

## Good New About Grace - part 5 RESTORING GRACE

"Restore us, O Lord, and bring us back to you again! Give us back the joys we once had!" Lam. 5:21 (NLT)

### I. What Causes Believers To Fall Away?

Peter's denial of Christ - Mark 14:27-72

#### 1. Overconfidence

"Everyone else may stumble in their faith, but I will not!" v. 29

#### 2. Laziness

"Couldn't you stay awake with me for one hour?" v. 37

#### 3. Fear of Disapproval

"Peter followed him at a distance. . ." v. 54a

#### 4. Convenience

"Then he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire." v. 54b

### GOD'S RESPONSE: GRACE

"There is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus." Rom. 8:1 (NLT)

### II. Why Doesn't God Reject Believers When We Sin?

#### 1. Because His Love Is Unconditional

"God's compassion never ends. It is only his mercies that have kept us from complete destruction." Lam. 3:22 (LB)

#### 2. Because Salvation Isn't Based On My Performance

"He saved us, not because of the good things we did, but because of his mercy." Titus 3:5 (NLT)

#### 3. Because Jesus Has Already Taken My Punishment

"When Jesus served as a sacrifice for our sins, he solved the sin problem for God - not only ours, but the whole world's." 1 John 2:2 (Mes)

#### 4. Because Jesus Understands My Human Weakness

"Jesus understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same temptations we do, yet he did not sin." Heb. 4:15 (NLT)

#### 5. Because God Doesn't Hold On To Grudges

"God will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. He has not punished us for all our sins, nor does he deal with us as we deserve. . . He is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him." Ps. 103:9-13 (NLT)

"Come back to me, you unfaithful children, and I will forgive you for being unfaithful." Jer. 3:22 (NCV)

### III. What Should I Do When I Sin? RETURN TO GOD

"If you return to me, I will restore you so you can continue to serve me." Jer. 15:19 (NLT)

"No matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can take it out and make you clean as freshly fallen snow." Isa. 1:18 (LB)

"With great compassion I will take you back." Isa. 54:7 (LB)

"Restore to me again the joy of your salvation." Ps. 51:12 (NLT)