

# Family TableTalk

Conversation 61

## Hooked on a Feeling

read

1 Peter 1:3-5

think

We live in a time where feelings are often elevated over facts. If someone “feels” some way about something, it validates their beliefs. As Christians, we must be cautious of over-correcting and dismissing feelings – they are important. That said, we must cling to truth regardless of how we feel at times.

As you read this section, we are told that Jesus has an inheritance for us that’s “imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.” I recently read this and was struck by the fact that I wasn’t struck by these facts! That is, how could I read the realities of this inheritance and not jump up-and-down with joy?! It would have been enough to know that Jesus has an inheritance for us that’s imperishable. But, because God’s grace is more than our finite minds can comprehend, he goes on to say it’s also undefiled and unfading...grace upon grace upon grace. The news gets better.

In my conviction over my lack of feeling for this truth, I saw another reality. That reality? This future inheritance is not contingent upon my *feelings*. To say it another way, my lack of joy does not take away this reality. We read that this reality is, “...kept in heaven for you...” God’s grace is not only manifested in the amazing inheritance he gives his children, but it’s manifested in him keeping this truth for us.

You see, there are times when I don’t feel love towards God. I feel tired, beat up, indifferent. Because of Jesus, however, the Father always feels love for me. And, it’s his feelings that keep this future inheritance secured for me and all his children.

apply

- How do you feel about this reality? Does the truth of the gospel impact you on an emotional level? Why or why not?
- Do you believe God always feels love for you, because of the finished work of Jesus? Why or why not?
- What tangible steps can you take to start feeling the truth of the gospel?
- If you place too much emphasis on feelings, what cautions do you need to realize?

pray

Father, thank you for the salvation you’ve secured for me in the finished work of Jesus. Thank you for your grace. Thank you for your strength and power that protects our future inheritance. Thank you for loving me, even when my heart is cold. Spirit, please make the gospel real to me. Please give me a deep joy over the truths of all that you have accomplished. Amen.

### by John Perritt

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