

## Overcoming Your Past

*"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:21 NIV*

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us," Hebrews 12:1 NIV*

### ✓ **God searches for you to be in His story.**

*"Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. "Go, look over the land," he said, "especially Jericho." So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there." Joshua 2:1 NIV*

### ✓ **God always makes a way for us to be in His story.**

*"Now the men had said to her, "This oath you made us swear will not be binding on us unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down... But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear." "Agreed," she replied. "Let it be as you say." So she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window." Joshua 2:17-21 NIV*

*"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony;" Revelation 12:11*

### ✓ **God's story always has a redemptive ending.**

*"Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar... Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth...David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife." Matthew 1:3, 5-6 NIV*

## 1. **"God invites you to be a part of His story—join Him."**

*"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;" Hebrews 12:2 KJV*

*"Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12 NIV*

## **2. "God wants to surprise you with His love—accept Him."**

*"We don't have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He's been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin. So let's walk right up to him and get what he is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help." Hebrews 4:15-16 MSG*

## **3. "God wants you to love others with your actions—serve Him."**

*"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:16-18 NIV*

## **4. "God signs His Name to your story—thank Him."**

*"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV*