

7. What are the problems of living as though you have to be “good enough?”
8. In the media, etc., we hear people described as “he’s a good man” or “she’s a good person.” What does the world seem to qualify as “good?” What should qualify as good?
9. When was there a time you experienced true grace from someone else? Was it hard for you to accept? How did it feel?
10. Have you ever felt like you’ve experienced grace from God (not just intellectually believed it, but really experienced it)? Share together.
11. Pray for one another before you leave.

Remember Small Group sharing is confidential.

**Next Sunday’s Message:**

**“Come to the Party”**

**Finding Your Way Back To God  
“I Can’t Do It on My Own”  
Part 4 of 6  
January 29, 2012**

***Take Home Insert  
For Message Notes, Personal Reflection, Dinner  
Time Conversation and Small Group Discussion***

*“The son said, “Father, I have sinned against God in heaven and against you. I am no longer good enough to be called your son. But his father said to the servants, “Hurry and bring the best clothes and put them on him. Give him a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. Get the best calf and prepare it, so we can eat and celebrate. This son of mine was dead, but has now come back to life. He was lost and has now been found. And they began to celebrate.”*

Luke 15:21-24 (CEV)

**1. CLEAR YOUR VISION \_\_\_\_\_**

*“... God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”* 2 Corinthians 5:19 (NAS)

*"The God that many people know is the conservative God, the one who says there are moral absolutes that you must obey and if you obey those moral absolutes then you know that you're one of the righteous people. Then you can please God and He'll be on your side in*

*this life and when you die He'll take you to heaven."*  
Timothy Keller

*"And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt:..."The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.'"*  
Luke 18:9 & 11 (NAS)

## 2. CLEAR YOUR VISION \_\_\_\_\_

*"...all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard."*  
Romans 3:23 (NLT)

## 3. CLEAR YOUR VISION \_\_\_\_\_

*"...God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."*  
Colossians 1:27 (NIV)

### My Commitments This Week

\_\_\_ I will memorize Colossians 1:27

\_\_\_ Each morning I will remember I am baptized and ask Christ to live out his life in and through me.

\_\_\_ I will search out Bible passages that remind me of God's love and grace toward me.

\_\_\_ I will refrain from judging others remembering that every human being is in the same boat - a sinner saved by God's grace.

\_\_\_ I will invite a friend to Alpha or attend myself as a way of helping people know the love and grace of God.

### *Building on Sunday's Message (Personal Reflection, Dinner Time Conversation and Small Group Discussion)*

1. Share the story of a time when you were able to barter/negotiate for a great deal on something.
2. Read Luke 15:11-20.
3. What are some ways in which our society lives by "you get what you deserve"?
4. Do you see asking for grace from someone as a sign of weakness? Why or why not?
5. Have you ever had to pay a debt, or work off your punishment for something?
6. Do you feel like if you act better God will love you more? Or like you need to live at a certain level of "good enough" in order to make it to heaven? Explain.