Becoming Centers of Forgiveness and Peace Session 2: Because We All Need to Brush Our Teeth

September 19, 2022 ● Rev. Doug Gray

I. Introductions and Opening Prayer

II. Teaser

Have you ever been "stood up"—someone failed to show up for a date or appointment? Can you talk about what happened next?

III. The Biblical View from Here: Atonement and Grace

- a. OT views of atonement
 - i. Adam and Eve
 - ii. Overlooking
- b. NT view of atonement
 - i. The substitute Romans 3:21–26
 - ii. Ransom or Redemption Matthew 20:28, Mark 10:45, 1 Timothy 2:6, Hebrews 9:15
 - iii. Mediator or "Bridge" Romans 5:2, Ephesians 2:18, Galatians 3:19–20, 1 Timothy 2:5, Hebrews 8:8, 9:15, 12:24
- c. Restoration of a relationship
- d. Grace is the undeserved blessing of God
 - i. to take the punishment we had earned,
 - ii. to pay the price we should pay,
 - iii. to invite us in where the door was closed
 - iv. to build a bridge that allows us to have intimacy with God

IV. Sacrifice, Sin and Forgiveness — Numbers 15:25–31

- a. What are key words in this passage for you?
- b. How does forgiveness work here? Where and how does it happen?
- c. What are the advantages of approaching forgiveness this way? Are there any disadvantages?

V. Our Neediness and Jesus' Sacrifice: Romans 3:21-26

- a. How does "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of the God" sit with you? Does it make you despair or hope? Why?
- b. With the power of Jesus' sacrifice, what is left for the law to do? What is the role of faith?
- c. When you encounter the knowledge of Jesus' sacrifice, does anything change for you in your life? If so, what does? If not, can you say something about why that is?

VI. Because We All Have to Brush Our Teeth