



## WEEK 2 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### CONNECT

Think of a time as a kid when you failed at something. How did you handle it? How do you still struggle with or think about it? How has it made you better?

### CONSIDER

What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?

### CHRIST

Read **Mark 14:43-52** as a group.

- In these verses we see Jesus being arrested to be taken to the cross. One of his friends was the one who turned him in. Judas was supposed to be Jesus' friend but he made a huge mistake and would later take his own life over the guilt he felt. Jesus knew Judas would do that, was not surprised, and still loved him anyway knowing what would happen. **How does this show Jesus' character? God used Judas' mistake for our good (sending Jesus to die for our sins and to gain forgiveness). How does this show God's love for us?**
- Verse 51-52 describes a mistake that Mark himself made. **What was this mistake? Put yourself in Mark's shoes. How would you feel?**

Read **Acts 15:36-41** as a group.

- Mark had left his group he was supposed to stay with. Mark made a mistake. Because of this mistake Paul no longer wanted to work with Mark but Barnabas did. Paul and Barnabas were at such an impasse that they split up. **Have you ever trusted someone who made a mistake? How did you react? Do you feel it was all handled well?**
- These verses show us that despite Mark's mistake God still used Mark to spread his good news. We see Mark make many mistakes throughout the Gospels and God still uses Mark over and over again to spread His good news. While we don't KNOW how Mark felt we can guess he may have felt guilty or like he was useless to God. But that is NOT how God sees us! He sees our mistakes as potential jumping off points for His glory. **Looking back, have**

**you ever made a mistake God used as a jumping off point? Can you see how God still wants you to help spread His good news?**

**Read Colossians 4:10 as a group.**

- This is a short verse but it tells us a lot. Paul is writing this letter from prison to the church in Colossae. Paul says if Mark comes to your town “welcome him”. This is a big deal that Paul is saying this because as we saw in Acts 15:36-41, Paul was so mad at Mark that he no longer wanted to work with him and now he is telling another town to welcome him! Paul has forgiven Mark. Telling those in another town to welcome him in this culture was a big deal. In today’s world, this is like recommending someone for a job. It means we are backing them up. Paul is essentially backing up Mark! **Paul is writing this from prison! Take that in for a second. Do you think you would be able to forgive someone if you were in circumstances like that? By doing this, how is Paul showing us how to treat people who make mistakes?**

## **CALLING**

- We see in the life of Mark a lot of mistakes but we also see others forgiving him for those mistakes. **Are there mistakes you need to forgive yourself or others for?**
- **Daily Devotions:** Spend 15 minutes each day with Northside devotions. Text DEVO to 81212 or use the Study tab in Northside’s mobile app for Daily Devotions.
- **Memorize:** *The steps of a man are established by the LORD, And He delights in his way. When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, Because the LORD is the One who holds his hand.* **Psalm 37:23-24**
- **Further Study:** For a further understanding of the life of Mark, take some time to read these Scriptures and about many of his other positive traits:
  - Acts 13:5 NLT
  - Acts 13:13 NLT
  - Acts 12:17 NLT
  - Acts 12:12 NLT