



Let Me Love You | Shawn Johnson | 6.7.20  
Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

**If you were left on a deserted island with either your worst enemy or no one, which would you choose? Why?**

SHARE

Welcome to our second week of Grace and Peace. Before we go any further, take some time to talk with your Group by having everyone answer these questions:

**What was the best part of your week?**

**What is one thing you feel like God is teaching you right now?**

**What has been the most challenging part of this season for you?**

**What is one thing you are looking forward to this summer?**

GROW

**Read John 1:15-18**

**What have you learned so far from our series Grace and Peace?**

**What stuck out to you about this passage?**

John 1 is an extremely significant chapter of Scripture. The Apostle John is writing around 90 AD, which means it has been six decades since he got to travel around Israel with Jesus, healing the sick, restoring relationships, and announcing the good news of the Kingdom of Heaven. So, he's had a tremendous amount of time to meditate, not just on what Jesus did for us on the cross, but on all the little things Jesus said and did during his ministry. As he is writing the opening chapter of his Gospel, he takes the time to remind us: "Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given" (John 1:16).

As Shawn explained this week, that statement may sound redundant at first, but it's not. John isn't just saying we've received grace; he is saying we've received grace upon grace. In other words, by this point in his life, he understands that God's grace is an ongoing gift we continue to receive. Grace is something we never graduate from. Grace is something we never move away from. John has been receiving this gift for over 60 years, and he is writing to remind us we need it for our entire life.

This is fantastic news! Today, God's grace is just as sufficient for you as it was the day you were saved. If you practice resting in that assurance today, you will find true peace.

**Is there a particular season of your life where you tangibly experienced God's grace? Explain it to the Group.**

**Do you believe that God's grace is just as real for you today as it was back then? Why or why not?**

M O V E

**Read Luke 15:11-31**

**What is your favorite part about the story of the Prodigal Son?**

**Did anything different stick out to you about the story this time around?**

**Which son do you resonate with more?**

The story of the Prodigal Son is foundational for our church, which is why we come back to it all the time. The two sons in the story represent two major ways we tend to rebel against God.

The younger son runs off and searches for self-worth in “reckless living” while the older son tries to find his worth by slaving away in the fields. Both sons miss the mark.

The real star of the story is the loving Father. He loves both of his Sons equally and wants to be with both of them. While both sons are focused on morality, the Father is more concerned with proximity. The sons think their actions define them, but the Father reminds them their identity is in who they are not in what they do. That’s why the Father throws a party for the younger son when he comes home and tells the older son, “you are always with me, and everything I have is yours” (Luke 15:31).

The same is true for you! Jesus is telling this story about a loving Father to remind us of the heart of God. Whether you resonate with the older son, the younger son, or both of them, God’s grace is sufficient for you. No matter who you are, what you’ve done, or how far away you think you may be, God is a loving Father who cannot wait to welcome you home with open arms!

As Shawn reminded us this week, the goal of the Christian faith is to learn how to believe that is actually true and LET GOD LOVE US!

**Do you ever find it difficult to accept God’s grace? Why do you think that is?**

**What is one practical way you can let God love you this week?**

### **Take-Home Assignment: Let God Love You**

Meditating on Scripture is one of the best ways to understand God’s love for us. Last week we meditated on Ephesians 2:8. Let’s do the same this week with Luke 15:31.

**My son, the father said, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.**

**This verse tells us everything we need to know about the love of our God! Spend the entire week focusing on this single verse. Take five minutes every morning to meditate on Luke 15:31 by following these three steps.**

- 1. Write it: Write the verse out longhand.**
- 2. Memorize it: Take two minutes to commit it to memory.**
- 3. Declare it: Speak it out loud and declare it over your life!**

## P R A Y

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate calls to share more freely.

## T O G O

*“My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.*

Luke 15:31