

LIVING WITH YOUR PAST

NUMBERS 32:23

INTRODUCTION:

1. There are consequences to giving into temptation.
 - a) Adam and Eve suffered consequences. (Gen. 3.11-17)
 - b) David suffered consequences. (2 Sam. 12.9-14)
 - c) **NUMBERS 32.23:** *“be sure your sin will find you out.”*
2. How do we overcome the guilt of our past bad decisions so that we can live guilt-free from sin? (Gal. 6.7; 1 Tim. 1.12-16)

I. BE THANKFUL

- A. Consider what Jesus did for Paul. (1 Tim. 1.12)
 1. **VERSE 12:** *“who has enabled me...”* (empowered)
 2. **VERSE 12:** *“...because He counted me faithful...”*
 3. **VERSE 12:** *“...putting me into the ministry.”*
- B. Consider what Paul did to Jesus. (1 Tim. 1.13)
 1. **VERSE 13:** *“Although I was formerly a blasphemer.”*
 2. **VERSE 13:** *“a persecutor”*
 3. **VERSE 13:** *“an insolent man.”* (cf. Acts 9.1)
- C. Be thankful that Jesus offers forgiveness.

II. BE THOUGHTFUL

- A. Consider how Jesus felt for Paul. (1 Tim. 1.14)
 1. **VERSE 14:** *“And the grace of our Lord.”*
 2. **VERSE 14:** *“exceedingly abundant.”*
- B. Consider how Paul felt for Jesus. (1 Tim. 1.14)
 1. **VERSE 14:** *“with faith.”* Paul believed with a faith that moved him to obey. (James 2.26)
 2. **VERSE 14:** *“...and love.”* Paul was moved by faith to obey because of His love for Jesus. (1 John 5.3)

III. BE TRANSPARENT

- A. Consider what Paul said about Jesus. (1 Tim. 1.15)
 1. **VERSE 15:** *“Christ Jesus”* Anointed. (John 1.41)
 2. **VERSE 15:** *“came into the world.”* (Phil. 2.6.7)
 3. **VERSE 15:** *“to save sinners.”* (John 19.10)
- B. Consider what Paul said about himself. (1 Tim. 1.15,16)
 1. **VERSE 15:** *“of whom I am chief.”*
 2. **VERSE 16:** *“I received mercy...a pattern...”*

CONCLUSION: We are forgiven of our past. (Ps. 66.16)

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

September 19, 2021

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

LIVING AS A SLAVE

In Romans 6.19, the Holy Spirit tells us that *“just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.”* Everyone is a slave, but you get to choose your master. You can either choose to be a slave to sin or a slave to righteousness. The choice is determined by how you chose to use your body.

How do you use your tongue? Some use the tongue as an instrument employed to speak profanity, lies, and gossip (Col. 3.9; Eph. 5.4). Others use the tongue as an instrument employed to serve God and do what is right. They speak words of comfort, edification, and truth (Eph. 4.25; Job 16.5).

How do you use your hands? Some use their hands to steal what does not belong to him, or bring harm to another (Eph. 4.28; Prov. 6.17). Others use their hands to work, lift their hands in prayer, and extend their hand in fellowship. (Acts 20.34; 1 Tim. 2.8; Gal. 2.9)

How do you use your feet? Some use their feet to walk disorderly or run into sin (2 Thess. 3.11; Prov. 6.18). Others use their feet to carry the gospel and stand firm in the faith (Rom. 6.15; 1 Cor. 16.13).

It is not your body. It belongs to God. But God allows you to use this body for sin or for His glory. It's your choice (1 Cor. 6.19,20).

CLP

OVERCOMING BURNOUT

MARK 7:24

INTRODUCTION:

1. If you are always tired with more work to do than you have the time or energy to do it, you may be on the verge of burnout.
2. In Mark 7.24ff, Jesus struggled with exhaustion because of all the people who needed something from Him. (Mark 7.24-8.10)
3. In every case, burnout comes because of other people. But from Jesus we see the solution.

I. THE CAUSE OF BURNOUT

- A. Burnout is caused by popularity.
 1. Jesus left Galilee and went into Phoenicia to get away from the crowds. (Mark 7.24; cf. 6.53)
 2. Jesus left Phoenicia and went to Decapolis and was again surrounded by the multitudes. (Mark 7.31,32)
 3. Jesus went into the wilderness and once again was followed by more than four thousand people. (Mark 8.1)
- B. Jesus never became tired of people, but He did get tired because of people.
 1. He tried to hide Himself in Phoenicia, but they still found Him. (Mark 7.24-26; Matt. 15.23)
 2. He tried to take a man in need aside privately and away from the crowds. (Mark 7.33,34)
 3. He wanted to send the four thousand away. (Mark 8.3,9)
- C. Have you ever felt exhausted and on the verge of burnout?

II. THE CURE FOR BURNOUT

- A. Jesus tried to recharge by seeking privacy.
 1. Jesus went away, aside from the crowd, and wanted to send them away. (Mark 7.24,33; 8.9)
 2. We are to look out for our own interest as well as the interest of others. (Phil. 2.4)
 3. In doing so, we have the mind of Christ. (Phil. 2.5)
- B. Two practical ways of finding some privacy to recharge when you are feeling exhausted and burned out.
 1. Spend quality time with family. (cf. Mark 3.14)
 2. Find a hobby as a way spend time alone.

CONCLUSION: Jesus sometimes got tired because of people, but He never got tired of people. He lived His life for others.

THE PRAYER OF THE RIGHTEOUS

Have you ever thought about how each prayer is concluded? In every prayer offered in the assembly and perhaps every prayers you have uttered even in private, it is concluded with the words, “in Jesus name, Amen.” Why do we say that? What is the point?

The idea is that our prayers are uttered through the mediation of Jesus. Because of the shed blood of Jesus and His current position at the right hand of God, you and I have the wonderful blessing to approaching God (Heb. 10.19-22). Jesus Himself said that “*no one comes to the Father except through Me*” (John 14.6). But our prayers are to be offered “*according to His will*” (1 John 5.14).

How does God want us to offer prayers, so that He will hear us. We can turn to James 5.13-18. In that passage we are told about the power of prayer (James 5.14,15), the person who can offer prayer (James 5.16), and the precedent of prayer set in the example of Elijah (James 5.17,18). We will just focus on the person who can offer prayers referenced in verse 16.

James 5.16 tells us that “*the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*” The word “avails” carries the idea of having the ability to accomplish something. When we pray, our prayers have the ability to accomplish much. But whose prayers are able to accomplish much?

The ones whose prayers are heard and answered are those who are righteous. One who is righteous is one who is made right through the gospel (Rom. 1.16,17; 5.19). In contrast, “*we know that God does not hear sinners, but if one is a worshipper of God and does His will, He hears him*” (John 9.31). To pray and have the confidence that you will be heard, you must be a faithful child of God.

What kind of prayer is this righteous individual to offer that makes his prayers able to accomplish much? There are two words that describe these prayers. First, there is the word “effective” which translates a Greek word meaning “working” or “energetic.” Second, there is the word “fervent” which describes enthusiasm and passion. The kind of prayers that can accomplish much are energetic and passionate prayers from a faithful child of God.

God wants us to pray. He promised to listen to our prayers (1 Pet. 3.12). He may not answer the way we want, but He always answers when pray comes from the sincere heart of His faithful. What a wonderful blessing. Let’s not under utilize it. CLP