

## One Small Step – Week 2 Relational Intimacy (Grace and Truth) – Jim Burgen January 23, 2022

### Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

### // Bible References

Luke 6:45; Romans 3:23, 6:23; Galatians 6:7; John 3:16; Romans 5:6-8; Ephesians 2:8-9

### // Message Summary

We are getting 2022 off to a good start with the second message in our Flatirons Values Series. This week Pastor Jim encourages us to examine our values, not just as ideas that we believe are true but as the driving force behind the choices we make. Our values make themselves apparent through the actions and behaviors of our everyday lives. In last week's message we learned about Biblical Authority; if we will adjust our lives to the truth of God's word we can find a better way to live. We are naturally separated from God by our sin. It is only by God's grace and faith in Jesus that we can be reconnected back into relationship with Him. This week we focus on the value of relational intimacy; our connection with God is made possible by the payment of Christ to redeem our lives.

### // Biblical and Historical Context

If the most concise message of the gospel can be summarized in the words of John 3:16; perhaps the most comprehensive explanation of Christian theology is provided by the apostle Paul in his letter to the Romans. The church that Paul wrote to was a group of new Christians in the capital city of the vast Roman Empire of the first century. They were surrounded by the diverse people groups of a growing city and a pantheistic culture trying to appease many gods. In his letter, Paul explains the important beliefs and resulting behaviors for those who choose to live by faith in Jesus.

### // Community Questions

1. If you had the chance to be an eyewitness to any event in human history, what would you most like to have seen or experienced?
2. What are you most looking forward to in 2022

## // Discussion Questions

1. Look at Romans 3:23; what point is Paul trying to make about man's good deeds?
2. Do you have an easier time picturing God as a 'righteous judge' or as a 'loving father'? What do you think most influences your perspective?
3. Take a look together at Romans 5:6-8. What stands out to you?
4. Jim reminded us that the grace that saved you is the same grace that will change you over time. What is one change you have noticed since first placing your trust in Jesus?
5. Are there other positives you have noticed as a result of bible reading, growth of the group, or acts of service? How do these steps encourage more of the same?

## // Challenge

The challenge of this series has been to imagine what might your life be like and what would it look like if your life lined up with what Jesus is describing is better? Pray for grace and strength to take hold of the better, more abundant life Jesus offers. Read Ephesians Chapter 2:8-9 meditate on these verses and thank God for His gift of salvation.