

Feb 28 Mosaic Bible Study: God Uses Our Regrets Week 2 Lent

Opening prayer

Names/introductions

Diane—recap

In which areas do you most need God to free you from regret?

Lectio—Psalm 51:1-12

Natalie—see scriptures on attached pages. Summary of these stories.

Refine questions below—in small groups

Refine:

1. What does God say about living with regrets? How do these passages provide a new path?
2. Identify the power of regret in your life. How has it affected your relationships? What about with God? How do they affect your view of the future?
3. Define a solution if God truly dealt with your regrets. What would your relationships look like? What new opportunities? How could you serve God better?
4. Name the steps to achieve the solution. What would it require of you? What changes? What new habits need to be taken up ?
5. Commit to an action plan—when do you start? Who goes with? How do you begin? Now start!

Closing prayer

Scriptures for Feb 28, 2024 Mosaic: God Uses our Regrets

Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." ⁹Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

1 Samuel 15

Samuel said to Saul, "The Lord sent me to anoint you king over his people Israel; now therefore listen to the words of the Lord. ²Thus says the Lord of hosts: I will punish the Amalekites for what they did in opposing the Israelites when they came up out of Egypt. ³Now go and attack Amalek and utterly destroy all that they have; do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey." ⁴So Saul summoned the people and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand foot soldiers and ten thousand soldiers of Judah. ⁵Saul came to the city of the Amalekites and lay in wait in the valley. ⁶Saul said to the Kenites, "Go! Leave! Withdraw from among the Amalekites, or I will destroy you with them, for you showed kindness to all the Israelites when they came up out of Egypt." So the Kenites withdrew from the Amalekites. ⁷Saul defeated the Amalekites, from Havilah as far as Shur, which is east of Egypt. ⁸He took King Agag of the Amalekites alive but utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. ⁹Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep and of the cattle and of the fatted calves,^[a] and the lambs, and all that was valuable and would not utterly destroy them; all that was despised and worthless they utterly destroyed.

Saul Rejected as King

¹⁰The word of the Lord came to Samuel: ¹¹"I regret that I made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me and has not carried out my commands." Samuel was angry, and he cried out to the Lord all night. ¹²Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, and Samuel was told, "Saul went to Carmel, where he set up a monument for himself, and on returning he passed on down to Gilgal." ¹³When Samuel came to Saul, Saul said to him, "May you be blessed by the Lord; I have carried out the command of the Lord." ¹⁴But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of sheep in my ears and the lowing of cattle that I hear?" ¹⁵Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and the cattle to sacrifice to the Lord your God, but the rest we have utterly destroyed." ¹⁶Then Samuel said to Saul, "Stop! I will tell you what the Lord said to me last night." He replied, "Speak."

¹⁷ Samuel said, “Though you are little in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel? The Lord anointed you king over Israel. ¹⁸ And the Lord sent you on a mission and said, ‘Go, utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.’ ¹⁹ Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord? Why did you swoop down on the spoil and do what was evil in the sight of the Lord?” ²⁰ Saul said to Samuel, “I have obeyed the voice of the Lord. I have gone on the mission on which the Lord sent me. I have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. ²¹ But from the spoil the people took sheep and cattle, the best of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal.” ²² And Samuel said,

“Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices
as in obedience to the voice of the Lord?

Surely, to obey is better than sacrifice
and to heed than the fat of rams.

²³ For rebellion is no less a sin than divination,
and stubbornness is like iniquity and idolatry.
Because you have rejected the word of the Lord,
he has also rejected you from being king.”

²⁴ Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. ²⁵ Now therefore, I pray, pardon my sin, and return with me, so that I may worship the Lord.” ²⁶ Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel.” ²⁷ As Samuel turned to go away, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore. ²⁸ And Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this very day and has given it to a neighbor of yours who is better than you. ²⁹ Moreover, the Glory of Israel will not deceive or change his mind, for he is not a mortal, that he should change his mind.” ³⁰ Then Saul^[a] said, “I have sinned; yet honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, so that I may worship the Lord your God.” ³¹ So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul worshiped the Lord.

³² Then Samuel said, “Bring Agag king of the Amalekites here to me.” And Agag came to him haltingly.^[a] Agag said, “Surely death is bitter.”^[a] ³³ Samuel said,

“As your sword has made women childless,
so your mother shall be childless among women.”

And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the Lord in Gilgal.

³⁴ Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house in Gibeath of Saul. ³⁵ Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

Psalm 33

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

Praise befits the upright.

² Praise the Lord with the lyre;

make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

- ³ Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
- ⁴ For the word of the Lord is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- ⁵ He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.
- ⁶ By the word of the Lord the heavens were made
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.
- ⁷ He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;
he put the deeps in storehouses.
- ⁸ Let all the earth fear the Lord;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him,
- ⁹ for he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.
- ¹⁰ The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
- ¹¹ The counsel of the Lord stands forever,
the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
- ¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- ¹³ The Lord looks down from heaven;
he sees all humankind.
- ¹⁴ From where he sits enthroned he watches
all the inhabitants of the earth—
- ¹⁵ he who fashions the hearts of them all
and observes all their deeds.
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.
- ¹⁷ The war horse is a vain hope for victory,
and by its great might it cannot save.
- ¹⁸ Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
- ¹⁹ to deliver their soul from death
and to keep them alive in famine.
- ²⁰ Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and shield.
- ²¹ Our heart is glad in him
because we trust in his holy name.
- ²² Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.

Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy,
 blot out my transgressions.
²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
 and cleanse me from my sin.
³For I know my transgressions,
 and my sin is ever before me.
⁴Against you, you alone, have I sinned
 and done what is evil in your sight,
 so that you are justified in your sentence
 and blameless when you pass judgment.
⁵Indeed, I was born guilty,
 a sinner when my mother conceived me.
⁶You desire truth in the inward being,^[a]
 therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
 wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
 let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
⁹Hide your face from my sins,
 and blot out all my iniquities.
 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 and put a new and right^[b] spirit within me.
¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence,
 and do not take your holy spirit from me.
¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
 and sustain in me a willing^[c] spirit.

Isaiah 43:1-5

But now thus says the Lord,
 he who created you, O Jacob,
 he who formed you, O Israel:
 Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by name; you are mine.
²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
 and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
 when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
 and the flame shall not consume you.
³For I am the Lord your God,
 the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
 I give Egypt as your ransom,
 Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴Because you are precious in my sight
 and honored and I love you,
 I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;

Mark 11:24

²⁴ So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received^[c] it, and it will be yours.

Philippians 3:13-15

¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold^[g] of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly^[h] call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Let those of us, then, who are mature^[i] think this way, and if you think differently about anything, this, too, God will reveal to you. ¹

1 Peter 5

Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you ² to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight,^[a] not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it,^[b] not for sordid gain but eagerly. ³ Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. ⁵ In the same way, you who are younger must be subject to the elders.^[c] And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for

“God opposes the proud

but gives grace to the humble.”

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ,^[d] will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power^[e] forever and ever. Amen.