

Unhindered

Grace - 1/6/19

OVERVIEW

In this series, we will examine four key tenets of faith and question why some don't seem to have peace or the kind of life that a true faith in God promises. One of the cornerstones of faith is grace. Sometimes fully embracing the unconditional and free grace of Christ feels beyond our grasp. Hiding our sin, proving ourselves, and working harder are common things we turn to as a substitute for the perfect grace God generously offers. Are you striving to earn God's approval and struggling to fully accept His saving grace? Jesus presents a different path. Hear about His bold invitation to come just as we are and with complete confidence regardless of past sins and failures.

Scriptures: Luke 7:36-50, Hebrews 4:16

APPLICATION

1. What do you hope for in 2019? Do you have specific goal: spiritual, physical, relational, occupational, or something else?
2. We learn the best way to understand grace is through the filter of a relationship. Hebrews 4:16 says that we can boldly approach God so we can receive "mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Talk about a specific time when you've come to God for mercy and grace.
3. Jeremy makes the point that grace cannot be earned, and the sinful women's example in Luke 7:36-50 is clear... she could not possibly earn Jesus' grace. In what ways do you still try to earn grace, even if it is impossible to do so?
4. Is there something in your life that you believe is keeping you from experiencing God's unhindered best? What might that be?

HOMEWORK: Each day this week, write down three ways you have experienced grace, or "unmerited favor." Compile your list and share with a trusted friend.