

MESSAGE REVIEW

Jesus begins His public ministry in dramatic fashion – by claiming to be the fulfillment of 700-yearold Scriptures that pointed to the Messiah, and offending a large group of Jews with the truth that God's grace extends to anyone who will receive it. The message of Jesus is clear: God's grace is available to everyone by faith. Therefore, don't make it more complicated for yourself or for others.

WARM UP QUESTION

How good are you at receiving gifts? Talk about why/why not.

Read Luke 4:14-30. Luke tells us Jesus begins His ministry in the region of Galilee. What is He doing and how is He initially received by people?

What does Jesus do when He gets to His hometown of Nazareth (vs. 16)? What should be our takeaway from the fact that Jesus regularly attended 'church'? **Read Hebrews 10:25.** What are the barriers you face in meeting together with fellow believers?

Jesus is handed a section of the book of Isaiah to read in the synagogue. What stands out to you about the specific section He reads? How is vs. 21 like the first recorded 'mic drop' in history? How has Jesus personally set you free in any of the areas He describes in vs. 18-19?

What in the world happens next to make the people in the synagogue so mad? What do these two Old Testament stories represent about God's grace? How do you react when someone tells you something you don't really want to hear – maybe something that challenges a belief you've always had or something personally convicting?

Read Ephesians 2:8. Jesus makes His grace available to everyone by faith. Which category would you put yourself in when it comes to grace: unaware of it (looking in all the wrong places), trying to earn it (it's not fair) or received/want to receive it as the free gift it is?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

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