



Is There No Hope?

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Cadet Rob Westwood-Payne / General; Kids

Easter | Three Days That Changed the World | Easter Sunday / Discipleship; Devotion;
God: Grace; Forgiveness; Failure / Mark 16:1-8
Grace in Failure

Objective

Every person can receive God's grace by admitting their failures and asking him to restore them to relationship with him.

Have you ever failed God?

Do you think there is simply no hope that you will ever find your true self?
That there is no hope of ever making a new start and sticking at it?

The magnitude of Peter's failure

I guess after the events of Holy Week, Peter must have felt like that. Peter was the one who declared he'd discovered who Jesus really was:

Mark 8:29 NIV

²⁹ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

When Jesus suggested that Peter would deny him before the end of the night, Peter promised he would stick with Jesus until the very end. But when push comes to shove, his courage deserts him.

When the rooster crowed, and he realised what he'd done, Peter broke down and wept. Peter must have felt there was no hope. But the events of Easter Sunday morning prove there is hope for Peter, and for all of us who feel that we fail God as Peter did.

Mark 16:1-8, p.1023



Hednesford
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The magnitude of Christ's love

The hope we are looking for is found in two little words in verse seven:

Mark 16:7 NIV

⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.' "

These two words, "And Peter", show us that Peter has been forgiven rather than rejected by Jesus. Perhaps only later Peter understood that Jesus had prophesied all this. At the Last Supper, Jesus had said to all his followers – including Peter:

Mark 14:28 NIV

²⁸ But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

Even now, after all that Jesus had been through, he was far more interested in Peter's remorse than in what he had done wrong in the first place.

Receive Christ's Grace

What do you do in the face of such grace?

In those two words, "And Peter", we discover that the powerful Son of God, the One who has been raised to life, actually wants to forgive our wrongdoing and soften our hard hearts.

Jesus wants to change your world. Jesus wants to give you hope.

The best thing you can do is simply to receive his grace.

As we come to the close of this Easter Sunday, will you receive his grace?