

What have I done to deserve this?

Luke 18:9-14 // Nathan Hooper
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As grateful Christians justified by grace...we understand what we deserve as the result of our sinfulness...we rightfully trust in the mercy, power and holiness of God...we are freed from the bondage of sin to truly live for Christ.

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1) Read the scripture (Luke 28:9-14). In this passage, Jesus is making the point that it isn't what's on the outside that counts to God — it is what's on the inside (our hearts.)

- What is the danger of thinking you're a better Christian than those around you? How can comparing our walk with others' lead us to forget our ongoing need for God's grace?
- Will our actions ever lead us to greater favour in God's eyes, if our heart isn't in the right place? How can we check our hearts before the Lord?

2) Read 1 Corinthians 26-31.

- Why do we desire to impress man with our works? Does God honour the world's standard of what is good?
- What are some practical examples of worldly good vs Godly good? How can we apply these in our everyday lives?

3) Adam Ramsey said "Mercy is not a feeling that God drifts into when He is in a generous mood. It is the ever-flowing fount of the deepest part of His heart."

- Have you ever truly felt undeserving of God's mercy? How does it change your perspective on God knowing He gives it to you anyway?
- How can remembering God's character and Holiness help us with understanding the power of His grace? How can we remind each other of these things?

4) Nathan said, "Humility ultimately shifts our focus from ourselves onto others."

- Do you truly desire to make God known through your actions?
- How can we cultivate a community of humbleness and gratefulness in our small group and church? How might this lead us to greater joy as we serve others?

5) As the study comes to a close, share what God's mercy has rescued you from that you are grateful for. Pray for renewed eyes, that you may not lose the sense of awe over the grace God has given us.