

SERMON NOTES

July 6 & 7, 2024

Would You Rather?: Getting Past My Past

1. Core Reality: _____ can't change the past no matter how _____ I am.

2 Samuel 18:33 | Hebrews 12:15

_____ can't change the past no matter how _____ I am.

2. How God redeems my past: _____ + _____ + _____

a. _____:

1) God's _____ and _____

regardless of my past.

John 4:7,9-10

2) _____ must be _____

Romans 5:20 b

b. _____:

1) _____ of my past are _____.

John 4:15-18

2) _____ must be _____.

c. _____:

1) _____, not time, _____

Luke 13:6 -9

2) _____ must be _____

Revelation 21:5

Life Steps

Would You Rather?: Barriers to Hearing from God | July 6 & 7, 2024

Grace + Truth + Time

Monday

2 Samuel 18:19-33

Reflect: Regret is a sense of disappointment based on a decision we wish we could undo or redo. David's life was full of regret and "If only I had..." Consider some of your long-ago and or recent regrets. How do you think they might be adversely or positively affecting your decision-making today?

Prayer: God, I surrender my sin-stained past to you. Forgive me. Heal me. Renew me.

Tuesday

Hebrews 12:15

Reflect: According to the writer of Hebrews, what are the dangers of bitterness taking root in our lives? How have you seen that reality manifested in your own life?

Prayer: God, I surrender my mismanaged anger that has given root to bitterness. Forgive me. Heal me. Renew me

Wednesday

John 4:1-10

Reflect: The Samaritan woman had a scandalous past. Jesus doesn't rebuke her, dismiss her, insult her, or condemn her. He offers her a gift. How do you think she was feeling in her encounter with Jesus? Consider a time when grace, unconditional love, was shown to you. How did you feel in the midst of that experience? What does this story teach us about grace?

Prayer: Thank you God for the gift of your unconditional love and unwavering faithfulness.

Thursday

Romans 5:20-21

Reflect: No matter how bad or shameful our past is, it is not our past that gets in the way of our healing and moving forward with our lives. Grace must be received. As a whole, what do you think prevents people from receiving God's grace? Where do you need God's grace? What is preventing you from receiving it?

Prayer: Generous God, I surrender my pride/ego. Humbly, I receive and accept your grace.

Friday

John 4:11-18

Reflect: The Samaritan woman did everything she could do to avoid the truth about her past. How have you done the same thing? What is your response to the following statement? The facts of my past are my friends. What is the truth about your past that is time for you to acknowledge?

Prayer: God of grace and truth, help me to accept the reality of my past.

Saturday

Luke 13:6-9

Reflect: Your life is the vineyard and you are the owner. Where are you most impatient, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, with the current status of your life? What is your response to what Jesus is saying to you in verse 8? "Let me fertilize and water and render care. Let's give it some more time."

Prayer: Thank you God for consistently working in my life, even when I can't see it or feel it.

Sunday

Revelation 21:5

Reflect: Grace + Truth + Time = Redemption of your past. Review your notes from last weekend. What is your next step towards claiming the Redemption, the new thing God wants to do in your life?

Prayer: I praise you God of grace and truth for the redeeming of my past and for the hope of my future.