

Notoriety

Description

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Nehemiah 6:10-19

Many people seek out fame—if not on a world or national level, even the level of a local community. We say of someone who has had success and achieved a level of status, that they have “made a name for themselves.” The men in Nehemiah 6 have made a name for themselves, we read of them these many years later. However, we know that they were without honor as they intimidated and bullied the people of God.

Reputations are easily made, and hard to shake. The worse a reputation is, the quicker it seems to spread to the surrounding community. Notoriety is hard to escape.

What if, as followers of Christ, we had just as stubborn a reputation but one of loving others? Imagine your community, the people you rub elbows with each day, knowing you for being the compassionate person? When crisis erupts or ugliness flares in your community, people look to you as an example of Christlikeness.

What if the reputation you never live down is the grace of Christ?

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