



Lesson #4 – Overwhelmed by Grace

“Orphans, Slaves, & Sons” – Pastor Brady

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BFC Notes from our Bible Verses in this lesson:

- This lesson verses will be: Luke 15:17-24
- John 8:34-36
- Galatians 4:1-7
- Luke 15:20
- ❖ **Luke 15:17-24**
 - **When he “came to himself”**-How long does it take us before we “come to ourselves” and allow the Holy Spirit to take over in an area of our lives that we have been trying to do things “on our own”? Stubbornly refusing to “give in and give up” and confess our sin/rebellion and independence OR justifying what we think we’re doing is “OK” – “I will get through this, I don’t need help”
 - **“Arise and go” to my Father** – Faith-once we realize the Holy Spirit is giving us direction and we need to repent-follow His promptings or leadings. We must put ACTION to our TURNING and redirect our walk. OBEDIENCE AND SELF DISCIPLINE (Self-Control one of the Fruit of the Spirits)

- **“No longer worthy to be called your son”**-Watch out!!
The devil is a LIAR!! He will tell us things like this to keep us in rebellion, misery, sin; There is therefore NO Condemnation to those in Christ Jesus. If you are saved, you ARE in Christ Jesus – Gods Forgiving, Loving, GRACE!
- **All our sins have been forgiven - Jesus remembers our sins NO MORE – GRACE –** (this is not a license to sin and do what we want “because He is full of grace – when we are saved, Jesus gives us NEW desires and those new desires bring conviction because He wants fellowship with us)
- **The more we study and stay in the word- the stronger God makes us.**

❖ Our Father is full of compassion

❖ He waits patiently for our return and repentance

- The son in our lesson repents to God first then to his father – A picture of what we need to do. Turn to God then to any person that needs restitution with.
- This father dresses him “anew”
 - Our Father will remove our sin – put on new “infilling” of the Holy Spirit – renewed and washed in the blood of Jesus
 - The new apparel has several symbolic meanings, as I looked this up in commentaries, there are variations as to what each piece means

- Best Robe
 - Ring on his finger
 - Sandals on his feet
- ❖ Celebration time: Eat, drink and celebrate
 - Was dead, now alive
 - Lost but now found (In this story the lost and found is not talking about him never having known Jesus – he was saved and came back to God)
 - ❖ WOW – In verse 20, The Father RAN TO THE SON and fell on his knees hugging the son’s neck and kissed him.
 - Originally, I thought the son did the hugging and kissing because he was so glad the father was accepting him. But the FATHER is the one with open arms and forgiveness – wrapping him with GRACE and LOVE.
 - God goes above and beyond in His
 - Grace
 - Love
 - Forgiveness
 - Blessings
 - ❖ The apparel and party were above and beyond just receiving and accepting the repentant heart (son)
 - ❖ I remember a sermon I heard from Valley Creek – Pastor John Stickl on “RECLAIM” a couple of years back.

- The verses in this sermon talked about taking back what the devil had stole from me. When I went back to my home church (after being gone for 3 years and visiting other churches) I was welcomed as if I never left and I asked forgiveness where I needed to AND God started opening ministry doors for me once again.
- ❖ A person can be obedient yet have a bad attitude and be distant in his relationship with Jesus.
- ❖ **In Galatians 4:1-7- I share my following notes**
 - I am an heir – child of God. But I personally won't claim all that is mine until I get to heaven. But that is not really what this verse is talking about.
 - I am an heir – child of God – I get saved, I am a newborn baby and I must GROW into my relationship with God by prayer and study and Christian teaching and fellowship.
 - When we first get saved, we may still look like the world in some of our habits and lifestyles because we are “babies in Christ”. We are learning to WALK in our new faith! God is patient!
 - I understand the guardian and protection of the Holy Spirit until I go to heaven and have a new body, new home and all my rewards for serving Him.

Lesson #4 – Orphans, Slaves, Sons – Video Notes by: Pastor Brady Body

- Luke 15 - The man who discovered Grace has two questions
 - 1. What is really true about God?
 - 2. What is true about you? (What is in your core?)
 - How does God see you?
 - How do you see God?
- Pastor shares a scenario about the 2 boys in this story
 - The father is probably a single dad
 - The boys are probably 18-24 years of age
 - The youngest one comes to dad-basically saying: “Dad your not dying soon enough, You are rich and I want my money now”.
 - He is arrogant, selfish and has no regard or respect for his dad.
 - Not only was he arrogant and selfish, he was going to leave his dad, and in that culture, it was the responsibility of the kids to take care of the elderly parents.
 - Son has the attitude; He is not going to help his dad in his old age!
- The son takes the money and spends all of it; ending up in a pig pen. A Jewish boy ending up in a pig pen with non kosher animals.
- A wrestling match is going on in his soul, he says: “I am no longer worthy to be called your son”.
 - (Jesus died for us, so we are Worthy to be called sons and daughters no matter what we have done – GRACE!
- Orphans, Slaves, Sons = Overwhelmed by GRACE
- Who are you?
- What choices have you made in your lifestyle?
- The son “chose” to be an orphan by walking away from his dads hours.
 - By cultural standards, his dad had the right to disown him, so the son knew he was orphaned by his own choice.

- The son thinks maybe if he could DO enough good, he could become a slave, but believed he would NEVER be a SON again. (That mindset the devil works on us, Do Good Works, Work Harder, Work, Work, Work, performance oriented)
- The biggest thing we need to receive is the OVERWHELEMED GRACE – IT IS OUR IDENTITY IN JESUS
- If you don't know who you are, you will never catch this GRACE
- The first group Brady talks about is: ORPHANS
 - Our churches are full of them
- Brady has two adopted children – he shares several examples in this sermon with them.
 - We aren't supposed to mold children into what we want them to be, we are to help them become what God wants them to be.
 - This is an Orphan Generations
- Step up to your calling
 - Orphans don't believe they belong anywhere
 - Orphans will attend church, but they won't commit and serve because they don't trust authority because they have been hurt.
 - Orphans won't let anyone get close to them.
 - Orphans are not going to get hurt again
 - The word GRACE means nothing to them – they don't get it.
 - Orphans had to fight for everything they have ever received.
 - Orphans have never had anyone believe in them
 - Orphans wonder through life, not knowing where they belong
- SLAVE MENTALITY:
 - Slaves ARE COMMITTED.
 - They believe their position in the family depends on their performance
 - If they work hard, really hard, "Maybe Dad will pay attention to me"
 - They are like mice on a treadmill running faster, faster, faster; Look at me God-See how hard I am working
 - Put the spotlight on ME -Look what I am doing

- All their identity is in who they are, where they have been what they have done, who they know.
 - We ARE to do good works, that is not who we are.
- God is not impressed with what we are doing as much as “WHO WE ARE BECOMING”.
- Slaves are “Behavior” focused
- God wants a heart transformation, not robotic, performance-oriented children
- God sees past our behavior and into our hearts
- Jesus didn’t come to this earth to simply control our behavior; He came to ADOPT US.
- Parenting is a type of shadow of our relationship with God
- God set up the family to give us insight as to His relationship to us.
- God is our DAD- we are His children!
- **SONS and DAUGHTERS**
 - Galatians 4 verse in our study
 - The Law shows us we need Jesus
 - We are saved by GRACE that we might receive the full rights of SONS
 - The Holy Spirit came into our hearts and tells us we can call out Abba Father
 - We are no longer SLAVES
- Some differences are:
 - Sons and Daughters enjoy the land the Father owns.
 - They have assignments and things they are supposed to do
 - They get to enjoy time with Dad and not feel guilty if Dad doesn’t give them all their attention
 - They know their behavior doesn’t change their positions IN JESUS and with DAD