

SERMON: The Renewed Mind

July 14, 2019

SERIES: Love Your Enemies

SPEAKER: Pastor Brady

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: Romans 12:1-3

SERMON OUTLINE: I. The Measure II. The Mindset III. The Mercies

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. The measure of the Christian life is sacrificial living. Can you think of some ways that you've had to sacrifice for an enemy recently? Or, is there a way that you can sacrifice for an "enemy" this week?
2. Look at Romans 12:2. God wants us to be transformed into Christ by the renewing of the mind. Look also at Romans 12:3. God wants us to think about ourselves correctly. How does the gospel allow us to "not think more highly of ourselves than we ought" and "to think soberly" about ourselves? How does thinking correctly about ourselves in light of the gospel allow us to love our enemies?
3. Because of the mercies of God (Rom. 12:1) we are loved and we can love others including our enemies. Read Romans 5:1-5;8; 8:31-32;35-37. How does the reality of God's love for you inspire you to love others, including your enemies?
Prayer: Thank God for his love for you even when you were his enemy. Confess the ways that you have failed to love your enemies. Ask God to empower your love for others through faith in his love for you.