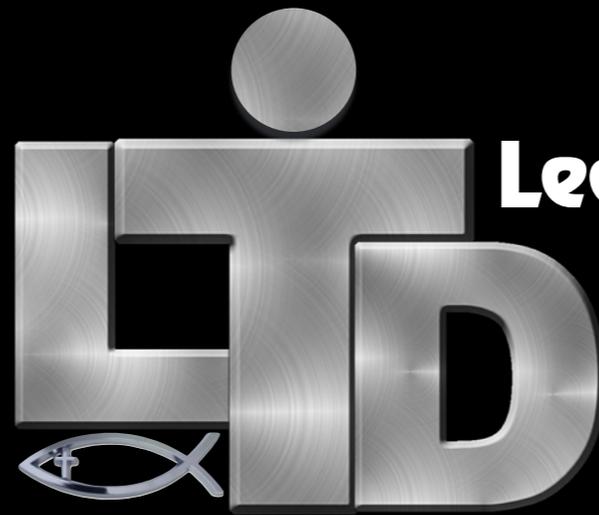




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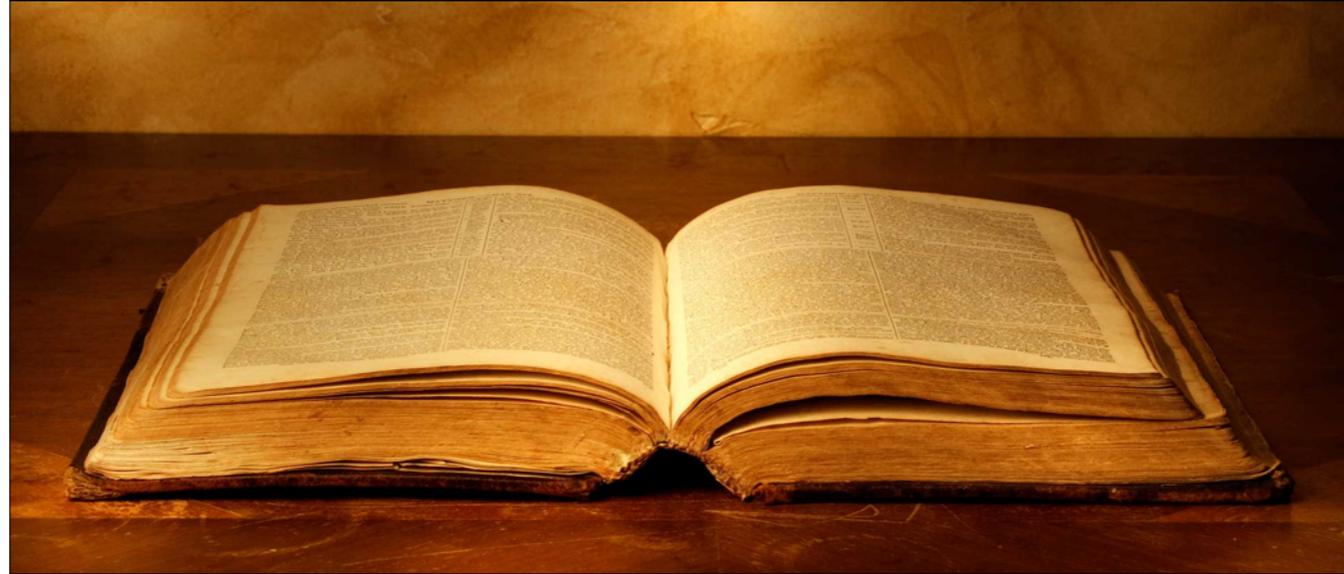
# Leadership Through Discipleship

Learning to Lead  
by Living to Follow

Terry R. Baughman  
Lead Pastor



“Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and  
bring him with you, for he is useful to  
me for ministry”  
—2 Timothy 4:11



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A failure became a leader when  
he got another chance

**MARK**  
**The Power of Restoration**

October 18, 2015  
Terry R. Baughman, Lead Pastor

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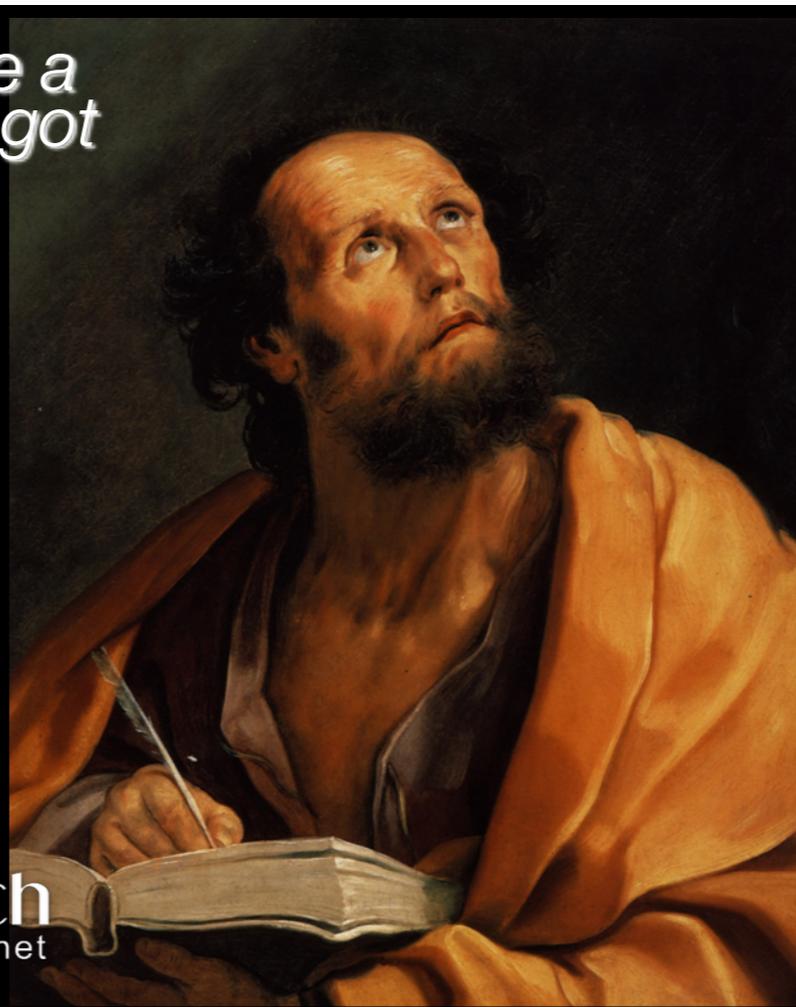
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*A failure became a leader when he got another chance*

# Mark

The Power  
of Restoration

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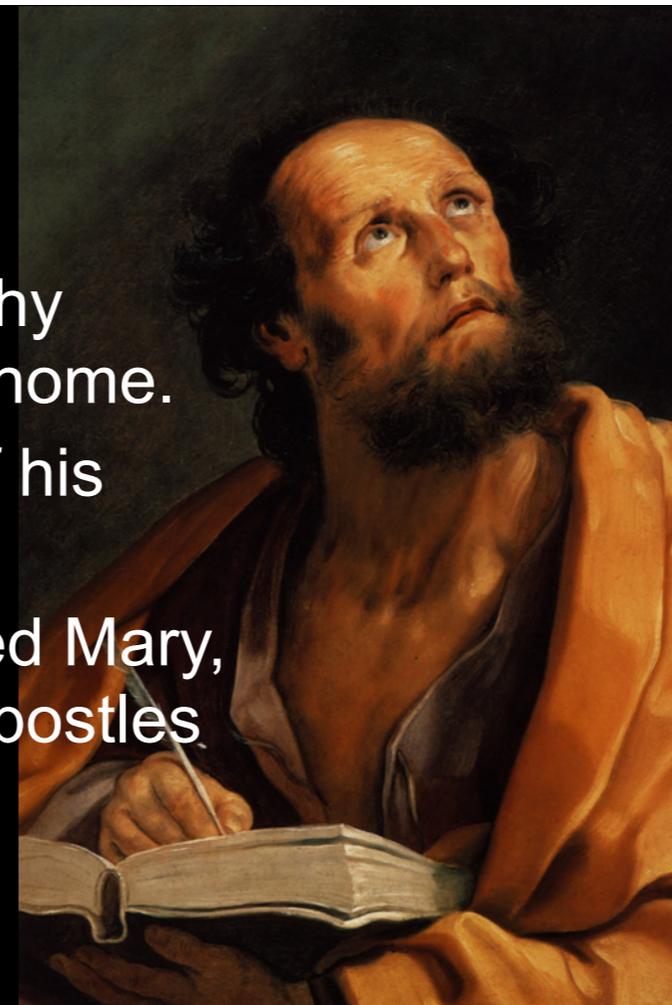


A failure became a leader when he got another chance

A leader learns to try again. John Mark is given a second chance at leadership. He experiences the disappointment of failed discipleship and the thrill of eventual acceptance.

## The early life of John Mark

- Raised in a wealthy Jewish Christian home.
- Nothing known of his father
- His mother, named Mary, was host to the apostles and believers in Jerusalem.



### The early life of John Mark

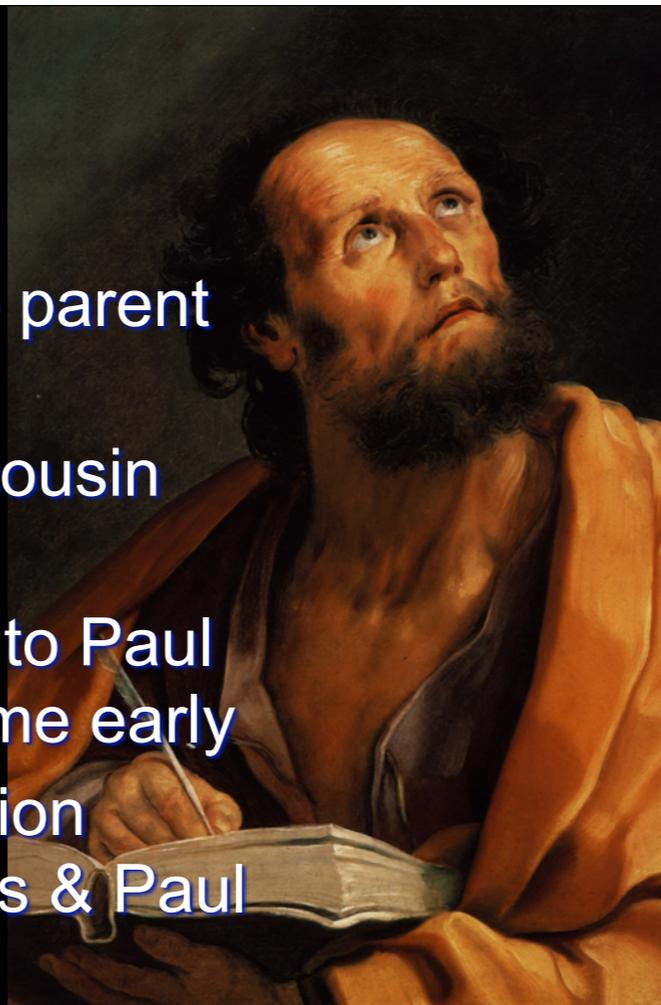
The Gospel of Mark is given a prominent place in the New Testament canon, second only to Matthew in the four gospels. Here, there is little indication of any weakness of character or faith in this early follower of Christ. But it was not always so.

John Mark was apparently raised in a wealthy Jewish Christian home. While we know nothing of his father, his mother, named Mary, was host to the apostles and believers in Jerusalem.

It was to their home, “where many were gathered together praying,” that Peter came when he was miraculously released from prison by an angel (Acts 12:12). Rhoda, the servant-girl of the home, was shocked with disbelief when she saw Peter standing at the gate.

# The early life of John Mark

- Raised in a single parent home
- Mentored by his cousin Barnabas
- A disappointment to Paul when he went home early
- Source of contention between Barnabas & Paul



## The early life of John Mark

Raised in a single-parent home

There is at least a suggestion that John Mark's father was absent in that Barnabas, his cousin, mentored him and asked him to accompany Paul on his first missionary journey.

—Acts 12:25 “25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from[a] Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their ministry, and they also took with them John whose surname was Mark.”

Whether John Mark was homesick or unaccustomed to hard work or for some other unknown reason, he left for home early in the trip.

—Acts 13:13 “Now when Paul and his party set sail from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia; and John, departing from them, returned to Jerusalem.”

Paul was disappointed in his early departure and later determined that John Mark would not accompany them on another missionary journey. So great was the contention between Barnabas, who felt he should be given another chance, and Paul that they changed their travel plans. John Mark traveled with Barnabas while Paul took Silas as his companion.

—See Acts 15:35–40

## John Mark's failure was a source of contention



- Acts 15:35 Paul and Barnabas also remained in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.
- 36 Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing.” 37 Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark.

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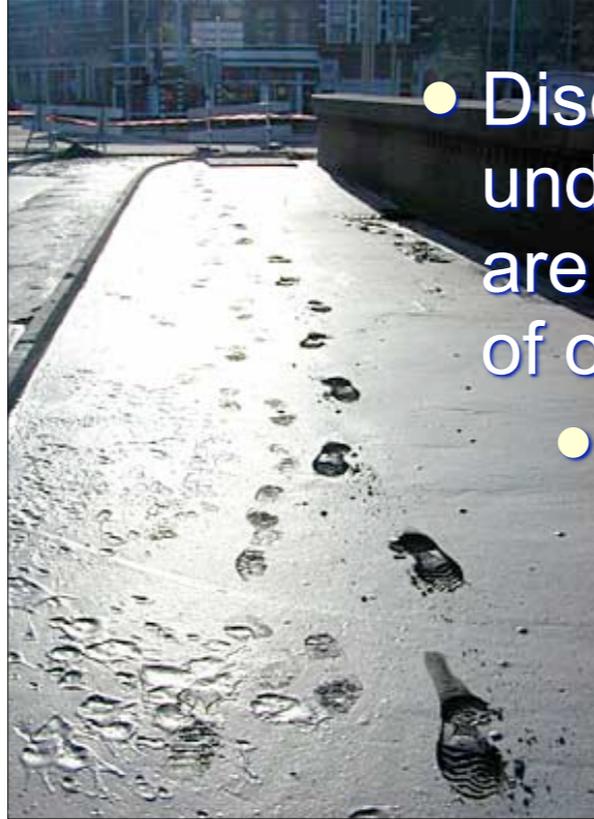
## John Mark's failure was a source of contention



- Acts 15:38 But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. 39 Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus; 40 but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. 41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

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# 1 — Everyone Has a Past



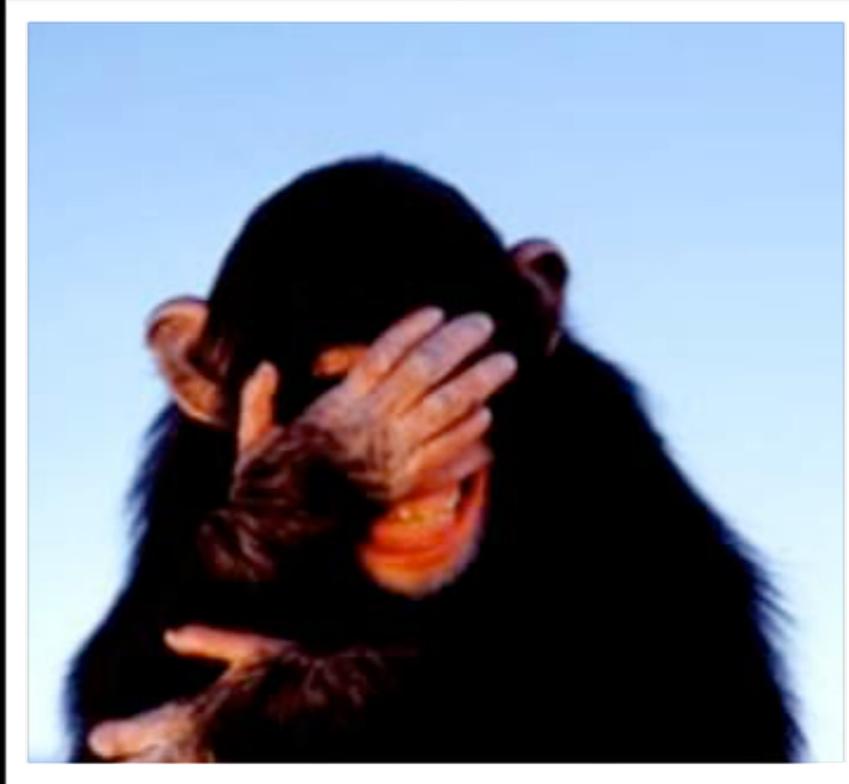
- Discipleship Leaders understand that mistakes are a part of the picture of our history.
- Would you want to be held accountable for every mistake you made in the past?

1. Everyone has a past.  
Discipleship Leaders understand that mistakes are a part of the picture of our history.

Do you want to be held accountable for every mistake you made in the past? There are some things we would rather no one know about, some actions of our life we would like to bury in the past and forget! We may be able to do that to an extent, but there are some people who will not forget and may not be able to forgive!

Especially in the immaturity of youth there is the tendency to disappoint, the possibility of making life-altering mistakes. There are often errors in judgment that scar the reputation for the rest of one's life.

- *Who wants to share their most embarrassing story? #notme*



Who wants to share their most embarrassing story? #notme

# John Mark and the Apostle Paul were reconciled

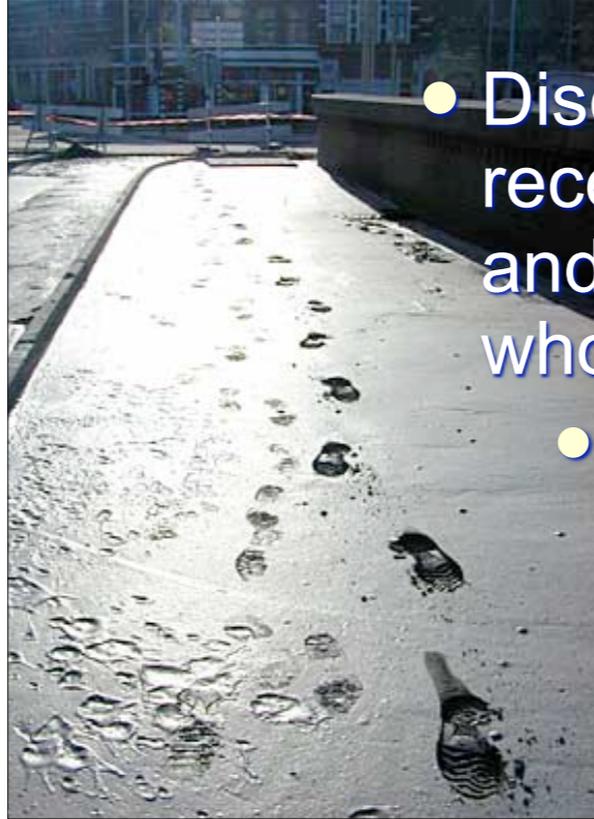


- Mark was given another chance
  - Colossians 4:10 –  
*“if he comes to you, welcome him”*
  - 2 Timothy 4:11 –  
*“Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry”*
  - Philemon 1:23-25

There is no information in Scripture about the reconciliation between John Mark and the Apostle Paul. However, at some point John Mark was given another chance by the apostle and apparently was accepted by him and allowed to travel with him again.

—He was commended to the church in Colosse by letter, “with Mark the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received instructions: if he comes to you, welcome him)” (Colossians 4:10). He was specifically asked for in Paul’s letter to Timothy, “Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry” (2 Timothy 4:11). He was also mentioned in the letter to Philemon.

## 2—Everyone Has a Present



- Discipleship Leaders receive grace to try again and grant grace to those who have stumbled.
- Past failure need not be the end of the desire to become a disciple.

2. Everyone has a present.  
Discipleship Leaders receive grace to try again and grant grace to those who have stumbled.

Past failure need not be the end of the desire to become a disciple. While faults may be remembered for a long time, our failures are not final. God forgives and is willing to restore. His disciples are commanded to do the same. It may take others a lot longer to forgive and they may never forget, but restoration is possible and a second chance at discipleship is available.

Paul demonstrated Christ's compassion in eventually allowing Mark to be useful to him in ministry. Mark made the needed commitment and lived to prove you can overcome past mistakes and be accepted again in the ministry.



Let the Past  
be the Past

*Repent* – Confess your sins to God.

- **Proverbs 28:13** “He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes *them* will have mercy.”
- **Acts 3:19** “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,”

Regardless of past failures get up and try again.

Deal with past mistakes. Allow the past to be the past!

—Repent – Confess your sins to God.

[next]

—Reconcile – Seek to repair relationships. Make as many things right as possible.

—Release – Let it go! Be free of condemnation. Accept His grace!

(Romans 8:1)



Let the Past  
be the Past

*Reconcile* – Seek to repair relationships.

- **Matthew 5:23-24** “Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

Regardless of past failures get up and try again.

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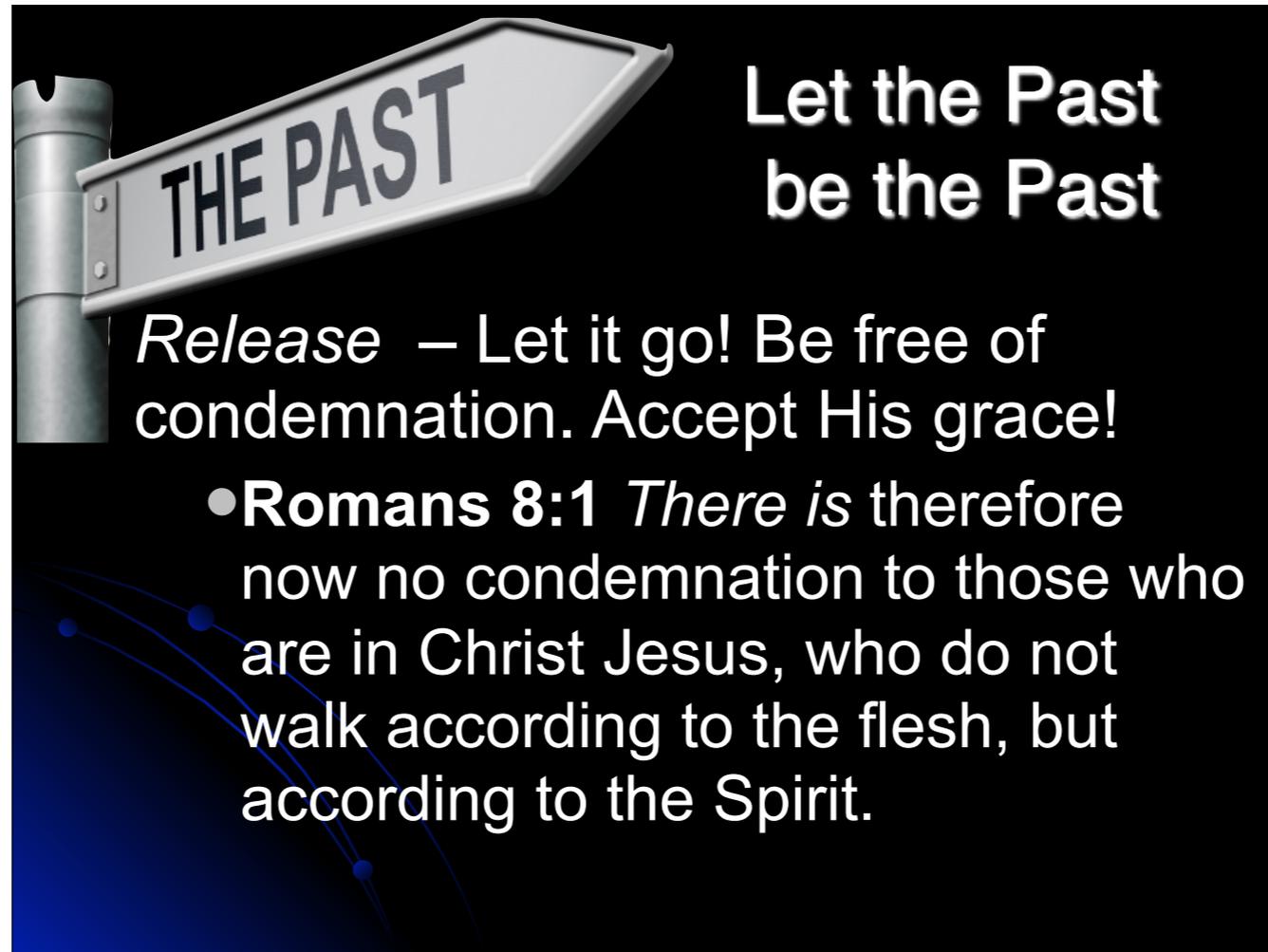
—Reconcile – Seek to repair relationships. Make as many things right as possible.

Reconciliation may not always be possible, but if you can forgive and reach out to repair the broken relationship, you will experience freedom in your own soul.

[next]

—Release – Let it go! Be free of condemnation. Accept His grace!

(Romans 8:1)



Regardless of past failures get up and try again.

Deal with past mistakes. Allow the past to be the past!

—

—Release – Let it go! Be free of condemnation. Accept His grace!

(Romans 8:1)

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus,[a] who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

Fall seven  
times, stand  
up eight. ~Japanese

Failure is not  
falling down but  
refusing to get  
up. -Chinese proverb

God will give you the grace  
if you've got the guts!  
-Get up and try again!

“For a righteous man may fall seven times  
And rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity.” —Prov. 24:16

God will give you the grace if you've got the guts!  
-Get up and try again!  
—my proverb :)

# Can you give grace to one who has stumbled?

- Give up the grudge. A grudge is too great a burden to carry.
- Recognize that people do change. Don't lock them in the past.
- Extend the privilege of a second chance.

Recognize God's work in the lives of others who may have disappointed you. Can you grant grace to one who has stumbled? Can you give a hand to help someone else succeed?

- a. Give up the grudge. A grudge is too great a burden to carry for long.
- b. Recognize that people do change. Don't lock them in the past.
- c. Extend the privilege of a second chance.

## 3—Everyone Has a Future



- Discipleship Leaders know that until life is over there is the potential for change and the possibility for restoration.
- Life is like concrete: the past is set, the present is being shaped moment by moment, the future has not been mixed or poured.

3. Everyone has a future. Discipleship Leaders know that until life is over there is the potential for change and the possibility for restoration.

Life is like concrete: the past is set, the present is being shaped moment by moment, the future has not been mixed or poured.

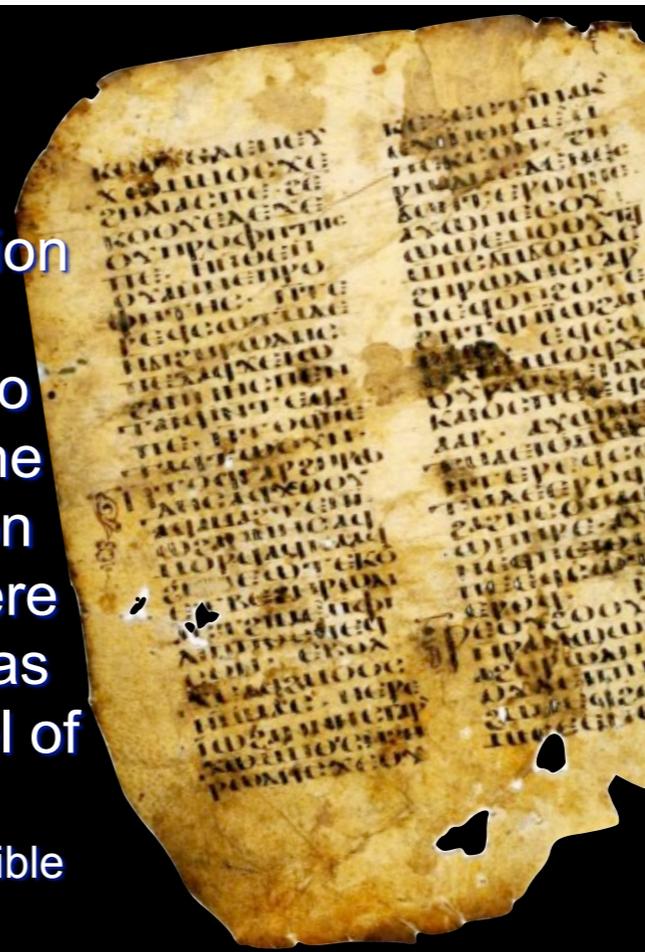
Peter developed a close relationship with John Mark as evidenced in his epistle, “She who is in Babylon, elect together with you, greets you; and so does my son” (1 Peter 5:13). He spoke of John Mark as a son and welcomed his company in traveling to Rome where he would suffer martyrdom. According to early church tradition, John Mark wrote his gospel through the first-hand account of the apostle Peter.

– 1 Peter 5:12–13

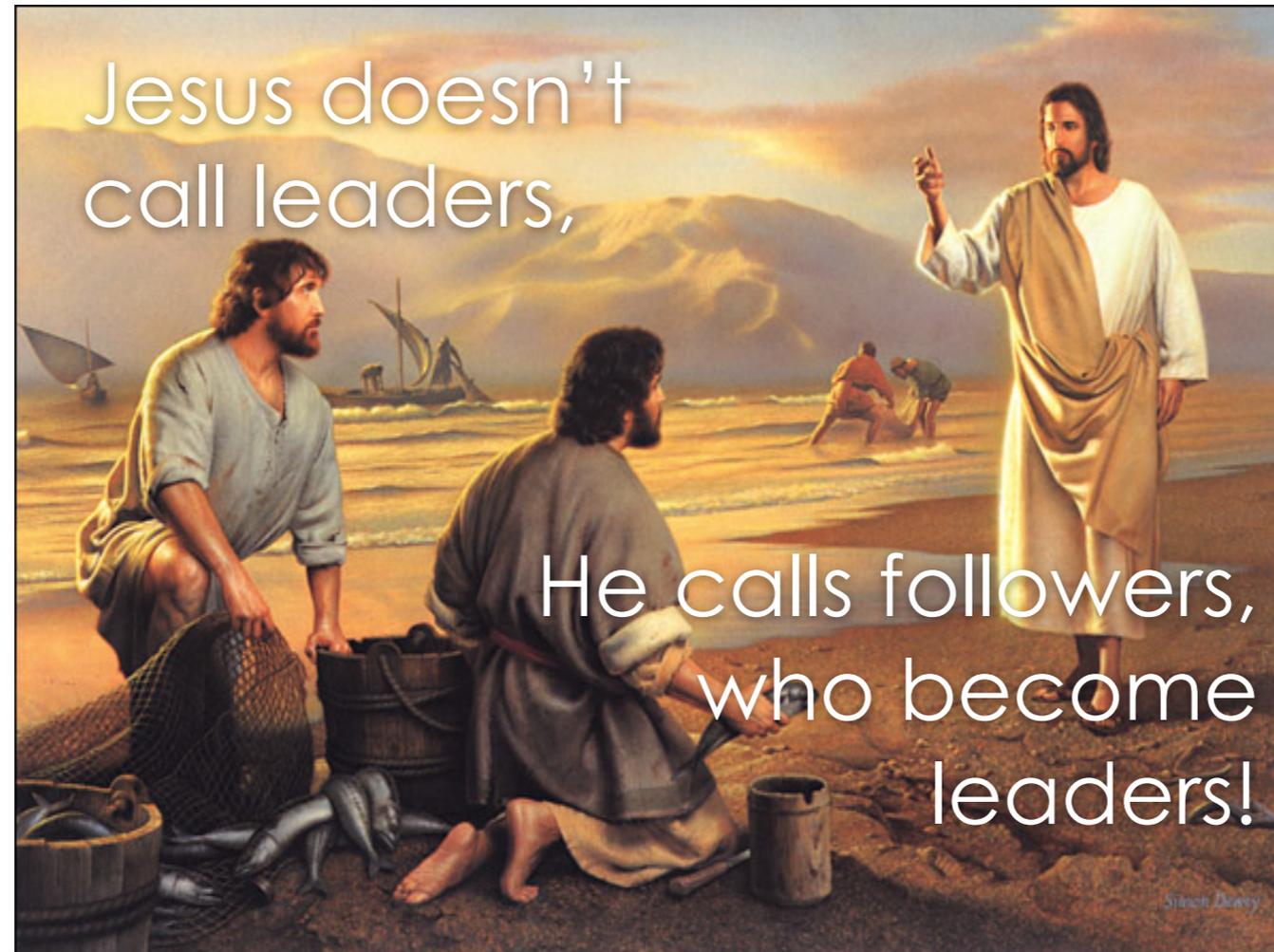
“From the testimony of Papias (Eus. Hist. Eccl. 3.39.16) we learn that common ecclesial tradition recognized Mark as the “interpreter” of Peter who recorded the words of the apostle as the foundation for a written gospel (cf. also Iren. Haer. 3.1.1). There is no question that Papias here refers to the gospel of Mark as we know it” (Freedman, D. N. The Anchor Bible Dictionary).

If John Mark had given up after his first failed effort at leadership we might not have the Gospel of Mark today. Thankfully, he was restored to discipleship and accepted in leadership!

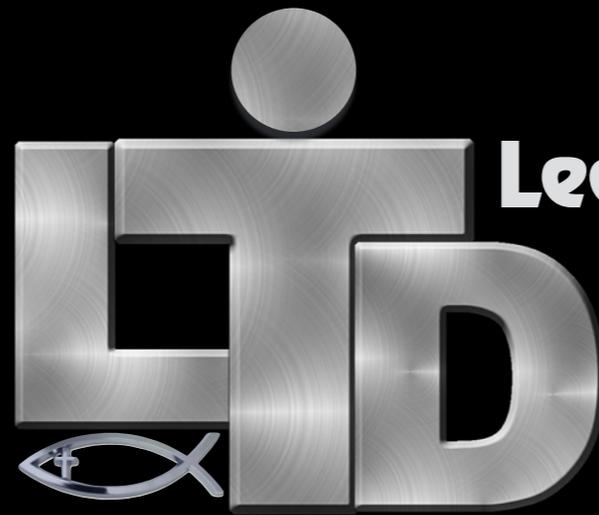
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Jesus doesn't call leaders,  
He calls followers,  
who become  
leaders!



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