



Grace Group Questions: Thriving not Surviving in Chaos

Big Idea:

“Anchored people thrive - not just survive - in Chaos”

1. Take some time to check in with one another. How is everyone doing with the ongoing stresses of 2020 and 2021? May we suggest starting with prayer and maybe even sing or listen to a worship song or hymn together.
2. In what ways have you been tempted to pursue a “painted” life (covering up/masking your behavior)? What are the dangers of equating this to living a life faithful to Jesus? Why is this so easy for us to do?
3. Read Genesis 3:6 and 1 John 2:16. If you have different Bible Translations in your group, read them more than once. Where do you see similarities? Put these temptations into categories; where do you see these temptations in the world today? What is the biggest temptation for you?
4. Read Genesis 3:8-15, 21. In this account, we see our human response to our sin; excuses, blame, and covering it up. What happened? They exchanged God’s truth for the lie of the serpent. Read Rom. 1:18-25; Romans 1 is true of all image bearers, when have you exchanged the glory of God for that which is lesser?
5. God’s response to Adam and Eve’s sin is to 1) Show up, 2) confront the sin, 3) cover their shame 4) give GRACE. Do you see this pattern in your own life with God? Which of these four is the hardest for you to recognize? Which is the hardest to receive?

6. Surviving sounds like life, but it's really just delayed death and a life without the fullness Christ has promised. This kind of life involves giving up, "thumbing our nose" at God or settling for therapeutic moralistic deism rather than a Life with God. Where do you feel like you are surviving, not thriving in your life right now? Have you ever felt like you were just surviving in your spiritual life? If you are comfortable, share an example and how God worked in you during that season.

7. Thriving means accepting God's presence and provision, even in our sin and chaos. His work restores us to the Image of God. Read 2 Cor. 3:17-18, 4:7-14. How do these verses speak to God's work in us, leading us to live lives that are THRIVING in Chaos?

Quote for the week:

"Only two things have ever changed the human heart; the fall of man and the Grace of God."

- Larry Crabb