



The Orchard Church | 20 MacLoughlin Drive, Te Puke 3119 | p +64-7-5738961

18 May 25 | Stuck at the Door | Luke 15:25-32 | Dr Graham Blaikie

Groups & Families Discussion Questions

Follow along with the sermon and use these questions to dive a little deeper with your group, with your families at home or for your own personal reflection.

Sermon Notes: Can you identify the main point, the subpoints and application of today's message?

Life Group Questions

1. Previously when you thought about the parable of the prodigal son, did you think primarily of the younger son or the older brother? Why do you think that is?
2. Read Luke 15:1-2. How does the Pharisees' complaint that Jesus 'welcomes sinners and eats with them' clarify the purpose point of the parable? What do you think that point is?
3. How do the two brothers differ in their understanding of how one relates to the Father? How does this reflect two different ways people try to relate to God today?
4. What do you like or dislike about Philip Yancey's quote: "Grace means that there is nothing we can do to make God love us more—no amount of spiritual calisthenics and renunciations, no amount of knowledge from divinity schools, no amount of crusading on behalf of righteous causes. And grace means that there is nothing we can do to make God love us less—no amount of racism or pride or pornography or adultery or even murder. Grace means that God already loves us as much as an infinite God can possibly love."
5. Isn't belief in grace as the heart of the Christian faith risky -- as in inviting 'cheap or easy' grace that can be abused?
6. Dig deep into these application questions
 - Am I gracious towards people inside and outside the church—or sometimes critical and harsh?
 - Do my thoughts and actions ever indicate I am more filled with disgust at the lifestyle of the lost than filled with compassion for their lostness?
 - Do my thoughts and actions ever show more concern about being tainted by associating with 'sinners' than concern to see them come to Christ?
 - Am I helping create a church culture that welcomes people who are far from God? How can I/we do better?