Captured by Grace Week 4 – Victim vs. Victor Jeremy White, Lead Pastor

Introduction:

We live in a world that encourages a victim mentality rather than a victor mindset.

Victim Mentality? Three Key Beliefs...

- > A focus on bad things that happened to us
- Blaming other people or circumstances
- No point in trying to change the situation, it will never work

(Source: <u>www.healthline.com/health/victim-mentality</u>)

Overcoming the Victim Mentality – Two Misunderstandings

1. ORPHAN SPIRIT vs. Spirit of Sonship

John 14:18-19

Psalm 73:13-14, 21-26

2. OUR KINGDOM vs. God's Kingdom

1 Peter 2:9-10

Application:

Romans 14:1, 8-10, 17, 19

The Big Idea:

Let's understand that we are priests from a holy nation of another kingdom altogether. Let's love the world around us with radical grace, but let's not get too comfy here. We live in a fallen world, but we are nobody's victims. We are overcomers through Him!

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life

1. Look back over the three core beliefs of a victim mentality (a focus on the negative, blaming others people or things, a hopeless outlook). Based on this description, how often do you live (or have you lived) with these kinds of attitudes? Share about your own struggle(s) to overcome them...

Ponderings:

- 2. In what specific ways does our fallen culture promote an "orphan spirit" over a "spirit of sonship?" Try to be specific.
- 3. How have you personally found victory over the mentality of "orphanhood" in relation to trusting God...? Discuss...
- 4. Why is it so challenging not to confuse the kingdom of this world with the Kingdom of Christ to which we truly belong?
- 5. How have you personally found victory over the mindset of focusing too much on the kingdom of this world...? Discuss...
- 6. Read 1 Peter 2:9-10 as a group. Discuss why each of these "identity descriptions" are so powerful in our day-to-day lives...

Promptings:

7. Is there an area of your life in which you've allowed undue stress, anxiety, anger or fear to overwhelm you because you're so focused on the fallen kingdom of this world? If so, share with the group and discuss what you need to do in order to shift the focus to the King of Kings and His Kingdom.