

Stories

WE'VE ALL GOT ONE

April 11, 2021

To watch the message, visit
cypresschurch.tv/teaching

TEACHING OVERVIEW

Pastor Jackson continued the teaching series, Stories. In this teaching series we are looking at stories in the Bible and how their stories are often our stories or stories we can relate to. This week we talked about overcoming obstacles as we looked at Peter and his story of overcoming obstacles.

Encouragement

Last week we celebrated Easter and talked about the greatest love story of all time. How did Easter impact you differently this year than in years past?

What type of stories do you like? Drama? Love? The underdog overcoming? What draws you to that type of story?

Scripture & Discussion

Read: Matthew 14:22-32

Discuss

1. Pastor Jackson drew a "problem pyramid" with past struggles and future anxieties on the bottom and current conflicts on top. He explained that we see just a small bit of someone's current conflict but we don't see their past struggles or future anxieties. Do you see this in your life? How are all three of those "categories" coming together to create conflict in our lives? Peter sinking after taking his eyes off Jesus may have shown some of his past struggles and future anxieties. What stands out to you about this moment in Peter's life and how do you relate?

2. In verses 31-33 Jesus and Peter are back in the boat. What was the response of the disciples? How did they see Jesus differently after He calmed the storm? How do we see Jesus differently after we trust Him in the midst of the storm like Peter did?

Scripture & Discussion

Read: John 1:35-42

Discuss

3. Jesus looked at Simon the first time they met and named him Peter, which meant rock. Jesus was speaking into Peter something that would become reality later after many struggles. Has someone spoken into your life something that you may not have understood in the moment, but looking back you see it? How does Scripture speak into our lives now to help us overcome our struggles?

4. Peter overcame his struggles by doing three things: he walked daily with the Lord, he found his group of people, and lived for a greater purpose. These three things are all things that help us overcome our struggles today. How well are you doing with those three things? Is there one that you know you need to focus on and grow in? What can you do this week to start or grow in it?

5. We often can disqualify ourselves or fall into the word of the enemy because of our struggles. But, we don't have to! Your past does not define what God holds for you in the future. Do you live in a way that reflects that truth? What is keeping you from putting your past behind you? If you are someone who does not feel stuck in your past, share how you took steps to move on from it.

Prayer

Pray for the struggles that people in your group are going through right now.

Pray as a group that each of you can "take heart because Christ has overcome the world."

Next Steps

This week memorize John 16:33 and be reminded that in the midst of your struggles you can have peace because Christ has overcome the world.

Focus on growing in one of the three ways that help us overcome our struggles. Journal how you view your struggles differently or walk through them differently because you are choosing to walk with Christ daily, you found and are meeting with group of people, and you are living for a greater purpose.