

Luke 5:1-11

Peter was humbled here in the one area of life where he should have been in control. His reaction was to push Jesus away so he would not have to face his own failure and inadequacy: "Go away from me Lord!" It is always easier to push away, or kill, those who bring us face to face with ourselves than it is to face the truth of who we are. This recalls the reaction of the people of Nazareth to Jesus, and anticipates not only the path of Jesus through Luke to the crucifixion but also of the disciples themselves through Acts. Yet in this moment of humiliation, Peter came face to face with himself and confessed, "I am a sinful man." This confession marked a turning point in Simon's life, and became the definition of a faithful response to Jesus (Luke 5:32). (Dennis Bratcher, 2018).

Cheap grace is preaching forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession, pardon without personal confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, without the cross, grace without Jesus, living and incarnate. Costly grace...is the call of Jesus Christ at which the disciple leaves his nets and follows Him. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man His life, and it is grace because it gives a person true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1937).

February Discipleship:

Open your heart and mind to Jesus. Love Him, and allow Him time and room to speak love and grace into your life. Let the Lord disciple you. Out of the grace offered to you, make time to befriend someone. Love Jesus together.

Next week: *Dr. Rhonda Carrim*

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February 10, 2019

The Power of Jesus

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Psalm 138*

Monday: *Luke 3:21-22*

Tuesday: *2 Peter 1:16-21*

Wednesday: *Psalm 18:1-6*

Thursday: *Psalm 18:17-19*

Friday: *1 John 3:1-3*

Saturday: *Psalm 127:1-2*

O Lord, I have heard the reports about You, and I am in awe when I consider all You have done. O Eternal One, revive Your work in our lifetime; reveal it among us in our times. In Your anger Lord, remember Your compassion.

Habakkuk 3:2

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