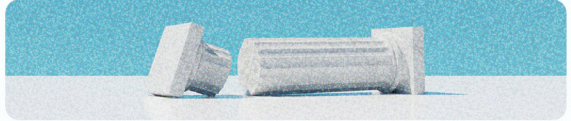




When



Giants

Stumble



How Do We Respond When
Famous Christian Personalities Fall?

Selected Verses

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STUDY GUIDE • THE COMMUNICABLE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

When Giants Stumble: How Do We Respond When Famous Christian Personalities Fall?
Selected Verses

WELCOME:
Fixing
Our Focus

Suggested icebreaker:

Ask GG members to share an experience when a person they admire or look up to disappointed them or failed to meet their expectations. How did they respond? Use this to segue into the lesson.

WORSHIP:
Adoring
Our God

Suggested song:

[Come, Let Us Return to the Lord](#)

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

1. GG members will be vigilant against sin in their lives, while clinging on to God's promise of escape from temptations.
2. GG members will extend the same grace they received from God to other believers who have sinned.
3. GG members will imitate Christ's example of looking forward to God's eternal reward to persevere through this life.

INTRODUCTION

We live in a world corrupted by sin. Nobody is exempt from the struggle with human nature that is tainted by sin. This includes leaders whom believers look up to. We see this happen again and again in the Scriptures, where Israel's leaders fall into sin. What are healthy ways to respond when this occurs?

What believers' attitude should be toward sin and sinners (Selected passages)

Seeing other believers, especially leaders, fall into sin may dishearten us from pursuing a life of holiness God calls us to live. Scripture gives us encouragement to go on, while teaching us to come alongside those who have stumbled, that we may all reach the destination of our faith journey. What lies at the end should motivate us to push on.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:12–13

- a. What warning did Paul give to the believers? What kind of attitude was Paul warning the believers against?
- b. How did Paul describe temptations? What are God's protection and provision for believers who face temptations? How can you find encouragement from this?

2. Galatians 6:1–2

- a. What should the community of believers do when a fellow believer falls into sin? Who did Paul say should take the lead in this? How should they go about it?
- b. What warning did Paul issue to the church while restoring a fellow believer? Why do you think he gave that warning?
- c. What do you think Paul meant when he said that believers should "bear one another's burdens?" How does this "fulfill the law of Christ?" (cf. Galatians 5:14)

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

3. Hebrews 12:1–2

- Who are the witnesses mentioned by the author? What was it that they were witnessing about?¹
- What are believers to do in light of these witnesses? What are they to lay aside and what are they to persevere in?
- How should believers imitate Christ? What was the reason he was able to endure the cross and its shame? What does this teach us in relation to our lives here on earth and what lies after?

The author was talking about believers in the “hall of faith” mentioned in the previous chapter. These are people who witnessed God’s faithfulness in their lives, and their lives give witness to their faith in God. They are witnesses, not in the sense that they are witnessing our lives here on earth. Rather, they bore witness to God’s faithfulness in their lives (and continue to do so through the words of Scripture). Some died not receiving what was promised to them in this life, but they looked beyond their life here on earth (Hebrews 11:13–16).

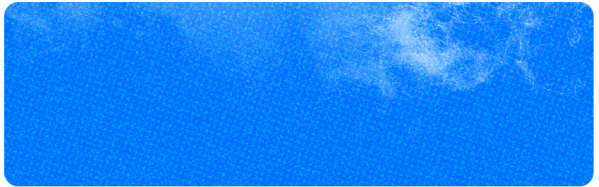
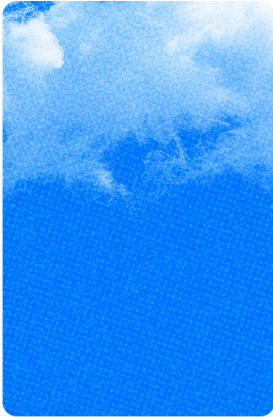
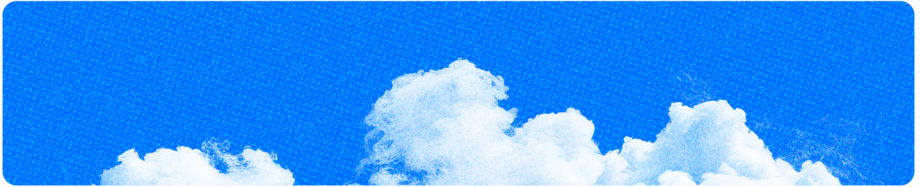
APPLICATION:

It may be daunting for us to see “giants in the faith” fall to sin. But remember, there is no such thing as “giants in the faith.” In God’s sight we are all equal before him. All believers have a calling from God, and each calling is equally important in the body of Christ, whether one is called to serve as a leader or a follower, whether in the church or the marketplace (1 Corinthians 12:21–25).

How can you be vigilant against sin in your own life and how can you come alongside other believers who have fallen into sin? How can you develop the right attitudes toward sin and sinners?

PRAYER ITEM

Dear God, thank You for Your grace and mercy that You extend to sinners like us. We acknowledge that we are not worthy of it. We rightfully deserve to receive the penalty of our sins, but You paid for it through the precious life of Your Son, Jesus Christ. May this give us a right perspective and attitude toward sin. Align our hearts with Yours, that we may despise it as You do. And teach us to be gracious and merciful to other sinners like us, just as You have been to us. All this we pray in Christ’s name. Amen. ■



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