

ROOTED: People (Part I)
Colossians 4:7-18

In this week's sermon Paul mentions some people who impacted him and were great encouragements in his ministry.

Do you have any photographs of a group of people who played a special role in your life?

What group of people/friends have you been part of that made an impact in your life?

Have you ever thanked the people who have been encouragements to you or impacted you?

The first person Paul mentions is Tychicus. Tychicus proved himself in roles with increasing levels of responsibilities, which God used to prepare him for his ultimate pastoral role.

How has God used different past roles and responsibilities to prepare you for your present role/responsibility?

Do you think there are ways that God is using your present role/responsibility to prepare you for what is next?

The next people Paul mentions (Onesimus and Mark) are people who had previous stumbles in their lives and/or ministry.

The point was made in the sermon that "their stumble will always be part of their story but it did not define their story." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Do failures sometimes define people's stories and legacies? Are failures sometimes part of people's stories but not what defines their stories? What can determine whether one's failure defines their story or is simply one part of their story?

Both Onesimus and Mark had a mentor show grace to them after their failures, which was critical to helping restore them and move them towards successful ministry and impact.

Do you think it is important for people who stumble or fail in some area (whether a moral failure or a failure to do a good job) to have people show grace and love to them?

How do we show grace to people without minimizing or condoning their failure or stumble?