

#### I don't believe it's true.

#### I don't want it to be true.



# ... what we crave most when our guilt is exposed.



... what we crave most when our guilt is exposed.

...what we are hesitant to extend when confronted with the guilt of others.



# **TENSION OF GRACE**

When on the receiving end, grace is refreshing.

When it's required of us to extend, grace is disturbing (unsettling).



# ... the unsettling solution for just about everything.



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... undeserved, unearned, unmerited, unearnable, undeservable, unmeritable favor.



The Word (Jesus) became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We (evewitnesses) have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son (Jesus), who came from the Father. full of grace and truth. John 1: 14 NIV



### **JESUS WAS** ...

... all grace and all truth all the time.

... both, because love is all grace and all truth all the time.



#### JOHN WAS THERE ....

... when Jesus invited Matthew to follow him and went to his house to party.

... when Jesus rescued a woman caught in adultery from being stoned.

... when Jesus called down Zacchaeus from a sycamore tree to stay at his house.

#### JOHN WAS THERE ...

... when Jesus granted a criminal, a last-minute convert, eternity.

... when Jesus put Peter in charge after he had denied knowing him three times.

... when Jesus recruited Saul of Tarsus who was persecuting Christians.



### GRACE IS NOT FAIR.



For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning (about 6:00 am) to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. ... About nine in the morning ... He went out again about noon ... about three ... about five ... When evening came (6:00 pm) the owner ... "Call the workers and pay them their wages

beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first." ... So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ... they began to grumble ... "I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give to give ... Don't I have the right ...? Or are you envious because I am generous? So the last will be first, and the first will be last." Matthew 20: 1-16 NIV

#### Grace is an invitation.

Everybody is invited and enters through the same door the same way.



#### Father God, I fall short (sin) all the time.

... I need what I don't deserve, your grace, to be forgiven of my sin and reconciled with you.

... I believe Jesus' death on the cross on my behalf accomplished both.

... I place my faith and trust in Jesus as both my Savior from sin and Lord.

