



Despicable Us, Unstoppable Grace

Recap:

In Romans 3:1-8, Paul steps into the ring with a series of tough questions from skeptics, challenging the very value of being Jewish, and what it means when we're all found wanting. But instead of dodging the issue, Paul takes a bold stand and says, **"Yes, the Jews have a unique privilege!"** They were entrusted with the very oracles of God—His words that revealed His will, His plans, and, most importantly, the coming of Jesus, the Messiah. These words were never just ancient stories; they were a promise. Through them, God revealed His character. Even when human faithfulness crumbles, God's faithfulness remains a rock—unwavering and untouched.

But Paul doesn't stop there. He cuts through the misconception that sin somehow highlights God's glory, as if our failures make Him look good. No, he says—sin is never a reason to keep going in the wrong direction. The idea that we can continue sinning to showcase God's righteousness is a dangerous misunderstanding, one that deserves judgment, not applause.

In this passage, Paul flips the script: it's not about our ability to live perfectly or our religious heritage. It's about **God's faithfulness**—the one thing that can never be shaken. His grace, unstoppable and unrelenting, is the foundation of our salvation. And our only response should be to trust in Him, embrace His promises, and live out His Word, knowing that His faithfulness transforms us from the inside out.

Study: Read 3:1-8 (45 Min)

Icebreaker: Have you ever tried to talk your way out of trouble as a kid (or an adult)? What was your best (or worst) excuse?

1. What about the message on Sunday and this passage stood out to you or you have questions about?
2. Can you think of a time when you felt like you really messed up? How did you experience God's grace in that moment, and what did you learn about His faithfulness through it?
3. Paul says the Jewish people were entrusted with the "oracles of God." What does it mean to you personally to have God's Word so readily available? How do you actively engage with it in your daily life?
4. Paul says that human unfaithfulness does not nullify God's faithfulness. Have you ever struggled with doubt or unbelief? How can we remind ourselves of God's unshakable promises during those times?

5. Grace isn't an excuse to sin—it's the power to live free. Are there areas in your life where you've struggled to accept God's grace and fallen into patterns of sin? How can you practically live out God's grace in those areas?

6. We are reminded that God is the ultimate judge. How does this truth affect the way we view others' failures or sins? How can we show grace instead of judgment when we see others struggling?

7. Paul shows that we are entrusted with God's Word to share with others. In what ways are you actively sharing the message of God's grace with those around you? What fears or challenges do you face in sharing your faith?

8. Josh talked about the various Bibles that have influenced his life over the years. Do you have a particular Bible that is meaningful to you? If so, share the story behind it.

9. When you've experienced or witnessed unfaithfulness in relationships, how have you seen God's faithfulness in those situations? How might that understanding affect the way you interact with others?

10. What role does confession and repentance play in your relationship with God? How do you understand God's desire for genuine heart transformation, not just forgiveness?

11. How does knowing that God is ultimately faithful, even when we are unfaithful, change the way you view your personal struggles in your journey of faith?

SUPPORT/PRAYER (15 min)

Divide your group into smaller groups of 2-3 people (men with men, women with women). Take time to share areas in your life where you may be tempted to misuse or justify actions by misinterpreting God's grace. Together, ask for forgiveness and pray for a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's grace at work in your lives.

Prayer prompt:

"Lord, I come before You with humility, recognizing the ways I sometimes twist Your grace to justify my actions. Help me to see clearly where I have taken Your mercy for granted and guide me to genuine repentance.

Thank You for Your unending grace, which is not a license to sin but a gift that transforms my heart. Give me wisdom to walk in obedience and surround me with others who will encourage me in truth.

As we share and confess together, may we find freedom in Your forgiveness and grow in a deeper appreciation of Your grace at work in our lives."