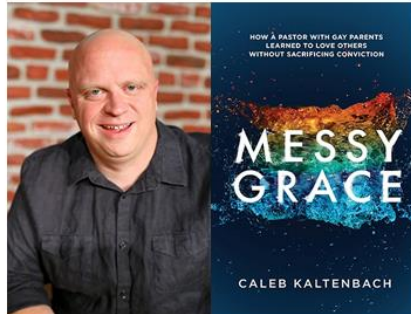




The Evangelical Covenant Church



Show Notes for
Embrace Webinar #14

Embracing Messy Grace
with Caleb Kaltnbach

Embrace webinar #14 summary:

Author Caleb Kaltenbach of [Messy Grace](#) tells his story of being raised by gay parents and becoming a Christian with traditional convictions on human sexuality. As a pastor and a person with LGBTQ+ loved ones, Caleb speaks to the church's opportunity to love people with grace and truth. Full webinar and resources available at

<https://covchurch.org/embrace/webinar-14/>

Key takeaways and timestamps from the webinar:

(3:05-4:40): Caleb wrote [Messy Grace: How a Pastor with Gay Parents Learned to Love Others Without Sacrificing Conviction](#) to help preserve relationships.

(4:40-10:30): Caleb's experience of growing up with a mother and a father who eventually came out as gay. Through pride parades and other lived experiences, his impression was Christians hate gay people.

(10:30-18:45): Through a Bible study in high school Caleb was given the space to journey towards Jesus and for God to perform spiritual heart surgery. When he came out as a Christian to his gay activist parents, they temporarily kicked him out.

(18:46-25:17): Caleb said, "messiness is what happens when you try to live out God's perfect grace as a flawed person in a flawed world." Messy grace with his parents has



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looked like going to gay activist events to learn and to be a light, and attending same-sex weddings to show support of LGBTQ+ loved ones.

(24:18-27:47): Caleb said, “We can accept others as friends or family without approving of their life choices.”

(27:48-31:00): Caleb accepted his parents without agreeing with them on human sexuality. Eventually, both parents gave their lives to Jesus Christ and are no longer in same-sex relationships.

(31:00-34:40): Use conversations with family members who have **divergent beliefs** on human sexuality to better understand their convictions and as an invitation to talk with children about what we believe God’s design for sex is and God’s call to love people.

(47:14-54:12): An example of how to lovingly respond to someone who is in a same-sex relationship and desires to lead within the church.

Resources mentioned:

[Messy Grace](#) by Caleb Kaltenbach

[The Messy Grace Group](#)