Questions for Grace Week 6

- We all probably know the foot washing passage in John 13 quite well, and have heard many lessons on service.
 - Did you ever view Jesus act of foot washing as an act of grace?
 - Did you ever think about the complicated relationships around the room, how various disciples let Jesus down in a variety of ways, and still Jesus washed their feet?
- Pastor Keith quoted Max Lucado: "To accept grace is to accept the vow to give it."
 - What do you think Max Lucado is getting at?
 - Do you agree of disagree?
- The story of Ruth is a famous one from the OT, but not usually one we consider grace from.
 - What parts of the story stand out to you that reflect what grace is all about?
 - Do you have a favorite part of the story?
 - You may have heard of the kinsman-redeemer before. Were you aware that the kinsman-redeemer pointed toward Christ?
 - How does the idea of the kinsman-redeemer display the grace of God?
 - Boaz displayed grace to Ruth and her family throughout the story. Why do you think he did that? What was his motive?
- The story of the prodigal God (Prodigal Son) is yet another famous story that we often know grace is there, but do not take a good look at it.
 - What is your favorite part of the story and why?
 - Which character do you identify with the most in the story?
- Have you ever struggled to show grace to people in your life? Why?
 - Do you have a Judas or a prodigal son in your life?
 - How easy is it to wash their feet or be gracious to them?
 - If you struggle to be gracious, why is that? What is holding you back from fulfilling the "vow to give grace?"
 - Reasons will vary, but they can include the fact that we have not fully experienced or embraced the grace God has given us. Perhaps we think more highly of ourselves than we should and so do not fully appreciate the grace of God.
 - If that is true for you, how can you come to grips with how far from God you have been/are and embrace God's grace fully?
- Pastor Keith ended the sermon with three modern day examples of the grace of God flowing from one person to another. Refresh yourselves on the three examples: The Amish community's reaction to the shooter's family; the woman that was hit by what a teen threw from his car as a prank; and the woman that allow the wedding dress to leave her business so the bride's father could see her all dressed up.

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- While we can never know for sure how we would react to a given set of circumstances, do you think you could show grace
 - To the family of the shooter?
 - To the teen that caused your accident and mangled your face?
 - To a girl that wanted her dad to see her as a beautiful bride?
- What does that say about your grace quotient? While we all need to grow in grace, after hearing these stories, do you think you need to grow a lot?
- Take time to pray for one another. If you have a Judas, or a prodigal son that you struggle to show grace to, be specific and ask for prayer.