

Small Group Discussion Guide

“Scandalous” (pt. 1) – 10/26/2014

Scripture: John 4:1-26

Bottom Line: We can never out sin God's grace.

INTRODUCTION: What's the biggest scandal that you can think of? Our culture loves scandals! We certainly don't like to be caught in one but we seem really attracted to stories of others caught in the act. Jesus often interacted with scandalous people. His motives were pure but everyone else questioned how a rabbi could interact with such people.

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

Read John 4:1-26

What are your “six relationships” that you are going to satisfy a deeper need in your soul that only Jesus can satisfy? What is that deeper need that we are tempted to dodge?

What in your life (now or past) have you thought was too scandalous for Jesus?

- Please understand that Jesus has already walked into the middle of it when he went to the cross. That act doesn't count against you anymore. You are free!
- If you are the victim of a scandal, please understand that God's grace through Jesus' death on the cross has reunited you with God and you are not defined by that anymore. You are free! Jesus defines your life now.

Can I out sin God's grace?

- We should like to think that surely God has a limit of how much he will put up with before he kicks us out of the family. But the scandalous truth is that he does not. We cannot out sin God's grace. Of course, this does not give us a license to sin all we want. For Christians, Christ has paid the penalty for ALL our sin and the Holy Spirit is changing our hearts so that we do not delight in sin anymore, even though we may still commit sinful acts.

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

How can God's grace totally free you in a real, practical, daily kind of way?

- Take whatever problem you are facing to Jesus in prayer and look at it through his eyes. The gospel news is that God is with you every day to support you.