

#GRACEGIVESFREEDOM

#THEMISSINGPIECE

SUNDAY:

**Grace Gives Freedom to Be**

@REMNANTCHURCH



# **We have learned that a grace-driven marriage provides:**

- **A Secure Love**
- **A Significant Purpose**
- **A Strong Hope**
- **And, the bedrock of achieving those in our marriage and homes is only found in the work of Jesus propping you up in everyway.**

<sup>16</sup> Luke 4:16-21 (ESV)

He came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, <sup>18</sup> **“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.**

**He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."**

**<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."**

# **Jesus is reading the OT about Himself from Isaiah 61:1-2**

- **This is picture of being in complete bondage with no way to help ourselves**
- **This passage prophesied the mission of Messiah (Jesus) before he was even born**
- **And, Jesus' assignment as Messiah would bring freedom to all the captives that restored favor with God**

**Matt 11: 28–30 (The Message)**

**“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”**

## **2 realities of God's plan for us**

- **Jesus not only came to set us free from the penalty of our sin, but the Grace of His work on the cross also frees us up from having to try up measure up.**
- **The only thing we bring to the process of our salvation, is the sin that Jesus had to take on and die for...THAT'S IT!**

# **God's directive to us all regarding how we walk out this grace**

**Eph 5:1-2 (ESV)**

**Walk in Love**

**1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**



## **Eph 5:1–2 (The Message)**

**Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.**

# **Grace has to look like something in our marriages and homes.**

- **There has to be delivery system that will bring an environment of grace to our homes**
- **There has to be a secret sauce that you can slather and rub all over your family that allows grace to flow in and through your marriage and family.**

# **That delivery system...that secret sauce is freedom**

**Jesus came so that we would enjoy and offer to others the “Freedom to be...”**

- **Freedom to be different,**
- **Freedom to be vulnerable,**
- **Freedom to be candid, and**
- **Freedom to make mistakes**

# 1. Grace frees us to be different

- Our relationship with Christ has its own personality...likewise
- Our marriages all have their own personality
- Which means that grace and the way it is expressed in our marriages will also have its own personality and will look a little different in each.

**Dr. Kimmel says “We all come in different shapes and sizes, all kinds of likes and dislikes. We need to grant each other the freedom to be who God created us to be.” We should never marginalize our spouse for things that are unique parts of their physical or personal make up, body styles, physical inclinations, personality quirks and interests.**

# **3 key points that promote freedom to be yourself in our marriages.**

- 1. Work at not taking things too personally**
- 2. Be careful not make a moral issue out of non-moral issues**
- 3. Be careful not to make an issue out of things that are really not that big a deal.**

# God's view of freeing others up to be themselves.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (ESV) 4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

# **God's view of freeing others up to be themselves.**

- **We marry people who either have or develop interests that can be quirky.**
- **Grace celebrates these things, because grace connects us to the heart of our spouse and these things become part of the color of their story with us.**
- **Grace allows these differences to make our narrative together uniquely special.**



## 2. Grace frees us to be vulnerable

- Stepping out into a place of vulnerability can be a little risky in our marriages.
- Grace filled marriages recognize that there are things that can really get your spouse off their game.
- There needs to be an atmosphere where our spouses feel they can be honest about where they are at emotionally.

**Dr. Kimmel said “A marriage has to be a safe place to process the fragile side of your heart. Things change. Sometimes life doesn’t add up for us. Love is fragile, emotions are tender, and there will be times where the shadows that crossover our lives are darker and thicker than you ever expected. It is in those times that couples need to be a safe harbor for each other when they get turned down in life.**

## **Gods reaction to vulnerability OT**

**Isaiah 30 19-20 (ESV) 19 For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. As soon as he hears it, he answers you. 20 And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Teacher.**

## God's reaction to vulnerability NT

2 Co 12:8-10 (ESV) 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

## God's reaction to vulnerability

- Dr. Kimmel used these verses to point out that when our spouses open up about where they are struggling...fixing the issue is never as important as them knowing that we are there with them, and for them, without judgement.
- “Freedom to be vulnerable” is simply a commitment to treat each other the way God treats us.

### **3. Grace frees us to be candid**

- **A grace filled marriage needs a way to communicate clearly and deeply without killing our spouse hearts in the process.**
- **Being candid doesn't mean an all-out assault or war with words on our spouse**
- **Candid means being honest but also having concern for our spouses well being after the conversation is over.**

# God's view of being candid

**Eph 4 29-32 (The Message)**

**29 Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift.**

**30 Don't grieve God. Don't break his heart. His Holy Spirit, moving and breathing in you, is the most intimate part of your life, making you fit for himself. Don't take such a gift for granted.**

## God view of being candid

31–32 Make a clean break with all cutting, backbiting, profane talk. Be gentle with one another, sensitive. Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you.

- **God designed marriages to be a safe place to be able to work through our personal junk whether we are giving or receiving**



# **The overlying reason we need there to be the freedom to be candid**

- **Our spouses need to have this freedom with us, so we can keep bitterness from getting a foot hold in our relationship**
- **We avoid bitterness when we are able to extend the same grace that redeemed us, to be the model that allows us to serve each other's best interest without turning these rough adjustments into a war zone**

## **Grace frees us to be candid**

- **If you're committed to a grace filled marriage you should never be motivated by winning an argument**
- **When you and your spouse are talking your way through a tough issue the goal of the discussion should always be unifying the marriage and trying to get down the road together and whole.**

## 4. **Grace frees us to make mistakes.**

- **Dr Kimmel highlights that forgiving mistakes is probably the hardest freedom for most people of faith to grant to their spouse.**
- **Our mistakes, weather past or present, affect both spouses now and when one really messes up, usually we have to pay a high personal price for those failures.**

**Dr. Kimmel said “in all my years of working with couples within the family of faith the more difficult issue is not how wretched the sin was that people fell into, but how punitive the reaction was of other believers towards those folks who fall into those traps. It is sad to see the level of punishment one believer will pour out on another once they’ve been let down or feel betrayed.**

# God's view of freedom to make mistakes

Romans 5:1 ESV 1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- Our past, present, and future has been completely and entirely paid for by Jesus
- When we are unable to forgive a failure, we show our wrongly skewed view of our own condition and what Christ did for us.

# God's view of freedom to make mistakes

- Jesus was always able to maintain a righteous justice towards the person's actions, while never letting go of a holy mercy towards them at the same time.
- Jesus never lets a momentary infraction overshadow the value of the internal soul of the person that committed the sin

# Gods view of freedom to make mistakes

Eph 4:31–32 (ESV) Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

- **Our messes from mistakes are often huge and complicated, but no matter the result we are always called to forgive.**

## **Wrapping it up!**

- **God is not afraid of your messes and is willing to be right in the middle of them with you.**
- **Jesus wants the grace and freedom He paid for, to resonate so deeply in you, that there isn't one part of your marriage, home, or community that it doesn't have a marked impact on.**



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