



We all have memories of our failures, and some of them were epic. The good news is that God's grace is even more epic. This series will remind us that God is better at forgiving and fixing than we are at failing.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Rick noted that some people understand the Bible as if grace never existed until Jesus came along but the truth is that grace is **there from start to finish**. How does our understanding of one of the first stories in the Bible affect how we understand the rest of the Bible?

2 GRACE PREPARES a paradise. Read Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17. The most epic fail cannot be blamed on heredity or environment. God graciously set Adam up not to fail, but to flourish. Why do many read this story as if God only cares about "the negatives"? What does that kind of reading overlook?

3 Read Genesis 3:1-7. The enemy tries to convince us that God is holding out on us. How was that true in the temptation Adam and Eve faced? In what ways was eating the forbidden fruit a real "eye-opener" for them? Follow up discussion: Rick mentioned that Satan is the master of creating FOMO (Fear of Missing Out). How have you experienced that in your life?

4 GRACE PRESERVES a relationship. Read Genesis 3:8-10. After their sin it is the serpent who abandons the man and woman, not God. Instead, God asks a question. Rick said that "God's question should not be read as a condemnation but as an invitation." Why is that such a powerful truth? Share a time when God invited you out with a "Where are you?" moment so he could deal with your failure.

5 GRACE PROTECTS a destiny. This story teaches us to look for the mercies of God in the judgments of God. **Read Genesis 3:22-24.** In what ways was God preventing them from eating of the Tree of Life "an act of mercy" rather than "an act of wrath"? How might considering God's mercy toward Adam and Eve give us confidence that God will be merciful to us today (see Romans 5:17)?

6 GRACE PROVIDES a covering. Sin altered their nature, but it did not alter God's. So God responded to their worst with His best. **Read Genesis 3:21.** What is the significance of God making skins for Adam and Eve and clothing them? What would have had to happen for the God to give them clothing made of skins and how is that relevant today?

7 Read Genesis 3:15 and 2 Timothy 1:9-10. What grace announced in the garden to people hiding from God was a way for all people to hide in God (see Galatians 3:27). God made the very first sacrifice for sin, and He made the very last. With that in mind, how does God's epic grace change your perspective on life?

8 Read Revelation 22:14. Grace is there from start to finish, and grace will **finish what God started**. Share an example of a time you experienced the length grace was willing to go for you. What difference will God's epic grace make for you this week?

