

Introduction

This week, Pastor Jesse finishes our Advent series *Highly Favored* by talking about Jesus' favor with God and people. Following Jesus should gain you **more** favor from others, especially from those who **don't** follow Jesus. That's how it worked with Jesus, in the past and in Jesus' Kingdom. Convictions on issues may vary, but only a few things really matter. Let's keep those front and center and be known for them more than any other.

Discussion

- 1. Share about a person in your life who displays wisdom in their speech or actions. How have they impacted your faith?
- 2. Before Jesus started His ministry, Luke 2:52 says He "grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." What do you think that looked like in Jesus' life? How could we model that way of living in our relationships?
- 3. What does being for the peace and prosperity of all look like?
- 4. Read Romans 14:17-18 and unpack the meaning of these verses. How do you live this out?
- 5. Discuss with the group one area of your life that may not be wise, peaceful or favorable to others and pray about next steps.

Take Action

- 1. Read the birth story of Jesus in the Gospels, watching for the word "favored." Pray about how you can show favor to others during the holiday season.
- 2. Look over your social media accounts this week. Do you have any posts that could be divisive, contentious, hateful? Pray about next steps in your use of social media.
- 3. Prayerfully consider whom you can invite to join you for Christmas Eve services.

Resources

The following resources can all be found for free on RightNow Media.

- 1. Watch this short video on the carol "I Heard the Bells."
- 2. Check out RNM's variety of children's Christmas shows, such as The Story of Christmas.
- 3. The Story of Christmas with Stephen Curtis Chapman