

The Way Back to Better

LESSON 5 // OWN

Big Idea: God wants you to recover from the losses and setbacks you have experienced. But this recovery doesn't happen without ownership. If you want to experience God's restoration, you must overcome the obstacles to ownership and take responsibility for your life and the recovery process.

James 4:6, 8a, 10 (NIV) *But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." ... ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. ...*

¹⁰ *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.*

Start Talking:

What are some valuable things you have owned? What were you responsible for as the owner?

What did you learn about the challenges and benefits of ownership through this?

Start Thinking:

Read Matthew 25:14-28. What do these verses tell you about your responsibility to manage well the gift of life God has given you?

Read James 4:6, 10. How does pride keep you from owning your responsibilities? How does humility open the way for God's grace to work, helping you to own your life?

Read Psalm 51:1-4. In these verses, how did David respond to his sin? How does this speak to you about your responsibility before God when you sin?

Read John 6:37 and James 4:8. What do you learn from these verses about God's response to those who are responsible and responsive to Him?

Start Praying:

Pray for humility that will allow you to take responsibility for your life and recovery, and the faith to trust God to bring you through the recovery process.

Start Doing:

Pastor Dale recently gave us three statements we can declare to help us in recovery and living for God's purpose: *"I am grateful for ..."* *"I will focus on ..."* *"I will let go of ..."* This week fill out each of these three statements and practice what they declare as a way to move forward in your recovery. (Also consider using these on a regular basis in your daily devotions!)

Please note that we have a wonderful Celebrate Recovery ministry that provides a safe environment and small groups for recovery from hurts, hang-ups and habits. Find out more at <https://church-redeemer.org/ministries/care-and-support/celebrate-recovery/>.

Please continue to pray for wisdom for our church leaders about beginning to meet in person for worship services and ministry opportunities.