

Sunday, April 14, 2019 - "A Church Without Curtains REMIX - Week 8" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Luke 7:36-50, Isaiah 41:10, John 16:33, Romans 12:21, 1 John 5:4, Romans 8:37, 1 John 5:5

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Context for Luke 7:36-50
 - Jesus invited to dinner at the home of a religious leader
 - It was prestigious to have a famous speaker in your home
 - Everyone was invited to watch but only the actual guests got to eat and participate
- 2 main characters: the woman and the religious leader
- The woman
 - She broke all of the social rules..she wasn't supposed to engage in the dinner
 - Everyone knew she was sinful and knew her reputation...including her → shame
 - Shame is the voice that goes beyond saying you did something bad and says "you are a bad person"
 - She needed to be revitalized, rejuvenated, refreshed, and restored
 - **She was willing to do anything. She was desperate for Jesus**
- Simon the Pharisee (religious leader and party host)
 - He was haughty, indignant and judgmental
 - Simon was thinking and Jesus challenged his thinking. He disrupted his thought life
 - He tells the story of 2 people who had insurmountable debts forgiven
- Jesus story and lesson was not on measuring sin but on forgiveness
 - Both Simon and the woman had debts that they would never be able to pay, but only the woman knows that
 - Simon hides behind his curtain of religion and misses out on being restored
 - But the woman turns to Jesus and his love with reckless abandon (tore all her curtains down)
- When we know how much grace we have received → we extend grace
- When we receive so much of God's love → we become lovers of people
- Jesus died on the cross and tore the curtain between us and God because of God's love
- Our Abba father says... Isaiah 41:10
 - God is not waiting for you to screw up so he can punish you
 - God is not going to leave you or forsake you
 - God is not going to make you figure it out on your own
 - God is not going to rage over you
- When we come out from behind our curtains we are revitalized, rejuvenated, refreshed and restored
- We are made new and we become those who **OVERCOME** (John 16:33, Romans 12:21, 1 John 5:4, Romans 8:37, 1 John 5:5)

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. Do you genuinely feel like you are desperate for Jesus? Why or why not?
2. In your life, what does desperation for God look like? How is God calling you to grow in this?
3. When was a time when you were consciously aware that you were extending grace or love to someone as a result of the love and grace you have received?
4. How does your life and journey with God sometimes resemble that of Simon the Pharisee?
5. What does it mean to you that God says we are "those who overcome"?
6. What have you been hearing the Lord say to you over the past 8 weeks?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Isaiah 50:4-9a Tues: Psalm 31 Wed: Philippians 2:1-11 Thurs: Luke 22:14-71 Fri: Luke 23:1-56

Songs from the weekend:[Glory to Glory - *Bethel Music*] - [Everlasting God - *William Murphy*] - [Made a Way - *Travis Greene*] - [You Know My Name - *Tasha Cobbs-Leonard*] - [Sinking Deep - *Hillsong Y&F*]