

Love Like That
“Grace-Full Like Jesus”
- selected passages -
January 27, 2019 / Pastor Shawn

Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.
Ephesians 5:1-2 (*Message Translation*)

3 Grace Truths we need to understand IF we're gonna Love Like Jesus:

1. Grace is costly.

UNDERSTANDING TERMS

- **JUSTICE:** getting what you deserve
- **MERCY:** not getting what you do deserve
- **GRACE:** getting what you could never earn or

deserve; unmerited favor

¹ Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. ³ Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?"

¹² So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. Matthew 7:1-4, 12

2. Grace is not about what we deserve but what we need.

³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³ Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:39-43
(see also: John 8:1-11)

3. Grace is extravagant.

¹ For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

³ About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' ⁵ So, they went.

"He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing.

⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' ⁷ "Because no one has hired us," they answered. He said to them, "You also go and work in my vineyard." ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first." ⁹ The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius.

¹⁰ So, when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² "These who were hired last worked only one hour," they said, "and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day." ¹³ But he answered one of them, "I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?"

¹⁶ "So, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Matthew 20:1-16

One way I can become a more Grace-Full is to _____.

Follow Up

(These are suggested ideas for processing Sunday's message and exploring what it means to "love like Jesus." Feel free to add your own ideas or tailor these ideas to best fit your group.)

1. Discuss the message

- a) What was your "A-Ha" from Sunday's message? Why?
- b) What is "Grace"? How might grace impact your ability to love?
- c) In your experience, what keeps you from being more Grace-Full?
- d) Of the three things Pastor Shawn outlined on grace, which one(s) do you need to work on most? Why?

2. Complete the Application Workbook; Part 1, Session 4