



## MESSAGE GROUPS - JASON BERRY, 12STONE SUMMER - JULY 21

### LEADERSHIP THOUGHT:

Grace is the “unmerited favor and love of God to those who deserve condemnation.” We all sin and don’t deserve His grace, but because of Jesus and his sacrifice on the cross for our sins, we are offered grace beyond what we can ever imagine. When we truly experience redemption through God’s grace, we can begin running to Him with our mess-ups and brokenness instead of running away from Him.

### ICEBREAKER:

If you could go back to school for one day, what would you do?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read John 21:1-6 aloud. At this point in the book of John, Peter has denied knowing Jesus three times, and Jesus has been crucified and risen from the grave. Because Peter felt the shame for denying Jesus, he returned to his old life of being a fisherman. However, because Peter had experienced the powerful relationship with Jesus on earth, his old way of life brought in nothing of value (Literally). It wasn’t until Jesus showed up where everything changed.

**Q:** Have you ever returned to an old vice or way of life because you felt that you had let God down?  
What did you learn from that experience?

In John 21:7, Peter realized it was Jesus standing on the shore, so he jumps from the boat and swims to Jesus. Because of his shame, he felt he had to over perform in order to receive Jesus’ favor again.

**Q:** How have you tried to perform through a mess up to win God back?

**Q:** When we are performing for His approval, we start juggling our faith instead of loving Him authentically.  
How do you connect with God when he starts feeling like a “to-do” on your checklist?

Read Ephesians 2:8-10 aloud. The power of Jesus dying on the cross and resurrecting for us is the access to the unlimited grace that has been offered to us. When we fully experience God’s grace, we truly begin living the life that God always had for us realizing our old ways of living will never be satisfying.

**Q:** Read John 21:15-17 aloud. What can you learn about grace through the story of Peter and Ephesians 2:8-9?

### CLOSE

It is difficult for us to imagine how big God’s grace truly is, but once we’ve experienced it, we have better understanding of His steadfast love.

**Leaders:** Please allow some time for your group to share an area of their life where they need to fully experience God’s grace. Also please remind your group about the great new opportunities that will be offered on Sunday Nights at 12Stone. Please encourage them to review the labs and to sign up if there’s a lab that resonates with an area of growth for their faith journey. Visit [12stone.com/SundayNights](http://12stone.com/SundayNights) for more information!

