

MIRACLES PART 4: A BIG MISTAKE!

Scripture used: Matthew 26:31-35, 73-75 (NLT)

OVERVIEW

We have heard the first 2 essentials to experiencing the miraculous in our lives. 1) Audacious Prayer. 2) Audacious Faith. Today, we learn the 3rd component, which is AUDACIOUS GRACE. God gives us an unending grace that is able to bring miracles out of our smallest or most monumental mistakes. Perhaps some of us don't even consider living out these essentials because we have made mistakes that disqualify us from experiencing miracles. But this is a LIE. Even spiritual giants (like Peter) started out as ordinary people who made mistakes, but in the end they trusted God to get back up! (Prov 24:16)

KEY POINTS

- 1) *We need to learn to lean into God's Audacious Grace!* - God gives us unending grace that brings miracles out of our mistakes.
 - a. *Most of us have had a season of mistakes.* - Several of us have gone through seasons where we have made mistake after mistake. For Peter, his season of mistakes was represented through the 3 times that he denied Jesus. Whether because of failed finances, failures at our work places, or repeated failures in our relationships, we feel as though, as hard as we try, our history disqualifies us from receiving God's audacious grace because we keep failing time after time. Anyone else would have given up on us. *But God is NOT like everyone else.* He is a God who promises that nothing will separate us from His love.
 - b. *For several of us there is one particular mistake that we have made, but it is a huge one.* - For Peter, it was when he denied Christ, just after he proclaimed to Him that he would rather die than deny his Lord (vs 35). But when he did, and it resulted in him going outside and weeping bitterly (vs 75). In a similar way, Judas also denied Christ, which resulted in feeling cut off from God so much that he killed himself.
- 2) *God has the capacity to be able to birth miracles out of our worst mistakes!* - Rather than our mistakes disqualifying us from God's miracles, *they qualify us!* Rom 11:29 reminds us that God has instilled a destiny in our lives that cannot be revoked. *God is able to draw out His purpose through our mistakes when we allow Him to and trust Him.*
- 3) What does it involve?
 - a. *Be honest (with God and people).* The difference between Peter and Judas' failures is that Peter was able to live 3 more days than Judas and, because of it, was able to witness God's miraculous grace and live. God's love never fails regardless of our failures. *What makes us righteous is not our striving for perfection, but God's grace and love for us!*
 - b. *Be Humble (own your responsibility and repent).* When we are honest, we no longer have to hide what we are trying to hide. We simply need to repent, which means to turn back to Jesus.
 - c. *Begin Again (receive God's grace and forgiveness).* God can take us from our worst failures and turn us into the successes and destiny of God. *Daring to believe in Jesus is not based on how we feel. It is a FAITH, believing in God's grace!*

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - When have you gone through a season of mistakes that prevented you (or is preventing you now) from experiencing God's grace and believing that God wants to perform miracles in and through you?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - When you compare Peter and Judas, both of whom failed Jesus as predicted, what do you suppose Peter had that kept him from following the same path that Judas took? What is God teaching us from this when it comes to our own mistakes before God?
- 3) **DO** - During this time of consecration, identify one barrier of guilt from a mistake in the past and come honestly before God in Prayer. Repent, begin again and pray anew for God to work a specific miracle in your life. Continue to pray for those you are inviting to Easter and for Easter Sunday itself.