

## **When The Dream Dies And You're The One Who Killed It**

### **A QUICK LOOK BACK**

### **THE PASSAGE**

Numbers 14:39-45

### **TWO INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT LIFE PRINCIPLES**

- (1) God's Plan A can be **LOST FOREVER**
- (2) There's always a **PLAN B**  
Even when everything **SEEMS RUINED**

### **THE PATH TO "PLAN B"**

- (1) Accept **RESPONSIBILITY**  
2 Samuel 12:1-13 & Psalm 51:1-4
- (2) Accept **THE CONSEQUENCES**  
2 Samuel 12:13-25
- (3) Embrace **PLAN B**  
Jeremiah 18:1-10 Acts 7:20-34 John 16:33 & 2 Corinthians 4:16-17

## Food for Thought for the week of June 19, 2016

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

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**1.** Realizing we're now on Plan B due to something we did or because of someone else's sin can leave us feeling hopeless and wondering what's the point. Fortunately for us, God is a God of second chances and still wants to work in our lives. What hope do the following verses give that God is still at work for his good in our lives when we choose to continue to follow him?

**Psalm 138:7-8** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve my life.

You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes;  
with your right hand you save me.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD will vindicate me;  
your love, LORD, endures forever—  
do not abandon the works of your hands.

**Psalm 9:16-18** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>16</sup> The LORD is known by his acts of justice;  
the wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands.

<sup>17</sup> The wicked go down to the realm of the dead,  
all the nations that forget God.

<sup>18</sup> But God will never forget the needy;  
the hope of the afflicted will never perish.

**Romans 5:1-5** *New International Version (NIV)*

*Peace and Hope*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

**Philippians 1:6** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>6</sup> being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

**2.** Once we're back on the path and plan God wants, none of us want to end up falling into temptation again and fall back into what knocked us off Plan A. Fortunately God has given us some spiritual habits, or what some people call "Spiritual Disciplines," that can help decrease temptation and strengthen us for consistent obedience. How might the following passages speak to this?

**Psalm 119:9-11** *New International Version (NIV)*

*3 Beth*

<sup>9</sup> How can a young person stay on the path of purity?

By living according to your word.

<sup>10</sup> I seek you with all my heart;  
do not let me stray from your commands.

<sup>11</sup> I have hidden your word in my heart  
that I might not sin against you.

**1 Corinthians 15:33** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>33</sup> Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

**Philippians 4:8** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

**2 Timothy 2:22** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>22</sup> Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Looking back at what you just wrote, is there one you need to put into action or make sure you keep on doing?

**3.** God wants to work in our lives no matter what plan we're on in following him. Use Psalm 33:12-22 as a prayer guide to help you thank God for who he is, how he cares for you, and how he gives hope to all of us who commit our lives to him.

**Psalm 33:12-22** *New International Version (NIV)*

- <sup>12</sup> Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people he chose for his inheritance.
- <sup>13</sup> From heaven the LORD looks down  
and sees all mankind;
- <sup>14</sup> from his dwelling place he watches  
all who live on earth—
- <sup>15</sup> he who forms the hearts of all,  
who considers everything they do.
- <sup>16</sup> No king is saved by the size of his army;  
no warrior escapes by his great strength.
- <sup>17</sup> A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;  
despite all its great strength it cannot save.
- <sup>18</sup> But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him,  
on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,
- <sup>19</sup> to deliver them from death  
and keep them alive in famine.
- <sup>20</sup> We wait in hope for the LORD;  
he is our help and our shield.
- <sup>21</sup> In him our hearts rejoice,  
for we trust in his holy name.
- <sup>22</sup> May your unfailing love be with us, LORD,  
even as we put our hope in you.