

# My Crazy Family

## Everyone Is Welcome (Week 1)

LifeNotes

### TALK IT OVER

#### Main Idea

Jesus came from a mess to save all of us who are a mess; because everyone is welcome.

#### Key Scriptures

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us* Romans 5:8

*As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.* Matthew 9:9

*A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers...* Matthew 1:1-2

*Judah said to his brother, "What will we gain by killing our brother? We'd have to cover up the crime. Instead of hurting him, let's sell him to those Ishmaelite traders."* Genesis 37:26-27

*God purposely chose what the world considers nonsense in order to shame the wise, and he chose what the world considers weak in order to shame the powerful.* 1 Corinthians 1:27

*When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."* Mark 2:17

*Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find. And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.* Matthew 22:9-10

#### When you understand everyone is welcome:

1. Get over yourself.  
You're neither too bad nor too good for God's grace.
2. Get going.  
As servants of the King, we are to invite everyone to the "feast".

#### Start talking.

- Why is grace difficult to accept?
- Why do we tend to hide the messy parts of our lives?

#### Start thinking.

- Read Romans 5:8 and Matthew 9:9. What was the sin that Matthew was stuck in? Why not expect Matthew to "get right" before enlisting him as a follower?
- Read Matthew 1:1-2 and Genesis 37:26-27. Why was the genealogy important? Why have Jesus come through the line of a man like Judah?
- Read 1 Corinthians 1:27. How have you seen the truth of this verse played out?
- Read Mark 2:17. How do Christians often convince themselves they are "righteous"? How does that twist the message of the Gospel?
- Read Matthew 22:9-10. What is the job of the servants of the King?

#### Start sharing.

- What are ways you get distracted and confused by God's grace?
- Do you offer others the same level of grace God has offered you?
- Why is it central to the Gospel message that "everyone is welcome"?

#### Start doing.

- Who in your family can you practically offer greater grace?
- Who are the 3 people you will invite to church before the end of the year?

#### Closing prayer.

Jesus, I confess I take advantage of your grace for me while withholding it at times from others. Forgive me for that. Help me to invite you into the messy spaces in my life while consistently offering grace to others. Give me the passion and courage to invite others into your family and into our church.