

DISCUSSION GUIDE April 2016 www.vcat.org

RELATED SCRIPTURE PASSAGES:

Grace:
John 1:14;
Acts 4:33;
Acts 6:8;
Acts 11:22-24;
Acts 14: 1-3;
Hebrews 12:15;
1 Peter 5:10

Mercy:

Chronicles 30:9; Psalm 86:5; Nehemiah 9:28; Matthew 5:7; Matthew 9:13; Luke 6:36; Hebrews 4:16; Jude 1:22, 23

Fear:

Proverbs 12:25; Romans 8:15; 2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 4:18

RELATED CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH REFERENCES:

Mercy:

211; 270; 545; 1013; 1037; 1429; 1431; 1458

Grace:

35; 153-155; 158; 214; 308; 420; 678-679; 1013; 1084; 1431-1432

RELATED YOUCAT REFERENCES:

Love: 402

Grace: 338-340

Mercy: 314

MERCY IS GREATER

SYNOPSIS

In our struggle to believe in Jesus' radical love for us, it's important to remember that his mercy is greater than any fear.

SUGGESTED USES FOR THIS VIDEO

This video can be used to launch discussion about love, unbelief, fear, grace, mercy and sin.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1. "I walk a line between the mountain top and the desert; between virtue and vice; between sinner and saint." What do you think he means? Can you relate to this? How has this been your experience?
- 2. The narrator says that fear gets the best of him. What is your reaction to the world around you? Are you fearful? Angry? Confused? Hopeful? Inspired?
- 3. What is his response to this fear? (Love casts out all fear. ~1 John 4:18)
- 4. What love is he talking about? Any random love that's available or a specific love?
- 5. Why/how does this specific love cast out fear?
- 6. What is the connection between Jesus' love and his mercy?
- Can you look at it like the transitional property in math?
 Mercy = Love; Love = No Fear; therefore Mercy = No Fear
- 8. The narrator mentions a paradox: where sin abounds (exists in large amounts), grace abounds all the more (Romans 5:20). What does this mean?
- 9. So what can we conclude is God's response to sin?
- 10. So if Jesus loves us, and this love has the power to cast out all fear, should we be afraid of God's response to our REPENTED sin?

- 11. How about that sin we haven't repented for? What does God offer us then?
- 12. What should our response be to God's offer of mercy when we are in a state of sin? Fear? Pride? Repentance? Gratitude?
- 13. The next time you are walking the line between sinner and saint, what can you remember to help you along the right path?



