Week of January 7 Focus: No More Excuses - Chapter 2 Theme: Accepted Scripture Meditation: Romans 15:1-7 and John 17:1-26

## **Overview:**

Billy Graham quoted many times in his evangelistic ministry, "I don't know what the future holds, but I know who holds the Future." Despite the messiness or even success of the past, God wasn't surprised by any of it. David says in Psalm 139, "O, Lord, you have searched me and known me!" God knows the past and holds the Future, "but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." There is no one or nothing in this world that can accept you like Christ! Our repentance and forgiveness from sin releases those burdens from our lives so we can extend the same grace, love, and acceptance to others who may or may not know Him yet.

## **Daily Devotions (Scripture & Meditation):**

- Monday: Hebrews 10:32-36
  - Has there been rejection in your life that may still haunt you today? What happened?
- Tuesday: Psalm 147:6
  - After reading about Moses' rejection from his own people and his own family including Pharaoh, how has or can rejection become a stepping stone instead of a stumbling block in your life?
- Wednesday: 1 John 3:11-24
  - 1 John 3:15 says, "Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer." Tony writes, "Hate kills. It may not literally kill a person, but it begins a process of killing things in yourself and in others-things related to your relationship, purpose, and many others." Has your anger at someone hurt or damaged them? What happened? Seek forgiveness and reconciliation with the Lord and the injured.
- Thursday: Exodus 3
  - One section of Exodus 3 says, "and Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God." Throughout the Bible, laying prostrate, falling to one's knees, or lifting one's hands are a few examples of worship of God. Is the God of the Bible bigger than the god of your professional or college sport or leisure activity? What changes will you make today to worship God just as robustly as you worshiped the other gods in your life?

- Friday: Psalm 51
  - Tony writes, "A lot of us are trying to fix our wives, children, coworkers, or bosses when God wants to fix us first." Are any of these true in your life? Are these fixes merely to fulfill your own selfish desires? What fixes does God need to repair in your life first?
- Saturday: 1 John 5
  - Ever talked trash in a pick-up game or about your favorite sports team? Is it more difficult to talk trash about the sports team or share your testimony? Why is that especially if one is truer than the other?
- Sunday: Proverbs 19:21
  - God used Moses' life as a ministry for His Purpose during Moses' time and even to us today. Do you realize that you are also a ministering to many through your spheres of influence? If someone were to ask your spheres of influence, "did you know that he professed Christ as his Lord and Savior?", how would they respond? Do you consider your vocation ministry? Why or why not? What changes will you make based on these responses?

## Weekly Challenge:

Be comfortable in Christ alone.

Seek out an opportunity to share Christ's testimony of your life to someone this week.

Confront the fear of sharing the Gospel. Be mindful that someone overcame their fear of it to share with you. If you need help in sharing your faith, reach out and allow the KCC Men's Ministry to equip you for great things.

## Song of the Week:

**Great Things - Phil Wickham** 

