



Elements: Sin

Week of July 10, 2022

Connect Group Discussion Guide

Elements is about taking the foundational doctrines of the church, making them personal, and understanding how they enhance our relationship with God.

- Read Romans 23-24. Think back to Pastor Nick's message 2 Sundays ago... What is sin? Describe what you think Paul means when he says, all are justified freely?
 - Just like a court case those who are accused of breaking the law evidence has to be produced of our innocence. Since we aren't innocent because of sin the penalty still has to be paid. Only, it isn't us who pays it. We have a benefactor in Jesus who freely justifies us by his grace!
- Does God's grace through Jesus before we sin or as a result of sin? Read Romans 2:1-4. What is prevenient grace? What is the purpose of prevenient grace?
 - *Excerpt from the Church of the Nazarene Articles of Faith: "...we also believe that the grace of God through Jesus Christ is freely bestowed upon all people, enabling all who will to turn from sin to righteousness, believe on Jesus Christ for pardon and cleansing from sin, and follow good works pleasing and acceptable in His sight."*
- Read Luke 15. As you're reading look for ways that prevenient grace is displayed in each of these 3 parables. Share them with the group.
- Around the Circle: In what tangible ways have you recognized prevenient grace in your life?
- How does God's use of prevenient grace in your life model for you on how to respond to others sins? What if those sins are against you?
- Are you good at forgiving others? How might adopting prevenient grace for others help you with forgiveness? Does prevenient grace mean lowering your standard and expectations of how other people behave?