

**SERMON SERIES:** 52

**SPEAKER:** Ryan Lingbloom

**DATE:** March 12, 2023

## Sermon Title:

“Does My Past Determine My Future?”

## Introduction

This week we are talking about how our past and our future are related, and how Jesus has the ability to change our future to be better through what he’s done for us. This week’s question we are asking is, “Does my past determine my future?” As we answer this question, we remember that last week we discussed how our calling is uncovered through obedience to Jesus. Our calling and our future can be bright when we let Jesus work in and through us.

- Give a high and a low of this past week. What was your favorite thing that happened? What was your least favorite thing that happened?

## Seek the Word

- Read Exodus 2:11-4:17. Moses was the founder of the Jewish nation, yet he began as a fugitive. What lessons does this hold about getting past the past?
- Read Romans 8:1, 1 Timothy 1:15, and 1 John 1:9. How do each of these help answer the question, “Does my past determine my future?”

## Go Deeper

Do a short word study based on a word from one of our passages for this week. Ask questions like, “Why might the author have chosen this word?” and “What does this word mean for this passage?” Using a Bible concordance or the free Blue Letter Bible website may be helpful.

## Talk About It

- Share a story of someone you know who have radically turned their life around.
- Discuss the implications of this statement: sin is not just what you do but also what was done to you.
- Can you relate to holding on to shame for too long? What are the consequences of this?
- What are some helpful steps to releasing shame? Have others given you any words of wisdom that helped you let go of shame?

## Wrap Up

*Reminder:* Our calling is uncovered through obedience to Jesus.

*Challenge:* Schedule a date with God this week. Write on a piece of paper any sin you are holding against yourself. Practice 1 John 1:9. Claim Romans 8:1. Release or destroy the paper.