



Highly Favored

Favor Shown

Wk 1 • November 28

Introduction

This week, Pastor Jesse begins our Advent series Highly Favored with a message that acquaints us with how the word *favored* can be translated from the original Greek language as God's charity, God's love and God's timing. During this Advent season, let us keep our eyes focused on the perfect example of God's favor: Jesus.

Discussion

1. How do you define the word *favor*? Give an example of how favor has been shown in your life.
2. The same Greek word for *favor* is used in Luke 1:28 & 30 and Ephesians 1:5-6 (where it's translated as "grace"). This definition means charity directed at us as part of God's family. What does it mean to have this grace from God as part of His family?
3. The second translation of *favor* is that of "delight." In Luke 2:13-15, the angels speak to lowly shepherds about Jesus' birth. Discuss why it would have been strange for God to delight in these men. How do you respond to God's delight in you?
4. In Luke 4:18-19, a third definition of *favor* is "God's appointed time." Pastor Jesse explains this definition using the example of the Year of Jubilee, which is a kind of "do-over." How is the Christmas story like a "do-over" for us?
5. During this Christmas season, which of these three definitions of favor do you currently need in your life?

Take Action

1. Read about Jesus' birth in Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 1:26-2:20, keeping in mind the message of favor and how it relates to your life.
2. Read through the Year of Jubilee in Leviticus 25. Prayerfully consider what areas of your life need a "do-over" and release it to the Lord.
3. Determine to show one of the above types of favor to a family member, friend or someone in your church.

Resources

1. [Secrets of The Vine](#) by Bruce Wilkinson
2. Begin the Advent season with your family by watching children's videos on [RightNow Media](#), such as [The King is Born](#).
3. Check out this four-week series on [RightNow Media](#) by Francis Chan called [Amazing Grace](#).