**Grace in Jesus’ Family – Small Group Discussion Questions by Pastor Matt**

**We saw grace in 3 ways when we see the successes and messes in the three families that Jesus has.**

1. Jesus’ Immediate Family – Grace is loving your family because it’s flawed
2. Jesus’ Ancestral Family – Grace is God’s character seen in the past, we trust him for the future
3. Jesus’ Adopted Family – Grace is extended to us, his extended family so we live to extend his family.

**Grace is loving your family because it’s flawed**

1. What are things you are proud of in your family? What makes your family unique or challenging to live with?
2. How has giving or receiving grace changed your family for the better?
3. Knowing that even Jesus’ family wasn’t perfect, how does that inspire you in your own family? (example answer - no family can be perfect and I can let go of that expectation that my family should be perfect)
4. How can you show grace to each other in your family?

**Grace is God’s character seen in the past, we trust him for the future**

1. What ways have you seen God’s grace in your life in the past?
2. What things are you struggling to believe that God will pull through for you?
3. What are God’s promises around this? (Jeremiah 29:11-13, 2 Corinthians 12:9, James 1:17, John 15:16, Isaiah 40:31, 2 Chronicles 7:14). We are ABOUNDING in grace from God. Will we choose to live in the lie that God will not answer or the promises that God has been faithful in already?

*God's rescue of us is NOT about escape, rapture and evacuation. It's about new creation. God rescues us FOR the world not FROM the world. - Nathan Hamm*

1. What could God be trying to teach you and make you into through this circumstance?
2. Pray for each other for the strength to endure and to grow from this experience.

**Grace is extended to us, his extended family so we live to extend his family.**

Since we have received grace, our call is not to hoard it for ourselves, but to extend it to the world.

In our fair city, Snow Angels are those who shovel other people’s driveways and sidewalks. There are signs supporting the idea of extending grace to others by being a Snow Angel to neighbors. Extending grace isn’t necessarily about forgiving someone for something they’ve done to you (but it can be). You can show grace and mercy to a homeless person by loving them as if they were created in God’s image. They can grow closer to God by you being the mouth, hands and feet of Jesus.

1. Who in your circle of influence would grow closer to God through experiencing God’s grace through you? How can you do it?
2. What are you willing to do to see others experience God’s grace and become part of the family of God?