

TWO COMMON WAYS OF DERAILING THE RECOVERY PROCESS

1. Withholding forgiveness _____

Two truths:

- A. Jesus _____ paid the price for your sin, and failures
- B. God's grace is not based on your _____

"Grace" is _____

"Mercy" is _____

2. Withholding forgiveness _____

THE STORY OF PETER IN JOHN 21

Peter felt like a failure so he went back to his old business of fishing. But Jesus found him and helped him. Jesus helped Peter get beyond his inability to forgive himself so he could be the apostle he was called to be.

MEDITATIONS FOR WEEK 3:

CIRCLE A HIGHLIGHTED WORD IN EACH VERSE & ASK YOURSELF WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOUR LIFE.

1. Psalm 103:11-12 "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."
2. Romans 8:1 "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus..."
3. Phil. 1:6 "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."
4. 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him- but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit."
5. Isaiah 61:7 "Instead of their shame my people will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace, they will rejoice in their inheritance... and everlasting joy will be theirs."
6. Jeremiah 31:3-4 "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness. I will build you up again and you will be rebuilt..."

TO DREAM AGAIN:

Opening My Heart To New
Doors & Opportunities



HOW GOD RECOVERS LOST DREAMS

JEREMIAH 29:11 (GW)

"I know the PLANS/DREAMS that I have for you, declares the Lord. They are plans for peace and prosperity- not disaster; plans to give you a future filled with hope."

Definition of a dream: _____

The number one barrier to my future is my _____
God's plan is for me to live in the _____ and _____ and
_____ for the future.

ROMANS 3:23 (NLT)

"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard."

LUKE 19:10 (NIV)

Jesus said: *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."*

Jesus, passing through Jericho, stopped to minister to Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector. The result was Jesus told him salvation had come to his house and Jesus brought _____ of God's dream for his life.

"God can take yesterday's _____ and turn them into tomorrow's _____" ~Tony Evans

HOW TO DEAL WITH PAST MISTAKES & BAD DECISIONS:

FOUR COMMON CAUSES FOR STUMBLING

Mark 14:27-30, 37-42 and 53-54

"'You will all fall away,' Jesus told them, 'For it is written: I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered. But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.' **Peter declared, 'Even if all fall away, I will not.'** 'I tell you the truth,' Jesus answered, 'today- yes, tonight- before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times.'

...Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. 'Simon,' he said to Peter, 'are you asleep? **Could you not keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.'** Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. When he came back, **he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.** They did not know what to say to him. Returning the third time, he said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!'

...They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, elders and teachers of the law came together. **Peter followed at a distance**, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire."

- _____ (Peter declared, 'Even if all fall away, I will not.')
- _____ ('Simon, could you not keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.)
- _____ (Peter followed at a distance.)
- _____ (He found them sleeping... eyes were heavy.)

The reality is, Jesus was not surprised at Peter's failures and mistakes. In fact, earlier that same night Jesus told Peter what would happen.

Luke 19:31-32 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers [and sisters]."

FOUR TRUTHS ABOUT OUR FAILURES & GOD'S PATH TO RECOVERY

1. Jesus knows every failure in your life _____
2. Jesus _____ before you fail
3. Jesus _____ so you can experience recovery

THE 3 STEPS TO REPENTANCE

- A. A _____ responsibility for my poor choices, failures and mistakes
- B. A _____ God for forgiveness because of his grace and mercy (1 John 1:9)
- C. R _____ God's amazing grace (Ephesians 1:6-7)

4. Jesus _____ with what you learned from your mistakes