



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 began by reminding us that family is where we learned how much we all need epic grace, because sometimes our families are just an epic mess. Share a memory of one way your faith was shaped in a positive way by your family.

**2 FAMILY MESS** Read **Genesis 16:1-6**. Rick noted that *"everybody in the story bears some responsibility."* How did Sarai, Abram, and Hagar each fail to some degree in this story? Follow up discussion: What might have prompted Abram and Sarai to take matters into their own hands? Have you ever tried to "help" God by devising your own plan? How did that turn out for you?

**3 God uses people after epic fails.** Most of us have chapters in our family story that just don't read very well. But His grace is more epic than our mistakes and problems. That's why the worst chapter never has to be the last chapter. How have you experienced this truth in your family?

**4** Read **Genesis 16:7-10**. What does this part of the story tell you about God? Follow up discussion: **Read 16:13**. What resonates with you about the name Hagar gives God?

**5 Grace sees your family.** When the mess is present, it can seem as if God is absent. But nothing could be further from the truth. **Read Psalm 22:24**. Describe a time in your life when you were comforted by knowing that God sees you and that you matter to Him.

**6 Grace sees your future.** This story reminds us that because God can see and bless tomorrow, we can live in obedient trust today. How can Jesus' words in **Matthew 6:33** help you live with more peace and resolve today? What is one thing you can do to trust God more with the chapter of life you are currently in?

**7 Grace sees your faith.** It took great faith for Hagar to return to Sarai (she had to believe that God's message was bigger than the mess). Her story reminds us to never underestimate the capacity of faith to overcome a fail and to shape a person's life. **Read 2 Timothy 1:5 and 3:15**. What role did the faith of Lois and Eunice have in shaping the faith of Timothy? How has God used your grandmother or mother to shape your faith?

**8 God uses the unseen to make an epic difference.** If your family is in a good place, give thanks. If your family is in a hard place, take courage. Every family is a place to experience grace. And when grace writes the story, the ending is always epic. What is one way we can pray for you and your family today? Close in prayer.

