

Too Messy
Series: A Messy Christmas
Sermon: Villains
December 13, 2015

1. Have you seen any of the Star Wars movies?
 - A. Who was one of your favorite characters?
 - B. What is a popular phrase that you remember from any of the movies?

2. How do you react when bad things happen in our world?
 - A. Do you want the "villain" to be punished?
 - B. Do you ask, "Why God?"

3. If God is so good and so powerful, why does God allow evil?

4. Do you believe grace is God's greatest weapon against evil?

5. Have you ever feared God's grace? Have you ever not wanted God to forgive someone or extend his love and grace to a "villain"? If God offered punishment instead of grace, what would justice look like from your perspective?

6. Who are some of the people throughout history that you would struggle to extend God's grace?

7. Read Matthew 2:1-16.

8. What do you think about Retributive Justice -- an eye for an eye type of justice? Is this type of justice biblical?

9. Read John 3:16, 1 Timothy 2:4, 2 Peter 3:9, Romans 5:8, how do these verses shape your thinking about evil and "villains"?

10. What is one change that must occur in your heart for you to want the "villains" in your life to receive and respond to God's grace?