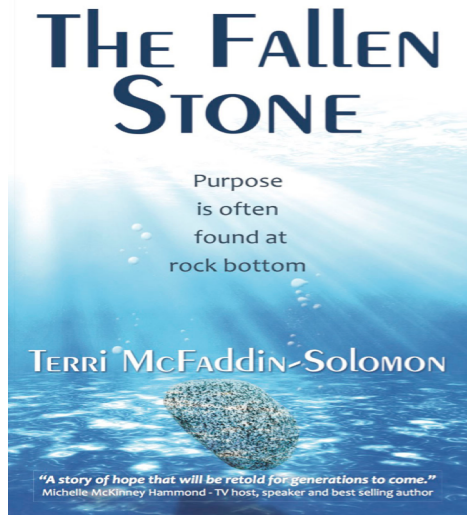


THE FALLEN STONE ©
Study Guide
CHAPTER 3 - FACING REJECTION
TERRI McFADDIN-SOLOMON

Chapter 3 - Facing Rejection



Very often we set a course that is contrary to God's plan and purpose. When the doors close in your face and the mission or relationship fails, you may question God's love or blame it on the devil. But if you continue to trust God, you will come to understand that He has a perfect plan for your life. When God allows rejection to keep you from making a wrong choice, it hurts, but if you surrender to His will, in the end you'll say, *thank you*.

LESSON 3

THEME - REASONS FOR REJECTION



1. GOD'S PURPOSE

Genesis 29:31 (NIV) When the Lord saw that Leah was not loved, he enabled her to conceive, but Rachel remained childless.

God has a special place in His heart for those who are unloved and rejected. In Genesis 29:25-32, Jacob was married to Leah. Even though Jacob used her to have children, he rejected her love. When the Lord saw her pain, He blessed Leah and made her fruitful. She became the mother of six of the tribes of Israel. **Psalm 34:18** *The Lord is near* _____. The story of Joseph is another clear example of how the Lord uses rejection for His purpose. Joseph was rejected and hated his brothers. But it was a part of God's plan. Genesis 37:4 *But when Joseph's brothers* _____ *they hated him* _____.

Genesis 37:28 says - *When the Midianite traders came by they sold their brother Joseph for twenty pieces of silver and the traders took him to Egypt as a slave.* In spite of the painful rejection that Joseph faced by his brothers, it all worked together for good. **Genesis 45:5 (NIV)** *But don't be upset... because you sold me here. God sent me ahead _____*



2. FEAR OF THE UNFAMILIAR

John 6:53-66 (NIV) Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. (vs. 66) From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

As followers of Jesus Christ, there will be times when you will be misunderstood and even rejected by your family and peers because of your faith. Jesus said in **John 15:18 (NIV)** *"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first."* For unbelievers, rejection is a way of protecting themselves from things that they don't understand or view as a threat to their way of life. It was for this reason that (in spite of David's loyalty) King Saul rejected David,

1 Samuel 18:12 - *Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him but had left Saul.*

David was also rejected by his brother's because of their fear and jealousy. Know that rejection may not mean that you're doing something wrong, It may mean that you're doing something right. As believers, it is our responsibility to demonstrate the love of Christ regardless to how we are treated. **Luke 6:28** says: *Bless those who _____ and pray for those who _____.* In the same manner, if you are a believer, there will people and evil practices that the word of God tells you to reject. Among them are false teachers and evil doers. This does not mean that we cannot love them and pray for them, but you must reject their practices. **2 Corinthians 6:17** - *Therefore, "Come out from among them _____, says the Lord. Touch not the _____.*



3. HATERS OF TRUTH

2 Thessalonians 2:10 (NLT) He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the **truth** that would save them.

2 Timothy 4:3 says: *But For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who* _____

_____ . Speaking the truth can come with a heavy price tag. That price may include being rejected. The Apostle Paul preached the truth even though he was often rejected.

Romans 9:1 *I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit.* It takes wisdom and courage to stand up for truth and godliness. When we do not defend that truth, or attempt to compromise the truth, we are guilty of coming into agreement with lies. For those who are still in darkness, but are searching for the light, God has called believers to be examples of what it means to walk in the light of His truth. **Ephesians 4:25** *Therefore, having put away falsehood,* _____.

Matthew 22:16 - *And they said: “Teacher, we know that you are* _____
and you do not care about anyone’s opinion _____.

_____.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS: In the 3rd chapter of THE FALLEN STONE, Peak has been totally rejected by the master builder. He is robbed of all hope and sense of value when he is dumped into an abandoned cave. Please reflect on the following questions:

Have you ever been “dumped?” If so, what were your personal feelings?

What does the Bible tell us about our value in the sight of God? Read Psalm 139:14.

Write an encouraging note to yourself or to someone that has experienced rejection?

Please email comments and prayer requests to: TMcFaddinsolomon@gmail.com