

Daily Grace Podcast Episode 241

[00:00:00] **Shelby:** Welcome to Daily Grace. We believe the Bible is true, trustworthy, and timeless. And we want to help women like you know and love God's Word. The Bible shows us who God is, and who He is changes everything. My name is Shelby,

[00:00:28] **Krystal:** and I'm Krystal. And we want to invite you to come join us as we chat about the truth of God's Word in our everyday lives.

[00:00:36] **Shelby:** Hey everybody. Welcome back to the Daily Grace Podcast. This is the third episode in our summer series, Mistakes We've Made in Bible Study. And we are excited to get a little vulnerable with you guys today, share about a mistake that we've both made in hopes that we can help you learn from our mistake and avoid it in the future.

[00:00:51] but first we're gonna share with you our favorite thing, and because we wanna keep these episodes short and sweet for the summer, we are sharing our favorite things in 15 seconds or less. So, Krystal, I have my timer ready.

[00:01:02] Okay.

[00:01:02] Are you ready to share your favorite thing in only 15 seconds?

[00:01:05] **Krystal:** I think I'm ready.

[00:01:06] **Shelby:** All right. On your mark. Get set. Go.

[00:01:09] **Krystal:** Okay.

[00:01:09] My favorite thing this week is a set of hand towels from HomeGoods, and I found two matching ones, which can be hard to do at HomeGoods sometimes.

[00:01:15] **Shelby:** Mm-hmm.

[00:01:15] **Krystal:** They're textured. They are like this perfect terracotta orange, brown color. It's like this perfect color that's really hard to find, and that's my favorite thing.

[00:01:24] **Shelby:** You did great. I, you know, I do think that that was maybe 16 seconds, but I'll let it go.

[00:01:28] **Krystal:** I'll take it.

[00:01:29] I'll take it. All the color descriptors I needed to get that extra second. So, yeah. Okay. What is your favorite thing this week? Oh, wait, I need to time you. Hold on. I should have been more prepared for this.

[00:01:39] Are you ready?

[00:01:40] **Shelby:** Yep.

[00:01:41] **Krystal:** Okay. Go.

[00:01:42] **Shelby:** My favorite thing this week is Farm Girl Flowers. So I got to celebrate my two-year work anniversary with the Daily Grace Co.. It's been an amazing two years. And every year on your anniversary, we get these beautiful bouquets of flowers from Farm Girl. They're on my kitchen island right now, and they just bring me so much joy every time I see them.

[00:01:59] **Krystal:** Oh, all right. Pretty good. Pretty good.

[00:02:02] **Shelby:** Look at us being concise.

[00:02:04] **Krystal:** I love those flowers too. They're so pretty.

[00:02:08] Okay, so this week's episode is talking about judging others. And that might be a confusing thing to think about if you're thinking about, "These are mistakes we're making in Bible study. How is this a mistake that we have made?" But how many times have we been reading Scripture and we're thinking, or even listening to a sermon and we think, "You know who needs to listen to this? My husband. Or who needs to hear this?"

[00:02:28] **Shelby:** Whoa, Krystal. I've never done that before.

[00:02:31] **Krystal:** Okay, well it's just for me then this episode's just for me.

[00:02:33] **Shelby:** I'm just kidding. I think I did that last Sunday.

[00:02:36] **Krystal:** But it's so easy because we think of these situations. We hear Scripture that applies and so we immediately think of other people.

[00:02:43] We have all been there. And so in today's conversation, we wanna think about how we can first apply it to our own lives.

[00:02:48] **Shelby:** Mm-hmm.

[00:02:48] **Krystal:** And think humbly and receive it humbly before we think about other people. So why do you think we're prone to do this?

[00:02:54] Why are we prone to think of others before we think of ourselves when it comes to maybe hearing a sermon that's like extremely convicting, but we immediately think it applies to someone else?

[00:03:02] **Shelby:** Well, yeah, a couple reasons that just, personally, I can think of are sin's uncomfortable. And like our own sin is really uncomfortable. And it's hard to admit that we're struggling with something and it's much easier to think that someone else, should be fixing the sin in their lives without addressing the sin in our own lives.

[00:03:23] You know, there's a popular sentiment that we judge others based on their actions and we judge ourselves based on our intentions.

[00:03:29] **Krystal:** Mm-hmm.

[00:03:30] **Shelby:** And so I think sometimes we can hear a sermon and maybe even in the back of our minds, we know, or we're reading Scripture in our own personal Bible study time or whatever. We know in the back of our minds that this is something that I'm struggling with, but we also give ourselves credit of like, "Hey, I'm working on it, though."

[00:03:44] **Krystal:** Mm-hmm.

[00:03:44] **Shelby:** Like, I'm, I'm one step closer than I was the day before. However, the people around us we're judging based on their actions. We're not even considering their intentions. And so unless they're doing it a hundred percent perfectly, we're just saying, "Well, they're really at fault in this area and they need to grow in this area."

[00:04:00] And so, I think it just has a lot to do with those two things, the discomfort of our own sin, but then also judging others based on their actions and judging ourselves based off our intentions.

[00:04:10] **Krystal:** Yeah, I think it's a really good point that we have good intentions, we have a desire to obey, but sometimes we're not always walking in obedience, and so we're judging others by the outward obedience that we're failing to do sometimes. And so, I'm hoping that this conversation helps us to just kind of reorient our hearts and our minds as we study Scripture and look at it for ourselves because we can miss out on what the Lord has for us,

[00:04:33] **Shelby:** yeah.

[00:04:33] **Krystal:** if we're continually focused on others. So as we're hearing the truth of Scripture, as we're reading it for ourselves, we should ask the Lord like, "What do you have for me as I'm learning this truth?" And I think when we're focused on our own obedience and our own repentance and confession of sin, it's gonna put into perspective whatever the situation is at hand.

[00:04:52] And I think it allows us to grow in that humility, even if we have to have a conversation with someone that's hard.

[00:04:57] **Shelby:** Mm-hmm.

[00:04:57] **Krystal:** Maybe there is sin that needs to be addressed and there's reconciliation that needs to happen. To be able to look at our own hearts first before we go into that, I think is gonna help just love that person well.

[00:05:07] Yeah. I think too, an implication of always reading Scripture or listening to a sermon or teaching about Scripture and applying it to others instead of ourselves first, is that we'll begin to have an inflated view of ourself.

[00:05:22] **Shelby:** And so if we just kind of dismiss this whole idea that we even need to consider how this applies to our own hearts and lives, then we just begin to think that we're fine. "I'm fine. I'm, I'm fine. I've got everything under control." That is a not great place to be, right? Scripture is for our growth and our edification, and we all know that we have sin in our lives.

[00:05:45] I mean, Scripture says If you say you have no sin, like, you are deceived, like, you're lying. That's just not true. And so I think we need to remember that about ourselves sometimes and this can honestly lead to a lot of just like hurt and disunity in our relationships. And like you said, we're not

saying that you wouldn't, maybe have a hard conversation with someone if you're like, "Hey, I see this in you, you know, and, and I want to talk about this and talk this through with you.

[00:06:09] So the bottom line of that is when we're reading Scripture and applying it to others more than ourselves, we begin to see ourselves as the savior to other people. We have the knowledge that they need in order to be a better Christian, be closer to Christ, make the right decision, whatever it is, rather than seeing ourselves as a fellow sinner in need of a savior.

[00:06:30] And so what we need to remember is that we're all sinners in need of a savior. It's not our job to be the savior of another person. That's the Spirit's work. And so really just putting ourselves in our rightful place before Scripture, I think is, like the most important piece of this conversation.

[00:06:46] **Krystal:** That's so good. All right, well, let's look at a passage I think is gonna help us in this conversation. It's probably not gonna be a surprise for many of us as we're talking about like, how do we not judge others? We're looking at Matthew seven. We're looking at verses one through five here. Do you wanna read it or do you want me to read it?

[00:06:59] **Shelby:** I would love to read Matthew seven, one through five. Yeah. Once again, we're talking about judging. This is like probably the number one passage that comes to people's minds. Yeah. And you might even be wondering like, "Hey, how does this passage fit into the conversation that we're having?" And we're gonna break that down

[00:07:12] **Krystal:** mm-hmm.

[00:07:13] **Shelby:** To make it hopefully really clear for you. So Matthew seven, one through five says, "Do not judge so that you won't be judged. For you will be judged by the same standard with which you judge others, and you will be measured by the same measure you use. Why do you look at the splinter in your brother's eye, but don't notice the beam of wood in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, let me take the splinter out of your eye and look, there's a beam of wood in your own eye. Hypocrite! First, take the beam of wood out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the splinter out of your brother's eye.

[00:07:43] **Krystal:** Oof. Yeah, it's, that's hard to read, I think.

[00:07:48] And I think it's, it's good to understand, too, as we're reading this, this is not saying that we shouldn't be discerning, that we shouldn't be addressing each other's sin when necessary. But we can often look at this and say like, "Well, we can't judge. Like, only God judges." But what this is saying is that we shouldn't look at the sins of others without considering our own sin and humility.

[00:08:09] And so we need to look at ourselves first, our own sin, and really pull out that beam of wood, so to speak, before we start pointing out the splinter in someone else's eye. And I think that applies when we're looking to Scripture, when we're hearing a sermon, making sure that we're not filtering it through, maybe you've been hurt by someone and everything you're hearing is being filtered through that one situation.

[00:08:29] So you're like, "Yeah, that person needs to do it, or this person needs to obey." But instead say, "Man, Lord, what do you have for me? What is it that I'm supposed to obey in this passage?" Versus always thinking about it in terms of others.

[00:08:40] **Shelby:** Yeah.

[00:08:41] I feel like I say this a lot in our podcast episodes, Krystal, but you saying that, of course, like in my head I'm thinking, "Yeah, I'm totally on board. I want to do that." But I find that it's really hard to practically do that in the moment and, I don't know. I think it's just the things that we mentioned before, just like this, not wanting to focus on our own sin.

[00:09:00] It just feels uncomfortable. And so, just practically, how do we combat this? How do we come to Scripture with a view of applying it to ourselves first?

[00:09:08] **Krystal:** Yeah. I think that's where prayer is so important. And not just, I know we talk a lot about praying before we get into the Word to study, but I think even praying for hearts going into corporate worship,

[00:09:18] **Shelby:** Yes.

[00:09:18] **Krystal:** I feel like that's something I can neglect. And I think that's often when I'm tempted to hear something that immediately should apply to, like, the people sitting next to me and not to myself. So I think praying before you go into worship, praying before you read. Pray the Lord would reveal Himself and just expose those areas that we may not see on our own.

[00:09:34] Because that's often part of it is when we hear something, we're like, "Yeah, Shelby needs to listen to that." But,

[00:09:40] **Shelby:** I probably do.

[00:09:42] **Krystal:** But then I don't even recognize, it's exposing something in my heart, but I'm not seeing it.

[00:09:46] **Shelby:** Yeah.

[00:09:46] **Krystal:** Like, I'm blind to even my own sin pattern. So I think praying is really important and that's part of why I love Psalm 139 so much.

[00:09:53] The way that it starts and it ends, it mirrors one another. So David starts off by saying, "Lord, you have searched me and known me." And so he is remembering God's presence in his life. He extols His goodness, his faithfulness, all throughout that Psalm. And he describes all the ways he knows this to be true, that God is present with him, that He knows him, that He searches him. And then that's how he concludes it by asking him, "Search me, God. Know my heart. Test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me. Lead me in the everlasting way."

[00:10:23] I think that should be our prayer, right? Like, that should be our desire: that we should desire for God to know us, to search us,

[00:10:29] **Shelby:** mm-hmm.

[00:10:29] **Krystal:** to show us the ways that we are going against His good design for us,

[00:10:33] so that we can walk in holiness. So I think being able to come humbly in prayer is really important. And that applies, too, even if it's not sin necessarily, but maybe you're a Bible teacher. It's so easy to come to God's Word and think like, "Ooh, that'd be a good illustration. Ooh, that'd be a good Bible lesson."

[00:10:49] Or for us, "Ooh, that'd be a good thing to write on."

[00:10:51] **Shelby:** Mm-hmm.

[00:10:51] **Krystal:** But letting it really inform our own hearts first

[00:10:53] **Shelby:** Mm-hmm.

[00:10:54] **Krystal:** is going to impact, even if we do end up writing it, making sure it's for us first before we give it to others.

[00:10:59] So that's where I think prayer is really important. And if it's a struggle for you, honestly, if it's not even a rhythm that you hit going into worship, if you're like gathering your kids and just trying to get to church on time and your heart is just not right to go in, there are a lot of great resources we have at the Daily Grace Co. for prayer. Whether it's cards, journals, we're gonna link a few resources in the show notes.

[00:11:18] **Shelby:** Mm-hmm.

[00:11:18] **Krystal:** But having something as simple as a prayer journal next to your bed can help. Maybe you still your heart before the Lord. You pray even Saturday night before you go into Sunday morning. Like, Sunday morning for us can be really chaotic. And so it's a lot harder to slow down, but doing it the night before it can help.

[00:11:32] So I think just finding ways to incorporate prayer is really gonna help to, to go humbly to God's Word.

[00:11:38] **Shelby:** Yeah. And I would just add to that, that incorporating a daily rhythm of repentance has been incredibly helpful for me. You know, I talked about how we like to keep our sins kind of back of mind, like we don't like to think about them.

[00:11:53] But what happens is there's a tremendous amount of guilt and shame and even striving to fix our own sins that becomes attached to that when we're not bringing our sins before the Lord. It becomes a thing I'm trying to handle in the dark by myself, rather in the light, of the Lord.

[00:12:07] And so for me, just having a daily rhythm of repentance, it probably sounds crazy. I literally write out, "Lord, forgive me for..." as a prompt in my prayer journal almost every day. And then I just list out, and I'll tell you what, it's a lot of the same sins over and over, over and over and. And that has been eyeopening for me to literally write out.

[00:12:27] And, you know, you might think like, "Oh, what a Debbie Downer thing to say." But it's actually not, because when I'm writing those out, I'm also

reminded of the vast grace and mercy of God and His forgiveness and His mercy that is new every morning.

[00:12:42] And where that came from me was actually from the Lord's Prayer. Like, using the Lord's Prayer as a framework and kind of a template for my time of prayer with God has been so life-changing. And, I think it's so interesting if we look at the Lord's Prayer, verses 12 and 13 in Matthew six. Part of that is, "and forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

[00:13:09] So when we get to the part of the prayer that Jesus models for us that's talking about sin, it's actually talking about asking God to forgive our sins, reminding us because of the forgiveness that we've received, that we can forgive others. And then asking God to protect us or keep us from temptation and sin that day.

[00:13:27] And so there's no part of that model of prayer that's focused on, like, "How can I keep others from sinning?"

[00:13:33] **Krystal:** Mm-hmm.

[00:13:34] **Shelby:** It's all about your personal relationship and walk with the Lord. And there are certainly parts of Scripture where we walk alongside each other and, you know, we encourage and uplift and, confront at times one another as fellow Christians.

[00:13:46] But like this being my just like daily model of prayer and keeping kind of my sins and my need for God's grace and mercy, first and foremost, it really has been transformative and in the very, very best way.

[00:14:00] **Krystal:** Mm.

[00:14:00] **Shelby:** And so I cannot recommend that enough. If you haven't gone through our study on prayer, it's called, Pray: Cultivating a Passionate Practice of Prayer. We teach this model of prayer in there along with so many other amazing things about prayer. And so that might be a good place for you to start.

[00:14:16] **Krystal:** Yeah. I think it's so great. Just a good reminder too, that we get to walk in freedom. When we confess our sin, we repent, we recognize the grace of God that's been given to us in Christ, we get to walk in freedom knowing like we're no longer defined by those sins.

[00:14:28] And so we hope this has been an encouraging conversation for you. I know it has been for me. And so we just wanna thank you for joining us for another episode in this summer series.

[00:14:37] If you enjoyed this episode, make sure to go back and check out our other episodes that we've already done and we have a couple more headed your way.

[00:14:43] In the meantime, come check us out over on Instagram, @DailyGracePodcast, and we will see you next time.

[00:14:49] **Shelby:** Goodbye.