

Sermon Discussion Guide

God's Grace In A Dumpster Fire Life
Jeremiah 24:1-10
October 31 & November 1, 2020

Part 1: Pray

Every time we study God's word, we should ask God to use the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts, teach us and mold us into who he created us to be. Ask God to reveal his truth to transform you through your discussion time.

Part 2: Read the Text

Read the passage(s) from the sermon. Keep a focus on key words, repeated phrases or major themes.

Part 3: Reflect on the Sermon

Introduction

1. Disaster, destruction, suffering and ruin are a common theme in the Bible. How does acknowledging that change your perception of the year 2020?
2. What have been some of your misunderstanding and misperceptions of the gospel in your life? In other words, in what ways have heard and believed things about salvation and God's favor that were not actually biblical?

God's Grace In the Unexpected.

1. Reflect on Stephen's explanation from the Jeremiah passage that, "God loved his people enough to send them into exile." Do you believe this?
2. Would you admit that you love "Coffee Shop Jesus" but not "Exile Jesus"? Reflect on the distinction between the two.

3. Stephen said, "It is in exile that we find grace." How, in the suffering and hardship of your life, have you experienced God's grace?
4. Why is it so important to understand and believe that the blessing of God's grace will never change despite our circumstances?

God's Grace Through the Unexpected (Hardship exposes, compels and transforms)

1. Exile can produce in us a heart that is entirely changed. Have you or someone you've known had an exile experience that converted them to follow God?
2. When is a time that your suffering has revealed your motives or sinful patterns? How is it that exile can do this?
3. Reflect on the Charles Spurgeon quote below. How would your heart and perspective need to change to see your suffering as a gift from God?

"I, the preacher of this hour, beg to bear my witness that the worst days I have ever had turned out to be my best days, and when God seemed most cruel to me, he has then been most kind. If there is anything in this world for which I would bless him more than for anything else, it is for pain and affliction. I am sure the in these things the richest, tenderest love has been manifested to me. Fear not the storm, it brings healing in its wings, an when Jesus is with you in the vessel the tempest only hastens the ship to its desired haven."

Part 4: Summarize the Message

How would you summarize the sermon to someone who has never heard it? What are your two or three key takeaways from the message and your discussion?

How does this sermon change your perspective on God? Your own heart? And/or, how to follow Jesus?