

Mistakes Were Made

# Introduction

- "**Mistakes were made**" is an expression that is commonly used as a rhetorical device, whereby a speaker acknowledges that a situation was handled poorly or inappropriately but seeks to evade any direct admission or accusation of responsibility by not specifying the person who **made** the **mistakes**.

# Inexperience (The Merchant)

- Corinthians – 1 Corinthians 3:1-3
- <sup>1</sup> And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup> I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, <sup>3</sup> for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

# Inexperience (The Merchant)

- Simon the Sorcerer – Acts 8:18-24
- <sup>18</sup> Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, <sup>19</sup> saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." <sup>20</sup> But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! <sup>21</sup> You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. <sup>22</sup> Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you. <sup>23</sup> For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity." <sup>24</sup> But Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me yourselves, so that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

# Inexperience (The Merchant)

- Study up – Proverbs 22:6
- <sup>6</sup>Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

# Missing Information (The Dunk)

- Josiah – 2 Kings 22:11
- <sup>11</sup> When the king heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes.
- 2 Kings 23:3
- <sup>3</sup> The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes with all *his* heart and all *his* soul, to carry out the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people entered into the covenant.

# Missing Information (The Dunk)

- Bereans – Acts 17:11-12
- <sup>11</sup> Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily *to see* whether these things were so. <sup>12</sup> Therefore many of them believed, along with a number of prominent Greek women and men.

# Missing Information (The Dunk)

- People of Athens – Acts 17:22-23
- <sup>22</sup> Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.



# Missing Information (The Dunk)

- Churches of Galatia – Galatians 1:6-8
- <sup>6</sup> I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; <sup>7</sup> which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

# Overlooking Details (The Police Car)

- Speck and Log – Matthew 7:3-5
- <sup>3</sup> Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

# Overlooking Details (The Police Car)

- Saul – 1 Samuel 15:3, 9, 15
- <sup>3</sup> Now go and strike Amalek and utterly destroy all that he has, and do not spare him; but put to death both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’”
- <sup>9</sup> But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were not willing to destroy them utterly; but everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed.
- <sup>15</sup> Saul said, “They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; but the rest we have utterly destroyed.”

# Overlooking Details (The Police Car)

- Moses – Numbers 20:9-12
- <sup>9</sup> So Moses took the rod from before the LORD, just as He had commanded him;<sup>10</sup> and Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly before the rock. And he said to them, “Listen now, you rebels; shall we bring forth water for you out of this rock?”<sup>11</sup> Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came forth abundantly, and the congregation and their beasts drank. <sup>12</sup> But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you have not believed Me, to treat Me as holy in the sight of the sons of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them.”

# Trying Your Best (The Hotel Room)

- Job – Job 1:8-12
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil.” <sup>9</sup> Then Satan answered the LORD, “Does Job fear God for nothing? <sup>10</sup> Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. <sup>11</sup> But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face.” <sup>12</sup> Then the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him.” So Satan departed from the presence of the LORD.

# Trying Your Best (The Hotel Room)

- It will rain – Matthew 5:44-45
- <sup>44</sup> But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous.

# Trying Your Best (The Hotel Room)

- It will work out – Romans 8:28
- <sup>28</sup> And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

# Conclusion

- Day of Pentecost – Acts 2:37-39
- <sup>37</sup> Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”