2010 Teen Summer Camp—The Four Freedom of Grace—The Freedom to be Vulnerable

Introduction

- What does the word vulnerable mean? 1) That may be wounded; susceptible of wounds or external injuries; as a vulnerable body. 2) Liable to injury; subject to be affected injuriously; as a vulnerable reputation.

- How many of you think that Grace Preachers have everything figured out?

- One of the great things about God's grace is the safe haven it offers to a transparent heart.

- *The second characteristic of the Grace Life is that it gives us the freedom to be vulnerable.*

- None of us have everything figured out or does everything right all the time. Grace gives us the freedom to be honest about our own short comings.

Paul's Example

- Romans 7—Paul describes the constant struggle he faces in his inner man to do the right thing.

- Galatians 5:16-18—these verses tell us that every believer struggles with the same issues. There are no spiritual giants who have mastered their flesh. Only through submission to God's word can we allow.

- People in general, but teens in particular are often the victim of two colliding forces inside them. On the one side are the facts of any given situation. On the other side of the equation are our feelings about any given situation.

- Often the way we respond in a particular situation has nothing to do with the facts and more to do with our feelings. For instance we might wake up one morning and feel lonely even though we have plenty of friends and parents who love us.

- Feelings possess the power to cloud the facts. It is this disconnect between facts and our feelings that leaves us feeling vulnerable.

- When we feel the most vulnerable it is almost always because one of our three driving needs is on trial. Some times all at once.

- II Corinthians 1:8, 2:13

- II Corinthians 1:9—when we feel depressed and our vulnerable we need to remember that our hope is in Jesus Christ.

- Philippians 4:11-13—Paul had to learn how to be content no matter what state he found himself in.

- II Corinthians 12:7-10—are weaknesses are opportunities for the power of Christ to be made manifest in our mortal flesh.