

SERMON: Conversations About Glory
SERIES: Conversations with Jesus
SPEAKER: Pastor Brady

June 2, 2019

THE GOAL: The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS: Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

SCRIPTURE: John 5:19-47 **SERMON OUTLINE:** I. Seeking Glory II. Finding Glory III. Lessons

REVIEW: Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

Observation: as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

Interpretation: answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

Application: answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

GO DEEPER: Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. In John 5:41-44 Jesus challenged us to receive our glory from God alone and not others. Where are you tempted to seek the glory of others? When have you been able to trust the glory of God instead of the glory of others?
 2. In John 5:45-47 Jesus points out that our efforts of finding glory in religion (self-righteousness) will always accuse us. Can you relate to this? In what ways has the thing that you thought would bring you glory accused you of not being good enough? For example, in my (Pastor Brady's) life I often find glory in being a good teacher, but then when my teaching is criticized it becomes an accusation against me, and it devastates me. But if I trust God's glorious grace the criticism can actually make me better.
 3. Review John 5:19-20. Jesus trusted the glory of God by trusting the grace of God: grace that came by the Father's love, and grace that he needed as he submitted to God. Why is God's grace far more glorious than the glory we get from people or from our own efforts at righteousness? How does it encourage you to know that true glory can come freely from God's grace?
 4. Practice using the evangelism section on the next page.
- Prayer: Praise God for a glory that comes by his grace. Confess your efforts to gain glory from others or your self-efforts. Ask God to help you trust his love more and more as you submit to him in all areas of your life.

Connecting Glory Seeking to the Gospel

1. Understand: How is glory being sought by this person?
2. Empathize: What is good about the glory that they are seeking?
3. Question: How does that glory fall short of God's glory?
4. Present the Gospel: How is the glory of God's grace better?

Practice: Nicodemus (John 3:1-16)

1. Understand: How was Nicodemus seeking glory?
2. Empathize: In what ways was his pursuit of this glory good?
3. Question: How did this glory fall short?
4. Present the Gospel: How did Jesus present the gospel to Nicodemus?

Practice: Samaritan Woman (John 4:1-30; 39-42)

1. Understand: How was the woman seeking glory?
2. Empathize: In what ways was her pursuit of this glory good?
3. Question: How did this glory fall short?
4. Present the Gospel: How did Jesus present the gospel to her?

Who have you been having spiritual conversations with lately? How can you use the four questions above to help guide them toward the gospel?