

Grace & Love

Rachael Martin 5,22,2020

How many times do we do things without thinking of the outcome and then regret what we've done and had to try to figure out a way to fix it? It doesn't even have to be a sin, it could be that you said something to someone that wasn't quite nice or you forgot to do something you were supposed to do, the list goes on....

I think of the many times in the Bible that people messed up, even in the New Testament and when I think of grace, I can see how the song Amazing Grace was written.

Some personal things that happened today made me reflect on the consequences to our actions and the many times we have probably deserved to be punished and somehow – God's grace was to respond in love. There is a consequence so that we learn, so that we have a standard - God's standards – so that we have accountability but I think, just as importantly, there is going the extra mile of extending grace when it should be a strong reprimand instead, that we learn how to love and extend grace and give a 2nd, 3rd, 4th chance.

Now some people would say, if you keep giving chances to someone without discipline or repercussions, they will never learn. It's a fine line isn't it? As children, we thought as children, as adults....we should....

Sometimes just admitting that something was wrong, actually letting someone know that WE know that what we did was wrong is ½ the battle and worth it's weight considering the spirit behind what was said or done.

I'm saying all of this to ask each of us to go a little further in grace when we feel we've been wronged or to not be afraid to say we are wrong when we mess up. The shoe fits both feet and part of **1 Corinthians 13** is holding no record of wrong. It doesn't say once apologized to, to hold no record. Love and grace go hand in hand. Just something to chew on. Love you all!

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