

## Introduction

God hates sin, but loves people. The tension in these two truths is the very people God loves (you, me, our neighbors, etc.) are the very people born with the propensity to sin. If God is in fact good, holy, and righteous then he can not ignore sin since sin produces pain, destruction, and death. There must be judgment of sin. Yet His unending love for people requires Him to extend mercy and grace. Into this tension enters Jesus...

## Discussion Topics

- Have you ever been caught doing something that deserved a punishment, but were let off with a lesser punishment than you deserved? Were you let off with no punishment at all?
- How do you feel when you see someone else get let off without any consequences for their wrong actions?
- Read John 1:14-17. Describe what you think John means when he says that Jesus “came...FULL of grace AND truth.” What should our response to that be?
- Allow the group some time for reflection and quiet prayer/repentance with God. Lead the group in communion together, remember God’s grace that comes through the cross.

## Moving Forward

In Romans, the apostle Paul says that God’s kindness (His grace) is intended to lead us to repentance, which should be a regular part of our time with God. Moving forward, we should make it a priority to spend time reflecting and repenting of our sin.

Bonus: Read “The Lord’s Prayer” - Matthew 6:9-14