

COREbuilder series
August 2021
Week 2 outline

How we Walk: Hand in Hand

Why Humor and Grace Make the Greatest of Partners

I. Balancing a Seesaw World

Self-Critical	SELF	Self- Righteous
Depleted	<-ENERGY->	Restless
Numb	<-EMOTION->	Unstable
Apathetic	<-MEANING->	Obsessed
Alienated	<-ENGAGEMENT->	Stressed-out
Isolated	<-RELATEDNESS->	Co-dependent



WHEN SELF-CENTERED BALANCING ACTS DON'T BRING HAPPINESS,
IT'S TIME FOR A NEW FULCRUM.

II. Backing Off the Seesaw

A. With Jesus as our Bedrock (Matthew 7)

- He changes the fulcrum out for a solid foundation
- He leads us off the See-saw circus act so we can live like we're meant

1. Jesus Grounds us in Grace (Eph 2:8-9)

- A Christ-Centered life where Grace re-orientes us in New Life

2. Jesus' Grace Reshapes our Identities (2 Cor 5:17)

- Centered in Grace: we gain acceptance, affirmation, and affection
- Now we walk in freedom, confidence, and forgiveness rather than being paralyzed between self-righteousness or self-condemnation

B. With Overflowing Grace that Fills Us with Joy (Luke 2:1-20)

Grace: greek Charis ...**Joy:** greek Chara

Grace is a gift from God that brings great joy to the world

1. vs 15 *"let's go and see this thing that has happened"*

-Good news of great joy is attractive to others

2. vs 16 *"so they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby"*

-Good news of great joy creates an urgency for here and now

3. vs 17 *"they spread the word concerning what they had been told"*

-Good news of great joy makes us want to share it

4. vs 20 *"the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God"*

-Good news of great joy causes a natural response of worship

THE GOSPEL IS GOOD NEWS THAT BRINGS GREAT JOY

III. PUTTING JOY Into PRACTICE

Five Onramps for Real Life with Humor and Grace

A. Learn to Lighten Up

-Grace filters our EMOTIONS through JOY

-Allowing them to be full; our circumstances may be temporary,
but our joy is not

B. Choose to Connect the Dots

-Grace focuses our ENERGY with REJOICING

-Connect the dots so our work becomes part of how we worship

C. Recenter in Jesus

-Grace clarifies our MEANING through ENJOYMENT

-Our purpose is to glorify God and ENJOY Him forever

D. Cultivate a Strong Sense of Humor

-Grace shapes our ENGAGEMENT by being OVERJOYED

-Laughter is Contagious... and so is Jesus; train yourself to notice
funny things and season life with humor

E. Start Strong and Finish Right

-Grace seasons our RELATEDNESS as JOY-MAKERS

-With total reliance on God, we receive grace and extend
forgiveness every single day

OVERFLOWING GRACE FILLS OUR WORLD WITH JOY.
IT RESHAPES OUR ACTIONS, REACTIONS, AND INTERACTIONS.