**Series: Grace** 

Message: Empowered by Grace May 3, 2015

**Grace:** God's unearned love that fills every part of our lives to overflowing.

## Grace in a dry place. John 4:1-42

- Grace sees emptiness.
- Grace gives more then is needed.
- Grace overflows.

## Things to remember about overflowing Grace:

- Generosity starts with God. Romans 8:32
- Empowered by grace to <u>serve</u>. 1 Peter 4:10
- Grace goes all the way. Philippians 1:6

The "yeah but" question: God may love me but I don't have anything to give. (the inadequacy question).

Answer: Heavenly Father...I can't, but you can. 2 Corinthians 12:9

# Life Group Questions

For week of May 3, 2015

Welcome, to prepare for this week's meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great meeting as you come together to connect, encourage one another to grow and to see God change your lives from the inside out!

## Getting to know you.

When was the thirstiest you have ever been?

What drink is your go to when thirsty?

If you could only drink one thing besides water, what would it be?

## **Going Deeper**

## Read John 4:13-26

Jesus reveals the woman's past, her need (thirst). We use many coping tools to cover our thirst. How does God demonstrate his love by revealing our thirst?

Can our thirst (need) be met if it is not first revealed?

When asked who he is by religious leaders Jesus, ignores, tells stories, and changes the subject but in (vs 26) He speaks plainly to the women. What does this reveal about His grace and desire to transform us?

### Read Hebrews 4:16

When we are in need it is more common to pray for the things we need (as we should) how does the promise of grace and mercy help us in our time of need?

### Read 2 Corinthians 12:9

Empowering grace does not change the situation but rather the person in the situation. Why can this be hard to accept as Grace?

The phrase "my power is" implies God's presence is constantly with us. How have you seen his power at work in your life?

### Read 1 Peter 4:10

What gifts has God given you to serve others? (hint: He has, to everyone, no exceptions)

What forms can God's grace take?

## Read Philippians 1:6

What good work is God completing in you?

What Good work is God completing through you?

### THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word. (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25). Here's how it will happen.

### SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

### STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

### **SUPPORT**

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

#### SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16).

## **Best Year Ever Prayer**

Lord Jesus,

I pray that you would work in me that I might reflect you more.

I pray that you work for me that I may be blessed by you.

I pray that you work through me that I may be an instrument of your love and grace.

I give you permission to work in me, for me and through me according to your purpose

Amen