

Message from God's Life-Giving Word

August 25, 2019

It Doesn't Add Up

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8-10

Grace can be defined as:

Examples of Kingdom Grace

Notes on Zacchaeus (Luke 19):

Next Steps

Notes on the Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard (Matthew 20):

1. Journal the following: Has there ever been a moment when you knew you messed up and hoped someone would treat you like it never happened? Has anyone ever asked for that kind of grace from you? Why is it so unsettling for us to give this kind of grace?
2. Read Matthew 20:1-15. When Jesus told a parable, He was challenging His listeners to look for God and to look for themselves. In this parable of the landowner, find “you.” Which group or character do you identify with most? Now find God. What does the parable show us about His Kingdom? Why is what we find unsettling?
3. Jesus invites us to see the world and His Father differently. We value fairness, but grace is better than fair. Have you had a more difficult time giving grace, receiving grace, or admitting you need grace? Why? If you started to define grace as undeserved, unearned, unearnable favor, what could change about the way you see yourself and the way you see and treat others?

What is the Kingdom of Heaven like?

REMEMBER: *Your time in daily devotion and prayer is not just for your benefit. It's also for the benefit of others. Share what God is teaching you.*