LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

October 4th

1. **Where We Place Our Confidence**
    a. Eric described a kind of foundational confidence—the things we rely on to assure us that our lives are secure, meaningful, and worthwhile. What are some of the things we naturally look to for that kind of confidence? How do those things shape the way we respond when life becomes uncertain or difficult?
2. **When Good Things Become Ultimate Things**
    a. Paul had plenty of reasons to feel confident in his heritage, accomplishments, and religious devotion. But Eric pointed out that these good things had actually become obstacles to recognizing Jesus. Where do you see the temptation to turn good things into ultimate things in our lives? How might we recognize when something good has begun to take a place in our lives that belongs to Jesus?
3. **Finding Our Place in God's Family**
    a. Paul reminds the Philippians that their place among God's people doesn't depend on their background, religious credentials, or accomplishments. Instead, they belong because of Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit. How might that understanding change the way we see ourselves and one another? What difference could it make in the way we welcome, value, and live alongside people in our community at Grace?
4. **The Faithfulness of Jesus**
    a. Eric distinguished between a confidence that depends on how tightly we can hold on to something and a confidence that rests in the ability of that something to hold on to us. He reminded us that our security isn't ultimately found in the strength of our faith, but in the faithfulness of Jesus. How does that distinction challenge the way we sometimes think about faith? What might it change about how we approach doubt, uncertainty, or seasons when following Jesus feels difficult?
5. **The Confidence to Live Differently**
    a. Throughout this series, we've seen that the better way of Jesus involves humility, self-giving love, and sometimes suffering. Eric reminds us that we can embrace this way of life because suffering and death don't have the final word—Jesus has risen, and his resurrection gives us hope for both today and the future. How might that confidence free us to love others more courageously, even when it's difficult or costly? Where might God be inviting us to live with that kind of confidence right now?