



Pastor Lance Ainsworth

**MESSAGE NOTES**

Sunday, June 21

Happy Fathers Day

*notes*

Introduction

A.W. Tozer

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.”

How do I know if I have created my own image of God? If that God agrees with everything I think.

Exodus 34 New King James Version (NKJV)

34 And the LORD said to Moses, “Cut two tablets of stone like the first ones, and I will write on these tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke.

2 So be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai and present yourself to Me there on the top of the mountain. 3 And no man shall come up with you, and let no man be seen throughout all the mountain; let neither flocks nor herds feed before that mountain.”

4 So he cut two tablets of stone like the first ones. Then Moses rose early in the morning and went up Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him; and he took in his hand the two tablets of stone.

5 Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there and proclaimed the name of the Lord.

6 And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,

7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.”

Simple definition of Mercy – God does not give us what we deserve.

Romans 6:23 For the Wages of sin is death. But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

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## GROUP DISCUSSION

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This Sunday we talked about God revealing himself to Moses as merciful and gracious. What is the opposite of merciful and gracious? What do you identify God with more merciful and gracious or cruel and angry? Is it possible to be both?

When have you seen God's mercy in your life? Why is it important to remember God's work of mercy in our life?

Who do you need to give mercy to? In Jonah 4, Jonah is angry that God has given Nineveh mercy. Have you ever thought that somebody else didn't deserve mercy? Is it hard when people you don't like get mercy they don't deserve?

Along with mercy comes grace. God forgave the children of Israel and still gave them a chance to receive their inheritance. Grace is getting what we don't deserve. How have you seen God's grace at work in your life? How has God blessed you despite your shortcomings?

What are some things you are hoping to learn during this new sermon series? What hurdles might hinder you from growing in these areas?