

## THE BIG IDEA: A master plan calls for a master builder.

### The Take-Off

[VIDEO / Beautiful Things by Gunger]

The reason we showed that video at the very beginning of this series is because all of us have made messes from time to time, right?

Hopefully you've never made the mess that I made in Ms. Ragsdale's 3rd grade class, but I feel like I can stand on pretty solid ground when I say that every single person here today has jacked up a decision once or a couple thousand times.

I found one source that said the average person will make over 700,000 decisions in his or her lifetime and will come to regret about 150,000 of them.

I don't know if those numbers are completely accurate - it'd be hard to know - but I know most of us have made mistakes simply ordering food in a restaurant, which is why "order envy" is a real thing, right?

The server brought all the food to the table and you looked at everyone's order and realized you should have ordered something different.

And that's just ONE type of mistake, and it won't really even cost you anything (except the price of that meal).

But we've all made much more serious mistakes: bad choices, bad actions, things that we regret.

That's what makes this series so powerful and so difficult: because we all want to believe that God has a great plan for us, and yet the more powerful belief is that we're too messed up for Him to pull it off.

That's why when I quote [Ephesians 2:10](#) - we are God's masterpiece created in Christ to do good works which He has prepared for us to do - we tend to react with a "meh" attitude.

It isn't that we don't believe God can do that - we just don't believe He can do it with us

So, if you're here and you struggle to see past the messes, let me give you some good news...

## 1. Don't stress the mess

- a. So often we stress over the messes in our lives because we don't know what to do with them
- b. We worry to THIS mess could be THE mess that messes up everything!
- c. Can we just take a minute or two to take our eyes off the mess and look at what God has done and can do with messes?
- d. Joseph - sold into slavery, falsely imprisoned, forgotten by men but eventually promoted by God
- e. Peter - brash, arrogant, denied Jesus and eventually was persecuted and killed for Jesus
- f. Paul - killed followers of Jesus before meeting Jesus and becoming a prolific writer and preacher for Jesus
- g. Rahab - prostitute who ended up being one of only 5 women listed in the genealogy of Jesus
- h. And how about that? Not only can God overcome the messes that WE make, but by including women in the genealogy of THE SON OF MAN, God proved that He can overcome messes that OTHERS make that effect us.
- i. What do we learn from all of this?
- j. Just the truth and power of these verses...
  - [Genesis 50:20](#) / You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.
  - [Proverbs 19:21](#) / Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.
  - [Job 42:2](#) / I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
  - [Lamentations 3:37](#) / Who can speak and have it happen if the Lord has not decreed it?
  - [Romans 8:28](#) / And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
- k. What does this mean? There is no one better to bring our messes to, and when we understand it, **we don't need to stress the mess - we just need to re-address the stress.**

## 2. Give the disaster to the Master

- a. As long as we try to fix the mess, we're doomed to make it a bigger mess.
- b. But we can re-address the mess by giving the disaster to the Master.
- c. Currently, we're having a very difficult time getting our printers to print. They recognize the network and they say they're connected, but every time we try to print, nothing.

- d. Now, one of you may know how to fix that, and I'd be a fool to not accept help from someone with more knowledge about the printers than I have.
- e. But what if the designers of the printers and the router and the computer all agreed to come to my house?
- f. I'd be all over that, and my guess is that they would fix the problem, and then they would show me how to follow the plan for connecting them correctly in the future.
- g. Now, are you making the connection? We have a God who is building something in us, and we have the opportunity to invite the original designer into the mess and restore us to what He intended all along.
  - **Psalm 139:13** / For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
  - **Jeremiah 1:5** / "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."
  - **Ephesians 2:10** / For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
  - **Jeremiah 29:11** / "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." / a promise spoken in a mess!
- h. What does it look like when we give the disaster to the Master? Watch and see...
- i. [VIDEO / Thomas Covington testimony]

### The Landing

[AUDIO / "Have it All" by Bethel Music]

The very title "Under Construction" implies that there will be messes, and I want us to end this morning by recognizing that starting construction probably means starting OVER.

**Psalm 127:1** / Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

Perhaps you've labored in vain and tried to build God's construction without God. That won't work, because **a master plan calls for a master builder.**

This morning, let's close by doing what Jonah did when he found himself in the middle of a huge mess - inside the belly of a huge fish.

**Jonah 2:1-2** / From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God. He said: "In my distress I called to the Lord, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry."

Jonah made a mess, and instead of stressing over the mess, he gave the disaster to the Master.

Guess what God did?

The same thing He'll do for us this morning: He gave Jonah a second chance...

**Jonah 3:1** / Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time...

The Master has a plan for you, and **a master plan calls for a master builder.**

Let's end this morning by calling on that master builder.

Let's pray.