

SERMON NOTES

5th Sunday in Lent, Year B * March 17, 2024

Sermon by the Reverend Tom Rutherford

Jeremiah 31:31-34 * Psalm 119:9-16 * Hebrews 5:5-10 *

John 12:20-33

Grace and Obedience

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: **Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise;** ...

Book of Common Prayer, 219

“Grace” = “God’s love AND our response”

GOD’S LOVE:

God says: “This is the covenant I will make with my people: I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.” Jeremiah 31:33-34

OUR RESPONSE: O _____

Psalm 119:9-16

9 How shall a young man cleanse his way? By keeping to your words.

10 With my whole heart I seek you; let me not stray from your commandments...

14 ... I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees * than in all manner of riches.

15 I will meditate on your commandments

16 ... I will not forget your word.

✦ Allowing the Bible to F_____ us, instead of the other way around.

Even though he was the Son of God, Jesus learned obedience from what he suffered. Hebrews 5:8

✦ If Jesus learned obedience by what he suffered, why would it be any different for us?

Next Week’s Lessons

Isaiah 50:4-9a * Psalm 31:5-16 * Philippians 2:5-11 * Mark 14:1-15:47

Chewing on Our Daily Bread

Questions for conversation with your family, small group, or a friend

1. “Grace” is “God’s love for us AND our response.” What is one way God has shown his love for you recently?
2. “Grace” is “God’s love for us AND our response.” What is one way you’ve responded to God’s love recently?
3. Psalm 119:9 says, “How shall a young man cleanse his way? By keeping to your words.” What is one way the Bible has influenced how you respond to God’s love? In other words, what is something you do or don’t do, out of obedience to what the Bible says?
4. Hebrews 5:8 says: “Even though he was the Son of God, Jesus learned obedience from what he suffered.” Tell about a painful or unpleasant event or process in your life that has helped you become more obedient to God.
5. PRAY:
 - ✦ Thanking God for loving us so lavishly.
 - ✦ Thanking God for opportunities to respond to his love.
 - ✦ For grace to let the Bible influence our attitude and behavior.
 - ✦ For grace to learn obedience from what we suffer.
 - ✦ For any needs in your group.