

Confessions of a Pastor Part 3 – It Only Hurts on Monday

Selected Passages

Sermon Summary

It is hard to be transparent because when we are transparent then we run the chance of getting wounded, hurt, and even persecuted by those who have been called to lift us up. Listen to the Confession of a Pastor with a fresh heart and an open eye, hear the truth from one who has been where you are and has found the grace of God to be more than sufficient for the strength that is needed to endure the hardships of this life.

Big Idea

I Am One: Who Stumbles...Who Falls...Who Fails
I Am One: Who Hurts...Who Weeps...Who is Lonely...Who is Wounded
I Am One: Who Has Been Unfaithful to God...Unrighteous...Unmerciful
I Am One: Who Has Been Unreachable...Unteachable...Unwilling
I Am the Worst of Sinners...I Am Unworthy of God's Grace

YET WITH ALL OF THIS

I Am One: Who is Ever Seeking the Tower of Refuge
I Am One: Who is Ever Seeking the Shelter of the Most High
I Am One: Who is Ever Seeking the Strength of the Lord
I Am One: Who is Ever Seeking the Grace of God

Who AM I? I AM YOUR PASTOR!

Hear My Confessions

Confession #1 – I am a Lonely Man

- **Psalm 25:16** – Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.
- **Jeremiah 1:4-8** –The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." "Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD .

Confession #2 – I am a Wounded Man

- **Matthew 5:10** – Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- **Matthew 5:43-45** – "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Confession #3 – I do not Fear You as Much as I Fear God

- **Esther 4:14** – For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?"

Questions to Consider

- What is your confession? What is your testimony of the struggles you have overcome through the grace of God?

Memory Verse

Esther 4:14 – For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?"

Challenge

First Steps – This week take the first step in taking the opportunity to send an encouraging note to someone that you believe has been where you have been. Tell them how much you care for them, tell them you are praying for them, and let them know they are not alone.

