

Today's Message: "Stepping Under God's Grace"

Week 1 ...for Past Mistakes
Week 2 ...for Past Wounds
Week 3 ...for Past Church Hurts

Biblical Heroes...

Peter:

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. (Matthew 16:15-18, ESV)

And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you."²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."²³ (Matthew 16:22-23, ESV)

Luke 22:54-62 = Peter's Denial of Jesus

Paul:

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. (Acts 9:1-2, ESV)

But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem.¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name."¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. (Acts 9:13-15 ESV)

Abraham lied:

Genesis 12:10-20, 20:1-18

Moses lost his temper and committed murder:

Numbers 20:10-13, Exodus 2:11-15

David committed adultery:

2 Samuel 11

"Umbrella Series: Week 1"

Pastor Kent Chevalier

July 18 & 19, 2015

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"Our failures don't have to define us. It all depends on how we respond. If we curse our luck, blame others, and fail to take responsibility, we'll continue to fail. But if we face the facts, accept responsibility, and humbly get back on the right path, our failures can lay the groundwork for future success...Don't forget that the vast majority of biblical heroes failed spectacularly at one point or another, many of them more than once. What set them apart was their refusal to let these failures define them. Instead of becoming angry and disillusioned with God, they repented and turned to God. And once they did, he turned losers into champions." ~ Larry Osborne, Thriving in Babylon

Paul wrote:

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. (1 Timothy 1:12-16, ESV)

God's grace covers your mistakes.

Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. Of the five biblical heroes that are mentioned above, which person do you relate to the most? Why?
2. When it comes to your past mistakes, in what areas have you not stepped under God's umbrella of grace?
3. What would your life look like if you lived out 1 Timothy 1:12-16?
4. Read John 8:1-11. How would you describe the balance of truth and grace in this account?
5. Do you know someone who needs grace for past wounds done to them? Invite them to join you this weekend.

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