

SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THE YOU NIVERSE



When you blame everyone else

1 Samuel 18:1-9

1. Our stories go bad when we refuse to accept personal responsibility.
 - We have a hard time admitting failure (and calling sin, sin).
 - We make excuses for ourselves.
 - We play the victim card.
 - We blame other people.
 - We believe that our problems are external.
 - We accept what is as the way it will always be.
 - We are irritated by the success of others.

2. By refusing to accept responsibility, we relinquish our power and our freedom.

3. We are where we are because of the choices we've made.

4. By making better choices we can get to better places.
 - Take personal responsibility—and reclaim your power!
 - View your past as a learning experience.
 - Take a “from this point on” stance.
 - Lean into adversity.
 - Look for opportunities.
 - Reconnect with God.

GROWTH *guide*

For those who are passionate about their faith!

While it is easy to make excuses and to blame others, we are responsible for our actions, our obedience and our faith.

Through the New Testament in 2018: Read Matt. 26-28; Mark 1,2

Monday | **Genesis 3:1-13**

How did Adam respond when he was confronted with his sin?

How did Eve respond when she was blamed? What have you been blaming on someone else that you need to own up to?

Tuesday | **Romans 14:1-13**

How is judgmentalism actually a way to avoid taking personal responsibility? If you are to give an account to God—with what areas of your life will He be pleased? Displeased?

Wednesday | **2 Samuel 12:1-14**

Why did God have to send Nathan to David? Where might you be living in denial and not accepting responsibility for your sin? How did David ultimately respond?

Thursday | **James 4:13-17**

What does this passage teach that we are personally responsible for? What good have you done lately? What opportunities have you had?

Friday | **Proverbs 6:6-11**

How does an ant provide insight into personal responsibility? How does accepting responsibility lead to freedom?

Sunday preview | **Acts 9:1-19**

The greatest NT evangelist (Paul) started on a far different course. But God had other plans for him. What were they? Why do you think God chose to save you? What are His plans for you?