

SERMON: Overcome Evil with Good
SCRIPTURE: Romans 12:21

SERIES: Love Your Enemies
SPEAKER: Pastor Brady

August 25, 2019

THE GOAL: The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS: Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

REVIEW: Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

Observation: as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

Interpretation: answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

Application: answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

GO DEEPER: Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. Where have you been overcome with evil (fear, anger, resentment, giving up, seeing suffering as meaningless, etc.) Where can you see yourself overcoming evil with good?
 2. We are called to overcome evil with good. What do each of the following passages teach us about how we relate to good and evil and how we can overcome evil with good?
 - A. Ephesians 2:1-9 – What is our relationship to both evil and good?
 - B. Ephesians 6:10-20 – What is our response to evil here? Think about the word “stand;” what does it imply?
 - C. Ephesians 2:10 – How is our relationship to goodness connected to our relationship to Christ here? What does the word “walk” imply here (as opposed to Paul saying “do” good works)?
 - D. Ephesians 5:2 – How is our walk described here? How is love defined here? Where have you seen love overcome evil in your life or the life of another?
 - E. Ephesians 5:8-14 – What do you think Paul means when he says our “walk” should expose the works of darkness? Also look at verse 14 – “that which is visible is light.” How does our light work to transform others into light?
 - F. 1 Corinthians 15:54-58. The resurrection gives the power to transform evil into good (think about the cross). Read verse 58. How does this great truth motivate us to keep working to overcome evil with good (see also Gal. 6:9).
- Prayer: Praise God for his goodness that conquers evil. Confess areas of your life where you have allowed evil to overcome your life. Ask God to reveal places where you can do good to overcome evil.