

Nehemiah SERIES SLIDE

We take more pictures in 2 minutes than all of humanity took in the 1800's.

A 2023 survey revealed that the average American takes a photo 6 times a day.

We take an average of 23 photos per event we attend (concerts, graduations, parties, vacations)...and spend nearly 40% of our time at the event TAKING the pictures and setting the pictures up to be taken.

After the event- we look at at the photos on average 13 times per year- so about once a month.

If you are an average American- you have 2,795 photos in your camera roll.

More than 3/4 of people said they take photos to share with friends and family. A lot of times- that "friends and family" is publicly posting things on a social media outlet.

21st century American culture could be described with the phrase **"Look what I did!"**.

- Look at the meal I made.
- Look at the kids I have.
- Look the house I bought.
- Look at this fun vacation I'm on.
- Look how good I am at everything.
- or Look how good I am at not being good at everything by making fun of my self not being good at everything- You guys like that right?

Irenaeus is one of the Earliest leaders of the Christian Church. He lived early in the 2nd century- so WELL before anybody could take pictures on a phone.

He is most famous for the phrase..

"The Glory of God is a man fully alive"

That phrase is almost always accompanied by the kinds of pictures we take of ourselves and post on Instagram. Standing on a mountain with our hands in the air. Jumping into a pile of leaves in the fall. Riding a wave on a surfboard or riding a motorcycle.

But- that's not what Irenaeus meant when he wrote that. In fact- the word "fully" is not even in his original quote.

Rather its better translated

"The Glory of God is a living human being."

And by that- he doesn't mean- someone who really gets up and gets after it. He doesn't mean a person who takes big risks...or throws off structure for the sake of spontaneity.

You can find this quote in his book "Against Heresies" (Its a great beach read- the hours will FLY BY)

I'm not gonna take you deep into Irenaeus' argument here...but essentially he saying- If you want to see how Good- how beautiful...how incredible God is- take a look at the life of a person whose life is SATURATED with God's presence.

TO use the language we've been using in talking about The GOOD LIFE- Find the person who has FOUND THE GOOD LIFE- Who is spiritually connected to God- has deep relationships- and lives out a transcendent purpose that is so much bigger than himself....when you see that person- you are seeing the Glory of God.

...now watch this.

When people use Irenaeus' quote- they usually won't include the very next phrase...

**"The Glory of God is a living human being...
...and the life of the human consists in beholding God."
- Irenaeus, *Against Heresies***

In other words- when you live a life saying "Look What I Did" you miss the Good life entirely while you try to prove that you're living it.

But if you live a life hearing God say "Look What I'm DOING!" you will finally have a life that is full of the Glory of God.

Title Slide- "Look What I Did!": Why You Should Say It Less and Hear God Say It More- Nehemiah 2

Brief Summary about Nehemiah

Israel in a time of returning to their land after exile. First two waves have fizzled- they didn't finish the job. Everybody is complacent. Picture a lot of old cars up on blocks and an old empty Dillards at the Stones River Mall.

Meanwhile- Nehemiah- is back in the fancy Persian capital city working as the cupbearer to the king- meaning he tastes all the food and wine before the King eats and drinks to test for poison. So he's living the highlife- but as a servant to the King.

When Nehemiah gets word...that the "rebuild" Jerusalem project has fizzled... He is heartbroken and immediately begins praying for God to give him an opportunity with the King to ask if he can go back and light a fire under his people to rebuild the walls of the City so they can restore the city- and get it back to its former glory.

And that's where Chapter 2 picks up.

Nehemiah 2

During the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was set before him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had never been sad in his presence, 2 so the king said to me, "Why do you look so sad, when you aren't sick? This is nothing but sadness of heart."

I was overwhelmed with fear 3 and replied to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should I not be sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins and its gates have been destroyed by fire? "

4 Then the king asked me, "What is your request? "

So I prayed to the God of the heavens 5 and answered the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor with you, send me to Judah and to the city where my ancestors are buried, so that I may rebuild it."

6 The king, with the queen seated beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you return? " So I gave him a definite time, and it pleased the king to send me.

7 I also said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let me have letters written to the governors of the region west of the Euphrates River, so that they will grant me safe passage until I reach Judah. 8 And let me have a letter written to Asaph, keeper of the king's forest, so that he will give me timber to rebuild the gates of the temple's fortress, the city wall, and the home where I will live." The king granted my requests, for the gracious hand of my God was on me.

9 I went to the governors of the region west of the Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent officers of the infantry and cavalry with me. 10 When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard that someone had come to pursue the prosperity of the Israelites, they were greatly displeased.

11 After I arrived in Jerusalem and had been there three days, 12 I got up at night and took a few men with me. I didn't tell anyone what my God had laid on my heart to do for Jerusalem. The only animal I took was the one I was riding. 13 I went out at night through the Valley Gate toward the Serpent's Well and the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that had been broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire. 14 I went on to the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but farther down it became too narrow for my animal to go through. 15 So I went up at night by way of the valley and inspected the wall. Then heading back, I entered through the Valley Gate and returned. 16 The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, for I had not yet told the Jews, priests, nobles, officials, or the rest of those who would be doing the work. 17 So I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in. Jerusalem lies in ruins and its gates have been burned. Come, let's rebuild Jerusalem's wall, so that we will no longer be a disgrace." 18 I told them how the gracious hand of my God had been on me, and what the king had said to me.

They said, "Let's start rebuilding," and their hands were strengthened to do this good work.

19 When Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard about this, they mocked and despised us, and said, "What is this you're doing? Are you rebelling against the king? "

20 I gave them this reply, "The God of the heavens is the one who will grant us success. We, his servants, will start building, but you have no share, right, or historic claim in Jerusalem."

TRANSITION: Nehemiah is a leader. He's strong. Confident. He doesn't make excuses, he makes plans and executes them.

- Nehemiah has all the reason in the world to be full of himself.
- to say "LOOK What I did."
- But he doesn't. Instead, over and over and over, he says "Look what God is doing."
- Take a look.
- **V 8b (start w "the king granted..."), 18a (end at "had been on me."), v 20a (end at "success")**
- In this chapter alone- he gives God credit 3 times for things he could have taken credit for.

So Let me show you exactly what this kind of "LOOK WHAT GOD DID!" outlook on life does to the way you live... and then I want to show you how Nehemiah got this way...and how you can too.

First...

1) "Look what I did!" is an emotional roller coaster. "Look what God did!" produces steady humility & boldness.

- In 1949, Arthur Miller wrote a Pulitzer prize winning play called "**Death of a Salesman.**" It is also one of the saddest plays I've ever read.
- The main character was a guy named "Willy Loman"...and he is a salesman...who is going to die.
- "Oh so THATS why they call it that!"
- At one time, Willy Loman was a great salesman. And he spends the entire play telling anyone who will listen "LOOK WHAT I DID!"
- But he's washed up. In fact, the truth is, Willy Loman was never really that great of a salesman. His company reduces him down to commission only and eventually fires him.

- Willy Loman staked his life on being able to say "LOOK WHAT I DID!" To show the world pictures of his success- that honestly were not all that impressive.
- Eventually, he came to believe after a lifetime of telling everyone "Look what I did!"...that his life actually wasn't worth looking at after all.
- At one point he says—
- **"I realized what a ridiculous lie my whole life has been."**
- His son Biff tells him- **"I'm a dime a dozen and so are you."**
- Finally, when Willy learns that his family will get a huge payout from his life insurance...he says ..
- **"After all the highways, and the trains, and the appointments, ... you end up worth more dead than alive."- Willy Loman, *Death of a Salesman***
- SO he crashed his car into a tree so his family could get the insurance money.

Back to 1)

- And that's exactly why so many of us are on emotional roller coasters.
- Because though you seem to occasionally live up to the pressure of beauty standards or morality standards or performance standards... though you keep telling yourself "I'm good. I'm ok. I'm fine"" ...and you keep telling the world "Look at me!"... eventually you are going to let yourself down. You are going to fail. You are going to sin. You are going to be the opposites of what you have been telling people to appreciate you for.
- When you hang your hat on being impressive. On showing people how awesome you are...or even taking photos that put you in a good light so that you can browse through them once a month just to believe for a moment what you are telling everyone else...
- that image will crash. And you will crash with it.
- God created you for more than that. He created you to be a human being fully alive. Not by looking at yourself- but By BEHOLDING HIM.

- Now look at Nehemiah for a clue of what that life looks like. A life not defined by the standards you live up to, but a life defined by seeing the Hand of God working for your ultimate good.
- Did you notice something about Nehemiah? He never freaks out.
- He never feels the need to over-assert himself. or prove himself
- He's both humble and confident...all the while he is steady as a rock in the face of some very difficult situations.
- Let me show you. **v 1**
- First, because he tells us this is the month of Nisan, we know this is about 4 months after Nehemiah first heard that Jerusalem is in bad shape.
- And during all that time, he continues to serve the King of Persia faithfully, even as he is torn up inside about the demise of his people.
- He kept doing his job. He didn't suddenly demand the King give him a month off to plan because he was about to go back to Jerusalem and take some names...no he humbly serves the king.
- **v 5**
- ...and when he does address the king, he does so with great respect.
- ...and of course, we've already seen at every turn where Nehemiah could take credit for his work, or his strengths, he says "Don't Look at what I did! Look what God did!"
- Its no wonder the king is pleased to grant him his request **v 6**
- **The king respects Nehemiah because Nehemiah is humbly going about doing his job.**
- But, that doesn't mean he's a passive doormat. Did you see the way Nehemiah handles opposition? He is incredibly bold.
- **v 7-8**
- Not only does he ask the King to let him go back to Jerusalem to Rebuild a city that could potentially threaten the safety of the Kingdom, ...a request that easily could have ended with his beheading...
- ...he then has the guts to ask the king to give him some letters that demand the former opponents of the Jews give them the materials to rebuild the wall in Jerusalem.

- This would be like the Major League Baseball commissioner telling the Yankees to send Aaron Judge (their best player) to the Red Sox for free.
- This is a BOLD move.
- Not only that, did you see what happened when these 3 guys that wanted to stop Nehemiah got in his face?
 - **v 19-20**
 - He says, "God is doing this. So go ahead and get back. If you'd like to sit over there and complain, that's fine, but we are moving forward with this good work."
- Nehemiah knows from the Scripture he's read that God wants these walls up in Jerusalem. He has been BEHOLDING GOD. And so he is a human being ALIVE for the Glory of God
- He is bold and confident because he knows he's not executing his will, but God's...and so he knows what he is doing is unstoppable. He's bold because no matter what happens to him, he'll never be more at peace than when he is doing what he is created to do.

In other words- He's living the Good Life.

- And he's humble because he knows it's not HIS ability that is going to get it done. It's God's.
- Do you see how steady this makes you?
- If you are the one doing the work, by your power, when you succeed you'll be on cloud 9, but when you fail...you'll fall into depression. Emotional Roller coaster.
- But when you are wrapped up in seeing what God is doing, and committing yourself to that, then even in the face of murderous opposition, even if they slay you...you are absolutely at peace with who you are.

Back to 1)

- Listen, when you constantly say "Look What I Did!" you better keep up the good show....and you'll get real tired of that.

- But if your life says "Look What GOD Did!"...well the pressure is off, because all you aren't a performer anymore. You don't have to be like Willy Loman- dead tired until the tragic end. Instead, you get to rest. You become an incredibly humble and courageously bold sign post pointing to the God who will never cease to do things worthy of our attention.

Here's something else that's different about Nehemiah...he's patient. See..

2) "Look what I did!" has to have results now. "Look what God did" produces patient & non-anxious plans.

- Though Nehemiah is deeply hurting for his people, instead of immediately leaving town before he even thinks about HOW he can help. He prays. And he waits. For 4 months.
- Don't you think that wait was painful for him?
- **V 1b-2** Apparently so. Because while Nehemiah thinks he hasn't shown the king any signs that he is sad, The king reads him.
- He looks at him and he says, "Nehemiah, what's the deal. I can tell you are heavy hearted."
- See, for 4 months Nehemiah was weighed down with concern for his brothers and sisters in Jerusalem. It was hard. Its tearing him up inside, but he waits for the right time as he thinks, and prays, and plans.
- See, did you notice that when the king asked, Nehemiah was ready.
- **V 5 & v 7-8a (end at occupy)**
- He didn't come up with this idea on the spot. During the 4 months he is praying and fasting and humbly going about his everyday job, he is brainstorming how to go about helping.
- And when the king asks, He tells him. I need a year off, I'll need a letter to get through Mordor, and then, I'd like to ask Sauroman for some wood to rebuild Gondor.
- If you don't understand that, you are a better person than the rest of us.
- Simply put, Nehemiah is patient and he's planning...even though the odds are stacked against him.
- That's why when he finally arrives in Jerusalem. He rests. **V 11-12**
- Everything he does is patient and careful.

- Then, when he finally gets up to do something, he simply surveys the whole project without letting anyone know. there is no pics or it didn't happen.
- Now, this is where so many of us would fail the test. Take a look at **v 13**
- Nehemiah is riding around the city incognito, looking at the Valley Gate to the Serpent's Spring and the Dung Gate.
- See, right there, we'd start posting pics.
- with captions like...
- "Bout to flush out this Dung Gate. #Vision"
- But that's not Nehemiah. **v 16**
- Nehemiah does this slowly, and quietly, because he knows if he doesn't someone is going to get hurt.
- He knows there is opposition wanting to stop them.
- And he knows without a clear, well-thought out plan, that people could lose their lives.

Back to 2)

- Let me ask you:
- Are you at a place in your life where you need God to hurry up and do something with you?
- Man, I've been there. In fact...I'm there A LOT.
- Sometimes I'm so impatient for God to do something with me now, I don't take time stop, pray, and plan for what God wants to do with me tomorrow.
- **PERSONAL ILLUS:**
- Before I left to go to seminary back in 2006, I was a candidate to become the college pastor at a church...and when I didn't get that position...I was felt a bit jilted.
- Because, honestly, I thought if God wasn't using me to lead people RIGHT THEN, that my time was wasted....and I was just arrogant enough to really believe that I didn't need time to prepare for ministry.
- In fact, I said verbatim to my wife "I'm only going to seminary to get the piece of paper...I already know what I'm doing."
 - Now, who wants THAT GUY as a pastor? EXACTLY

- But see, I had no clue what it meant to be patient. To think. To plan. To look at the task God had put before me and seriously consider what was required to get it done.
- And you know what? God knew a lot more than I did. Still does.
- During my time in seminary, not only did I learn about the Bible... not only did I learn about leading a church...I learned about myself. I learned about my marriage.
- Had I rushed into ministry, I don't know if my marriage would still be intact.
- But what I do know, is when I finally came to grips with my need to slow down and think about what God was going to do, he changed me...and you all are some of the beneficiaries of God's work in me.
- SO, if you are chomping at the bit for God to use you, understand that it is not out of God's typical M-O to go slow.
- In the OT, Abraham waited 25 years before he finally had the son God promised to him.
- Moses spent years in a desert as a shepherd before God sent him to Egypt.
- David was anointed King of Israel by God, and then spent 15 years in caves trying not to be killed by Saul before he finally took the throne.
- In the NT, take the Apostle Paul. He had this miraculous encounter with Jesus then spent 3 years hanging out with other apostles in the desert before he started his church planting mission.
- And...even Jesus. Jesus went some 30 years without a single significant thing being recorded about his life before he started his ministry. No pics. No shares. Nothing Viral. Even the son of God did not live a "Look at what I did life"
- **So Here's the question:** What are you doing with your down time?
- What are you doing with the wait?
- Are you complaining?...Are you telling everyone "Look What I Can Do!. Look how super good I am at what I do! Why isn't anyone noticing me?"
- Or are you praying? Are you planning? Are you humbly serving? Saying "The hand of my God is on me for good...and I'll wait as long as he wants me to."

- Don't ever think God doesn't have something he wants to do with you... for your good and His. He nearly always puts you in a waiting room before he calls you to lead.

Transition:

3) "Look what I did!" is lonely. "Look what God did" produces deep compassion & close relationships.

- Ever heard anybody say "Its lonely at the top," ?
- This is the story for so many people on their road to the top.
- Life is resume building. Everything we do is going to eventually help us get higher position, the next rung on the ladder, more respect, more power, higher salary...
-but the more you say "Look what I did!".....the further the "rest of us" get from you.
- In fact, isn't that what you are trying to do in a resume? Separate yourself from the rest of humanity?
 - Now, I'm not telling you that success is evil, or that the next time a potential employer asks you for a resume...that you tell them "I don't do resumes, because I value close relationships."
- But I am saying that as we try and set ourselves apart from people for the sake of a successful career, or a higher position...we end up not really caring about people...and they end up not caring very much about us.
- ...but this doesn't happen to Nehemiah. In fact, the opposite happens.
- Nehemiah is a leader that isn't building a resume...he's not just building a wall either. He is re-building a people.
- He's not in it for himself, he's doing what he's doing to accomplish something for people he loves.
- See, when you take the attitude of "Look what God did!" instead of "Look what I did!", you can't be anything but compassionate towards others and have deep relationships with them.

- Here's why: Because the core of who God is not Creator. The core of who God is ...is love.
- Do you realize, the only reason God created the world...was to love.
- He didn't create it because he was lonely or bored or wanted to boss you around.
- God created you, he created the world, because at the very center of who He is is a God that wants to share his love with you.
 - God is not your boss. He's your Father.
 - He is not an employer. He's the head of your family.
- So, it makes sense that when you are leading and serving by saying "Look what God did!", that you have deep compassion for people and close relationships.
- Take a look again at Nehemiah...
- **V 17**- Notice how he's not saying to the folks in Jerusalem...I'm here to clean up your mess.
- He doesn't shake his head and say "LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE!"
- He says "Look at the trouble WE are in. And then he says "Come let US build the wall that WE will no longer suffer derision"
- Do you know what its called when you take on problems that aren't yours?
 - **Its called INCARNATION.**
 - It means putting yourself into the lives of the people you lead...instead of yelling at them from above.
 - It means you stop talking about YOUR problems and start talking about OUR problems.
 - It means "WITH" instead of "SEPARATE"
 - Its means no matter what my resume says, ...and no matter what your resume says, "We're together"
- Isn't this the way a family works?
- My sons problems are my problems.
- I am only ever as happy as my saddest son.
- **Personal ILLUS:** I took my Oldest son Micah to a skate park in Nashville for his 11th birthday. this was 12 years ago. But his little brother Isaac, who was 7 at the time... for various reasons had to stay back at the house. He couldn't come with us.

- And just before we left, he looks at me with this sad look and says "But Dad, I want to come with you." Which absolutely broke my heart.
- Then as we are pulling away from the house, I see his little face staring out of his bedroom window with a pitiful look, waving at us.
- And even though Micah and his buddy were in the back seat, ecstatic, ready to have a great time, my heart was broken for Isaac up in that window.
- As Micah is grinning ear to ear at the skate park, I'm texting the sitter to check in on Isaac's heart.
- Because I'm Isaac's daddy too, his sadness is mine. His broken heart is mine. His problems are mine. I don't just pull out of the driveway and say "Good luck with that." No, at my house, **YOU** don't have problems...**WE** have problems." No one is alone in their grief.
- Where ever you see incarnation, you can be sure God is working.
- Here's the other thing that follows that: close relationships.
- I've told you more than once, that suffering produces community.
- You know what doesn't produce community? Answering questions correctly.
 - So if you ever go to one of our community groups here at City Church looking mainly to expand your Bible knowledge, well, that's not really the point. Now- that can an often does happen...but
 - The point of our community groups is to get around each other enough where we start to share our broken hearts with each other. In the hopes that a "Look what God did!" culture will produce incarnation. Compassion. Love....deep relationships.

Look at Nehemiah in **V 18-**

- Do you see what Nehemiah does?

- His first move isn't "Dear people of Israel. I have surveyed the Dung Gate, the Valley Gate, and the Fountain Gate...Take a look at this spread sheet of assets and losses. Here is my 4 step plan to rebuild the walls. I'll need some volunteers."
- What does Nehemiah do?
- He says...no, he says, here's what God has done with me. Here's how I got here. Here's what I know about what the LORD wants to do. "
- Do you see that?
- Nehemiah tells them about GOD's WORK...not his qualifications of wall building. He tells them the unbelievable story about how God moved the King to endorse this whole building project.
- And its that story that moves the people to say "Let us RISE UP and build."
- Its his testimony of God's work...Its Nehemiah's "Look what God did!" that motivates all the action of the people of God that come in the following chapters of this book.
- Nehemiah doesn't guard himself from his people...he gets vulnerable. He opens up. He trusts his story to people.
- That is the foundation of close relationships. "Let me tell you how my heart has been broken...and about the hope that God has given to me through his promise."

**"The Glory of God is a living human being...
...and the life of the human consists in beholding God."
- Irenaeus, *Against Heresies***

- Building your resume may move you up the ladder, but it won't cure your lonely heart.
- Actually, climbing down the ladder into the problems of others you can serve will produce compassion for them and dear, sweet, deep, close relationships will be the fruit of that incarnation.

CONCLUSION:

- So, what do you do? What do you do if your life is characterized by loneliness, impatience, and emotional instability.
- I would suggest following the smoke to the fire.

- See, the solution is not that you “Be more like Nehemiah”
 - That's like trying to put a fire out with a dozen roses.
 - The roses are pretty, but not good at putting our fires.

- Good examples kill you. Because you can work hard to try and be like Nehemiah...but listen...until you, LIKE Nehemiah can say “Look what God did!”...its futile to try and be like Nehemiah.

- See, Good examples kill you. But Saviors die for you.
- The only way to truly know God...to truly know what God did...is to look THROUGH Nehemiah to see Jesus.

- **See, Jesus is humble.**
 - Though he is God himself, he took the form of a servant.
 - Though he had all the riches of heaven, he took on flesh and entered into our broken world.

- **And Jesus is bold.**
 - He faced opposition that killed him...without blubbering a word of complaint.

- **And Jesus is patient.**
 - Though he never sinned, though he had every right to stand up and say “LOOK WHAT I AM DOING!”, he was constantly saying “My time has not yet come.”

- **And Jesus was incarnational.**
 - He looked at a problem that wasn't his...He looked at our sin... and he entered into it.
 - But he didn't just say “Let me help you with this problem, he said I'll die for that problem...so you don't have it anymore.”
 - Jesus took our sin on himself, and gave us all of his righteousness. He gave us the close relationship with God the Father that our heart longs for.
 - God didn't just text the babysitter to see how we were doing when we were broken hearted...he's a better Father than I am.
 - No, in Jesus, he got out of the car, came into the upstairs bedroom, and sent us to the skate park while He waved goodbye to his Father so we could enjoy God as our Father.

- And then, **Jesus Rose UP.**
 - He got up out of the grave and shared his story with you.

- Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me, will not die, but have eternal life."
- Jesus says "if you trust me, My beautiful story of life becomes yours...and you'll never be alone again."

There is only way to live a life like Nehemiah.

- And its to trust that Jesus lived the life you were supposed to live in your place. Its to believe Jesus died the death you should have died for you. And believe his promise, that he's coming back to make all things new...to rebuild the world...starting with his people.
- That creates humility in you when see your sin on Jesus.
- And it creates great boldness and confidence in you when Jesus says "the power that resurrected me from the dead, is now yours to go out and share this news with the world."
- ...and listen, that's what leads us to action. That's what leads us to say to Murfreesboro "Lets rise up with Jesus and build!"
- Lets get incarnational in our city, in our neighborhoods, at our jobs.
- Lets stop using people to climb the ladder, and use the ladder to climb down into their problems...like Jesus did with us.
 - Lets value relationships over resumes.
 - Lets run toward people with problems, instead of build our fences higher.

City Church, this will only ever happen for you when...

- ...your prideful "Look what I did!" has to turn to a sorrowful "Look what I did"...about your sin.
- and its right at that moment that the remarkably humble, beautifully bold, breathtakingly patient, God who became flesh and dwelt among us...will lift your chin tenderly with his infinitely powerful finger and say to you from the cross "LOOK WHAT I DID!"
- **Your resume will never impress God. But your repentance will.**
- God doesn't need to hear you say "Look what I did!". He already loved you enough to die for you. He's already forgiven you on the cross....no matter what your past is.
- Instead of trying to prove yourself today, will you listen to Jesus saying "Look what I Did"...and trust him.

**PRAYER COUSELORS
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