



27 | Mon – Between a rock and a hard place | Read John 8:3-11

The Old Testament penalty for adultery was swift and harsh. The woman in this story was not just a person caught in wrong-doing; she was being used as an example. Jesus cut to the heart of the matter with a simple statement in verse 7. When we encounter someone guilty of wrong, do we accuse and walk away? Or can we offer grace, as Jesus did?

28 | Tues – The father and his ungrateful child | Read Luke 15:21-32

Most kids grow up and leave home. Sometimes the leaving is good, sometimes heart-breaking. Jesus tells the story of an ungrateful son's treatment of his father and the grace that was extended when he returned home a beggar. Notice the older brother's response. What made the difference between the father's welcome and the oldest son's attitude? How can you overcome resentment to become a grace giver?

29 | Wed – Chance encounter | Read John 4:28-30 and 39-42

Unplanned meetings take place all the time. This encounter was between two people who could hardly be more different - the perfect man/God and a woman from the lowest level of society. Instead of being intimidated, she argues for her flawed beliefs while he patiently redirects her back to her greatest need. Others dismissed her value but grace changed her life. Can we follow Jesus' example with those we meet by chance?

30 | Thur – The king is not above the law | Read Psalms 51:3-12

Even the greatest leaders can fall into sin. King David did and then committed murder to cover it up. While God revealed the sin and the king had to suffer the painful consequences of his choices, he was not abandoned. Because David acknowledged his sin and sorrowfully repented, he was forgiven. How do we respond when our sin is revealed? With denial, shame or true repentance? Don't miss the gift of grace God offers.

31 | Fri – A last minute rescue | Read Luke 23:39-43

One of the criminals crucified with Jesus mocked him but the other took responsibility for his own wrong-doing. He recognized that he could not save himself. His sin was on display for the whole world to see, yet he did not focus on the public shame. He petitioned the One who could save him. Have you failed in your efforts to 'save' yourself? Good news! Acknowledging our inability is where the grace of God begins.

01 | Sat – Two decisions | Read Matthew 26:74-75 and 27:4-5

Peter and Judas, two betrayals, two different outcomes. Peter recognized his actions and wept bitterly. Judas admitted and tried to fix it himself. Peter's response of sorrow led him back to a restored relationship with Jesus. Judas gave up hope and was lost. When you fail, as we all do, what choice will you make? Accept grace and choose life.

July 26 | Sun – In the Ditch with Jesus | Read Luke 10:29-37

