

Are You A Stepping Stone Or A Stumbling Block?



Purpose: To show the proper
choices we should make.

Who you are makes a difference

One for you
and one
each for
three others



Stumbling
block



or
stepping stone?



You decide



Stumbling blocks

- *Skandalon*. A trap or stumbling block. The part of a trap that holds the bait and entices the victim. A cause of offense. Being a hindrance to others.
- *Proskomma*. To cause to stumble. To strike against.



Stepping Stone

- Encourages
- Loves
- Rejoices with you
- Pushes others up
- Forgives and reconciles
- Protection from danger & temptation
- Pushes toward a goal
- Clarifies truth

Stumbling Block

- Criticizes
- Fears/withholds love
- Is jealous of you
- Holds others down
- Holds grudges and sets additional conditions
- Sets traps and watches for mistakes
- Prevents reaching a goal
- Confuses truth

Don't be a stumbling block

- Stumbling blocks will happen.
Luke 17:1-2, 1 John 2:10.
- People will always take the bait,
but you don't have to be the one
setting the trap!



Don't be a stumbling block

- Some will stumble at Jesus.
John 6:60-61.
- Hard doctrine discourages many.
- Some will see their faith become weak.



Don't be a stumbling block

- Don't cause others to stumble.
Luke 17:1-2; Mark 9:42.
- Don't choose to cause others to stumble; don't set a trap, don't be a hindrance.



Don't be a stumbling block

- Some stumble at the gospel.
1 Cor. 1:18-25.
- Some stumble over liberties.
1 Cor. 8:9; Rom. 14:13-21.
- Some stumble through doctrinal falsehoods. Lev. 19:14;
Rev. 2:14-16.



Conclusion

- Words and actions matter. Use yours to build rather than tear down.
- Criticize constructively and resolve to always point your actions toward improvements in yourself as well as in others.

