



**February 29, 2024**

### **Social Time**

**Thanks to those who brought Treats!**

### **Bible Study Business**

### **Music – Led by Lisa Scholterback**

- 606 *O Father, We Have Wandered*
- 627 *O Day Full of Grace* (Verses 1, 2, 3 & 5)
- 790 *Day by Day*

### **Prayer Requests and Update Prayer List**

### **Opening Prayer**

### **Discussion - What's So Amazing About Grace? – Chapter 7**

1. Our author titles chapter 7 "An Unnatural Act" What is unnatural about forgiveness?
2. In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus taught his disciples to pray "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." Why do you think Jesus linked God's forgiveness of us to our forgiveness of others? (p. 79)
3. Tony Campolo found that the teaching of Jesus that made the biggest impact on unbelievers is "Love your enemies." (p. 80). Why would that make such an impact on people?
4. Yancy writes (p. 81) "... the Gospels give a straightforward answer to why God asks us to forgive: because that is what God is like. ... Sons and daughters of that Father are called to a higher law, in order to resemble the forgiving Father. We are called to be like God, to bear God's family likeness." That's a tall order. Why is forgiveness so important?
5. Dietrich Bonhoeffer took seriously Jesus' call not only to love our enemies but also to pray for those who persecute us. That is hard to do! Why do it?
6. When a person forgives, how does it affect the person doing the forgiving?
7. How does it affect the person who is forgiven?
8. On page 82 Yancy writes "Only the experience of being forgiven makes it possible for us to forgive." God went to great lengths to forgive us. That frees us to do forgive others. Can we do that? Can we forgive those who have deeply hurt us?
9. "Yancy writes "The gospel of grace begins and ends with forgiveness...grace is the only force in the universe powerful enough to break the chains that enslave generations. Grace alone melts ungrace." Can grace heal the deep divisions between people? Palestinians and Israelis? Sons and daughters of slave owners and sons and daughters of slaves? Democrats and Republicans?

**For Next Time – Read Chapter 7**

**Birthdays**

**Closing Prayer – Lord’s Prayer**

**Revised Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Chapter(s)</b>	<b>Title(s)</b>
February 29	7	An Unnatural Act
March 7	8 & 9	Why Forgiven? Getting Even
March 14	10 & 11	The Arsenal of Grace A Home for Bastards: A Story
March 21	12 & 13	No Oddballs Allowed Grace-Healed Eyes
March 28	None	Holy Week Break
April 4	14	Loopholes
April 11	15 & 16	Grace Avoidance Big Harold: A Story
April 18	17 & 18	Mixed Aroma Serpent Wisdom
April 25	19 & 20	Patches of Green Gravity and Grace