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| Shape  Description automatically generated with low confidence |  | Dr. Larry Osborne May 28-29, 2022Message #21 / 2 Samuel 4:1-5:5 |
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**The Problem With**

 **Grace, Mercy & Blind Spots**

**The Passage:**

2 Samuel 4:1-5:5

**Another Elephant In The Room:**

How could a God of **LOVE** bless such **VIOLENT** people?

**Blind Spots:** *Five Things We Don’t Want To Forget*

1. God draws **STRAIGHT LINES** with **CROOKED STICKS**.

 2. Grace is **UNMERITED** favor.

 Mercy is **UNMERITED** forgiveness.

 Ephesians 2:4-10

 3. We all have some serious **BLIND SPOTS**.

 1 Kings 3:1-15 (Isaiah 31:1/ Numbers 33:52 & Deuteronomy 12:1-4)

 4. The Bible is supposed to be a **MIRROR**, not **BINOCULARS**.

 James 1:23-25/ Matthew 7:3-5

 5. We’re responsible for what **WE** **DO** with what **WE** **KNOW**.

 Acts 17:30/ James 4:17/ Luke 12:47-48/ Proverbs 4:18

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**The Problem With**

 **Grace, Mercy & Blind Spots**

**The Passage:**

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**Another Elephant In The Room:**

How could a God of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bless such \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people?

**Blind Spots:** *Five Things We Don’t Want To Forget*

1. God draws \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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**Food for Thought for the week of May 29, 2022**

In Larry’s sermon, we were reminded that we all have blind spots (errors, sins and evils we are unaware of).  By definition, a blind spot is difficult and maybe even impossible to see or know is there. Fortunately, God has given us ways to help us take notice of something we might not see. What do these Scriptures tell us on how to find out what our blind spots might be?

***Psalm 139:23-24******New International Version (NIV)***

***23****Search me, God, and know my heart;
    test me and know my anxious thoughts.****24****See if there is any offensive way in me,
    and lead me in the way everlasting.*

***Proverbs 27:5-6******New International Version (NIV)***

***5****Better is open rebuke
    than hidden love.*

***6****Wounds from a friend can be trusted,
    but an enemy multiplies kisses.*

***Romans 3:20******New International Version (NIV)***

***20****Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.*

***James 4:17******New International Version (NIV)***

***17****If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them.*

***2 Timothy 3:14-17******New International Version (NIV)***

***14****But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,****15****and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.****16****All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,****17****so that the servant of Godmay be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

How is your routine or rhythm of being in God’s Word working for you? Is there anything you need to change, add or adjust?

Are there one or two people in your life whom you can trust to be honest with you about your blind spots? Is there anything you would like to do to invite them to speak into your life?

How often do you take time to ask God to reveal any sin or shortcoming you may be unaware of?

Take some time with God this week. Ask Him specifically to illuminate any blind spots and ask Him if there might be a sin in your life you have not acknowledged or confessed. After you ask, spend some time listening and reflecting. Thank Him for His grace and mercy, even in your blind spots. Ask Him for the strength and courage to deal with the sin and make it right. Consider writing it down and/or telling a trusted person what He revealed and how you responded.