



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Finding Strength in God's Grace
(Reversing the Devil's Decisions pt 7)

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme

Rise Up: Overcoming Adversity through Faith and Action

Prayer Focus

Heavenly Father, I'm grateful for the examples of Your unwavering love. Thank You for working through me as Your hands and feet, where You've placed me. You have not given me a spirit of fear but filled me with boldness and courage to face every challenge. In Jesus' name, amen.

Key Truths

God has a plan for us, filled with life, beauty, and growth. However, the enemy has a destructive agenda designed to kill, steal, and destroy. The Devil wants to isolate us, trap us in doubt, and undermine our trust in God's design. We must be vigilant and prepared to stand firm against his wicked schemes, recognizing his temptations without losing focus on God. It's easier to keep the Devil at bay than to evict him once he's found a foothold.

Not everything happening around us is God's will. When we look at Christ, we see God's intentions—Jesus fulfilled God's will in every good action He took. Satan introduced sin, sickness, and disease to the world. We must resist the Devil and reject his plans to receive God's best.

God can use anyone He chooses. The Bible is full of stories of how God worked through people others overlooked or dismissed. Again and again, we see Him calling upon the outcasts and the broken to accomplish His purposes. God isn't searching for those who have it all together; He's looking for those willing and ready to follow Him, no matter what He asks.

Practical Application

When you feel the weight of the enemy's attacks—whether it's through negative thoughts, fear, or temptation—remember that you have the power to resist. Start by speaking against words or thoughts that contradict God's Word. Declare God's promises over your life and remind yourself that you don't have to repeat the struggles of your past or your family's history.

Surround yourself with a community of believers who can support and encourage you. Share your experiences

with others, not only to seek help but to offer help as well. God can use your challenges to uplift and strengthen those around you. Reflect on how God equipped you to overcome and consider how you can use your story to minister to others in similar situations. Make it a practice to turn your past struggles into opportunities for ministry, allowing God to transform what was once a mess into a testimony of His grace and power.

Reference Verses

- Ephesians 2:10
- John 10:10
- 1 Peter 5:8-9
- Deuteronomy 30:19, 10:13
- Proverbs 24:16, 18:21, 6:20-29, 24:10
- 2 Timothy 2:1
- Micah 7:8
- Genesis 1:5
- 2 Corinthians 4:1, 1:3-5
- Isaiah 54:17
- Psalms 73:16-19
- 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, 10:13
- Matthew 6:4

Declarations

- My testimony does not disqualify me; it equips me to help others.
- My mess can become my ministry.
- I will use the struggles of my past to bring glory to God.

What's Next?

In this message, we learned about the importance of resisting the enemy, embracing God's grace, and allowing God to use our past, including our failures, for His purpose. Here's how you can apply these principles to your daily life:

Resist the Enemy with Intentional Preparation: Don't wait for temptation to catch you off guard. Decide in advance how you will resist the devil's schemes—this could mean avoiding certain situations, setting boundaries, or having accountability partners. Stay spiritually alert through regular prayer, Bible reading, and being part of a supportive faith community. Just as Jesus resisted temptation by quoting Scripture, arm yourself with specific Bible verses that strengthen your resolve.

Rise After Setbacks: No mistake is too big for God's grace. When you fall, remind yourself that His grace is sufficient, and He calls you to rise again and continue on His path. Let go of past mistakes and focus on the future that God has planned for you. Trust that He can turn your mess into your message and keep moving forward in faith, knowing He is with you every step of the way.

Allow God to Use Your Past: Reflect on how God can use your past experiences, even the painful ones, to help others. Your story can be a testimony that encourages and strengthens those facing similar challenges. Whether through mentoring, volunteering, or simply being a listening ear, sharing how God has worked in your

life can be a blessing to someone else.

Applying these principles in your daily life will help you stay aligned with God's plan, resist the enemy's attempts to derail you, and allow God to use every part of your life for His glory. Stay strong in faith, keep rising after every setback, and trust that God's grace will guide you every step of the way.

If you're in need of prayer we have a team ready to pray with you. Click the prayer link to connect with us.

http://weblink.donorperfect.com/WBF_Prayer

Also if you're looking to grow deeper? Pastor Duane's mini-book, '*Reversing the Devil's Decisions*' offers Biblical wisdom and inspiring real-life stories. Purchase your copy and embark on a transformative journey to victory! Visit the WBF Store at: <https://walkingbyfaith.tv/product/reversing-the-devils-decisions-2/>

Scripture References

Finding Strength in God's Grace

Ephesians 2:10 GW ...with good works that he has prepared for us to do.

Hebrews 1:9 NIV You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.

Romans 14:17 NKJV ...for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

John 10:10 NKJV The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

1 Peter 5:8 NKJV Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

James 4:7 NKJV Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

2 Timothy 2:26 NKJV ...and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

Matthew 11:12 NKJV And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.

Deuteronomy 30:19 NKJV I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live...

Deuteronomy 10:13 NKJV ...and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?

1 Timothy 2:4 NKJV ...who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Acts 10:38 NKJV ...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil...

Proverbs 24:16 NKJV For a righteous man may fall seven times And rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity.

2 Timothy 2:1 NKJV You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

Micah 7:8 NKJV Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; When I fall, I will arise; When I sit in darkness, The Lord will be a light to me.

Genesis 1:5 NIV And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

Romans 10:9 NKJV ...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

2 Corinthians 4:1 NKJV Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart.

Isaiah 54:17 NKJV No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their righteousness is from Me," Says the Lord.

Proverbs 18:21 KJV Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Psalms 40:2 NKJV REF He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps.

Proverbs 6:20 NKJV My son, keep your father's command, And do not forsake the law of your mother.

Proverbs 6:24-29 NKJV To keep you from the evil woman, From the flattering tongue of a seductress. Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, Nor let her allure you with her eyelids. For by means of a harlot A man is reduced to a crust of bread; And an adulteress will prey upon his precious life. Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned? Can one walk on hot coals, And his feet not be seared? So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; Whoever touches her shall not be innocent.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 NKJV Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Psalms 73:16-19 NKJV When I thought how to understand this, It was [a]too painful for me—Until I went into the sanctuary of God; Then I understood their end. Surely You set them in slippery places; You cast them down to destruction. Oh, how they are brought to desolation...

1 Corinthians 1:27-29 NKJV But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence.

Ephesians 2:10 NKJV REF For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Colossians 1:12 NKJV ...giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.