told the story of two brothers each with different faults getting lost in the world. Getting lost in our work and service to God can be just as damaging as getting lost in the world. Read the story of Mary and Martha in Luke 10:38-42. What are some ways serving God can become a distraction from "choosing what is better"?
5. Which one of the actions in 1 Peter 4:7-11 would be most helpful to you in remembering how to serve God without getting lost in what you're doing?
6. How do the following passages help us gain further understanding of the same love that has also been given to us? (*Ephesians 3:16-19 and 1 John 4:9-11*)
7. Are there any "God make me" prayers you'd like to incorporate more frequently into your prayer life?