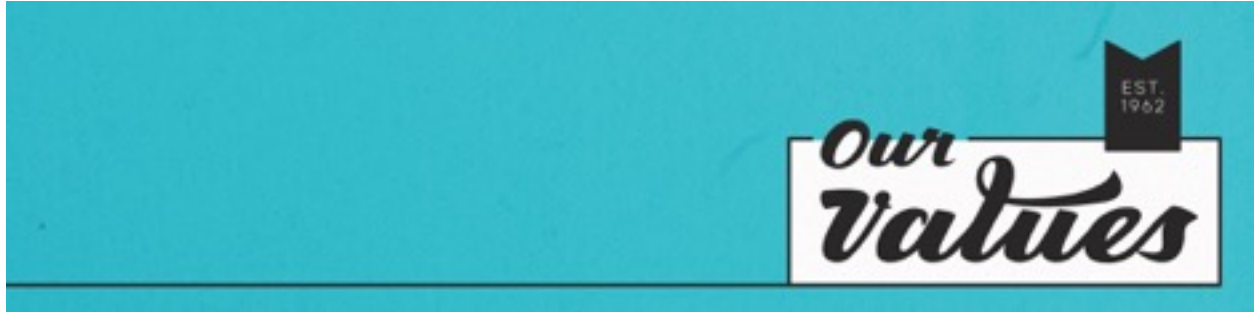




small groups

*Discussion Guide*



# Liberated By God's Grace

*Luke 15:11-32*

## Ice Breaker

*(5 minutes)*

### Discuss This

- Have you ever done any farm work? Slopped pigs? Shoveled stalls? What's the hardest job you've ever had?
- 

## Lesson Review

*(40 minutes)*

### Read all of Luke 15

### Discuss

- The parable of the prodigal son is part of a trio of parables about lost things. What similarities can you find among these three stories? What differences?
- What elements of the parable of the prodigal son do you see in verses 1 and 2?

## Grace Is the Story Of the Bible

Grace is "God's benevolence to the undeserving." Andy said, "Whatever you believe about God believe this: he runs to us."

### Discuss

- Imagine yourself as the father in this story. List all the reasons you can think of not to welcome the prodigal.
- Imagine yourself as the prodigal in this story. List all the reasons you can think of not to come home.
- Imagine yourself as the elder brother in this story. List all the reasons you can think of to be jealous of the father's grace?
- Which of your three lists is longest?



## Grace is the basis for IBC's ministry

Andy said, "We must receive grace before we extend it. And, having received it, we must extend it. There is nothing more unseemly than to receive grace and then refuse to extend it to others."

Andy talked about pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber whose church in Denver is known for extending grace to the most extreme prodigals. Andy said, "I want to be a pastor like that."

### Discuss

- How have you received grace at IBC?
- How are you extending grace?



---

## Application

*(15 minutes)*

### Discuss

- What next step is Jesus calling you to? Is he asking you to extend grace or receive it? In what situations?



