

Instructions:

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.

Message description:

The prodigal son is a story in Scripture that might be familiar to many, but it is one worth revisiting for fresh insights about God's mercy and grace. This week we focus on the older son's perspective and his anger when faced with the grace given to his younger brother upon return home after squandering his inheritance by disgraceful and reckless living. We hear this message as a reminder of the absolute unconditional nature of God's grace for all.

Key Scriptures

Luke 15:25-32

Questions Related to This Week's Message:

1. What did you hear differently about the story of the two sons this week?
2. What does it mean to you that the grace of God is "unconditional"?
3. Does grace free you of developing unhealthy expectations of your brothers and sisters in Christ?
4. Are you harboring any unforgiveness toward anyone? If so, what joys might you be missing out on because of it?
5. Share about a time forgiveness, given or received, created a new understanding of "grace".
6. Share about a time when you experienced unconditional love?

Going Deeper:**In preparation for All Saints Day.**

- Who has been inspiring to you and your faith journey?
- How did you first learn about "grace"?
- When you hear the phrase, "communion of saints", what comes to mind?

Pray together. Create intentional time and space to offer prayers for one another, that we might share in the comfort of Christ together and experience the Spirit's presence.

Consider the simple acronym of ACTS to guide your time of prayer together:

- A- Adoration.** *Share praise reports or reasons to praise God. (Reading a psalm together can help)*
- C- Confession.** *Leave space to pray silently or individually to confess sins.*
- T- Thanksgiving.** *Share something in the group that you are thankful for this week.*
- S- Supplication, or petition.** *Share concerns and prayer requests you have.*