

I. Comfort and Challenge

In any church congregation there are going to be some people who are _____ . And, in that case we hope that God's _____ can help move them outside of their _____ zones to live _____ .

There are also those at church who come _____ , and they need to receive a message with _____ .

Jesus was full of _____ and _____ ... not half grace and half truth but _____ grace and _____ truth. And, Jesus knew which one to _____ depending on the situation.

We are supposed to _____ as Jesus walked and _____ as Jesus lived. So, that means to be more like Jesus, we need to be _____ of grace and truth.

II. Growing in Both Grace and Truth

When Jesus shows _____ , it means that you are given more _____ , acceptance and favor than what you _____ to have.

Jesus said, "The truth will set you free." He meant that _____ His spiritual truth would free you from the _____ of sin and deception.

-What does it look like when someone is strong in grace, but tends to lack truth?

Such a person probably lacks good _____ .

They can be _____ by others and manipulated.

-What does it look like when someone is strong in truth, but tends to lack grace?

Such a person is in _____ of being too judgmental, _____ and harsh.

Grace and truth are not _____ , but they do _____ in two different directions.

-What does a church lacking in truth look like?

They would _____ talking about personal sins and the need for _____ .

Pergamum and Thyatira are warned about being _____ by false teachings and tolerating evil behavior.

-What does a church lacking in grace look like?

They tend to be very _____ of others, act prideful and feel _____ to those around them.

The church of Ephesus is warned about losing their _____ .

Conclusion:

In the Gospel we see truth and grace come together. Truth _____ the need for salvation, while grace _____ it, both meeting perfectly in the person of _____ .

Questions for Further Reflection or Discussion:

- 1) Can you come up with more examples of when Jesus challenged some people while comforting others?
- 2) As you try to reach out to others, are you a person who tends to emphasize grace more or emphasize truth more?
- 3) Is there a way you should change how you treat others in order to be more like Jesus?