

Title: Invitation to Grace

Text: “and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:17

Target: The resurrection of Jesus is your resurrection story.

- I. **The Pursuit of God: BE*HOLD**
 - A. **Regards you: “a voice”**
 1. Desires a relationship with you.
 2. Desires to reveal Himself to you.
 - B. **Redirects you: “came from heaven”**
 1. Changes your Focus.
 2. Changes your Filter.

- II. **The Promise of God: BE*LOVED**
 - A. **Claims you: “you are my”**
 1. Personal Possession
 2. Personal Affiliation
 - B. **Cherishes you: “beloved”**
 1. Root word: agape
 2. Sentiment of Continuation.
 - C. **Calls you: “son”**
 1. Embraced by the Father.
 2. Not Embarrassed by the Father.

- III. **The Pleasure of God: BE*LIEVE**
 - A. **Affirms you: “I am”**
 1. Core Belief
 2. Convinced Belief
 - B. **Accepts you: “well pleased”**
 1. Not about Works.
 2. All about Relationship.

Discussion Questions: As one commentator stated, this commissioning service was unlike any other before or since. The Father and The Spirit both acknowledge and endorse The Son. God “speaks” and Spirit descends. The Spirit descending upon Jesus was a visible sign that this was indeed the long awaited Messiah for whom John was preparing the way. Have you been “preparing the way” for Jesus to show up in the lives of those around you? If not, what steps can you take to do so in the next week? Has the Holy Spirit been preparing the way for Jesus to do a work in your life today?

Read Isaiah 42:1. When God said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” and the Spirit descended upon Jesus, the Jews standing there in the crowd had to recall the messianic prophetic words of Isaiah. This confirmation, commissioning, and public declaration certified that Jesus was the long awaited Messiah. He is the triumphant King (Psalm 2), the humble Servant (Isa. 42:1), and the Hope of all nations (Mt. 28:18-20). What comes to mind when you hear the words triumphant King? Humble

Servant? Hope of the nations? Who in your circle needs to hear about this Servant King that came to bring Hope to the nations?

Take Away: Jesus is “well pleasing” to the Father not because of what He did, but because of who He is.