

# SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

June 11/12, 2016; Blessing No. 10

**Speakers:**

Pastor Heather Zempel

**Scripture Focus:** Numbers 6: 22-27

**Note To Leaders:**

This weekend we discussed verse 25, “the Lord...be gracious to you.” These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion in your small group. Don’t feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don’t have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

**Icebreaker Suggestion:**

Warm weather is here! What is your favorite warm weather activity?

**Sermon Series Questions:**

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend’s message?
3. How can you speak blessings over those in your life?

**Specific Questions:**

1. Pastor Heather admitted that, “sometimes when I see someone who was given grace that I deem unworthy I get frustrated,” because, “Grace forces us to come face to face with a God who isn’t fair and isn’t logical.” Can you relate to this? Why or why not? How have you responded in the past when someone you deemed unworthy was shown grace? How do you wish you had responded?
2. “We have a problem with grace because we grew up on the merit system, yet grace gives what isn’t deserved and grants what isn’t earned.” Does this statement resonate with you? Why or why not? How do you reconcile a world that uses the merit system with a God who shows grace?
3. Pastor Heather shared that Jesus didn’t define or defend grace, instead he told stories that showed it. Do you find yourself trying to define or defend grace? What story of grace in your life could you share?

4. We see evidence in Genesis 3 that **Grace Makes the First Move**. Though Adam and Eve were hiding in their shame, God pursued them, looking for them to cover them at the time of their greatest mistake. When in your life have you witnessed grace making the first move? How did you respond?
5. Through the story of Abraham and Isaac in Genesis 12, we learn that God always provides and that **Grace Always Makes Unexpected Moves**. Has God ever provided unexpectedly for you? If so, how did you respond? If not, do you believe that He can or will?
6. In sharing how **Graces Makes Bold Moves** (Joshua 2), Pastor Heather stated that, “Grace meets us where we are and not where we ought to be. Graces comes when we least expect it. Grace is not frightened by the labels in our lives.” Do you believe these statements? Why or why not? Does your response impact the way you interact with others? How you interact with God? If so, how?
7. The story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) illustrates that **Grace Calls Us Home**. Like the son, sometimes we just need to stop, turn around, and go in the opposite direction; we need to repent and return home to the life we’ve been created to live. Do you need to repent of something in your life? Do you need to stop and turn around? If so, what steps can you take today to do so?

### **Read, Pray, Act:**

Read back through the examples given of the way grace is shown throughout the bible (Genesis 3, Genesis 12, Joshua 2, and Luke 15), asking the Holy Spirit to remind you of ways that you’ve seen grace making the first move, making unexpected moves, bold moves, and calling you home in your own life. Thank God for the grace given in your life and ask him for opportunities to show others grace.