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Daily Devotionals**

“Identifying The Problem” – Wally Beebe

ANNCR: July 16th, “Identifying The Problem.” I’m sure you’re familiar with the phrase, “Don’t throw the baby out with the bath water.” This saying teaches an important lesson about carefully identifying what we’re ready to discard. Look at it this way, in our life, we’ve likely been “burned” by some very good things because our individual experience with them was dysfunctional. But this can cause us to give up on the whole system. Today, we’ll meet a man who rebelled against everything good when he felt like the good things in his life had let him down. He’s here to share with us his true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

WALLY: I’m Walter Beebe, youngest of five, born in a home with a five-car garage and servants, the country club set. When I was fourteen, my mother ran off with another man. Dad stopped caring about anything, and I’d stay out all night, drinking. My reputation was so bad, no girl would date me in high school. I was a hard worker, and at the age of sixteen I owned a service station. I was wild, though, and broke so many laws I left the state to avoid jail. I had a chip on my shoulder and a gun in my pocket. I was a rebel.

I went to Florida where my older brother owned a sailboat. We started a cruise around the world that was a disaster, beginning with a leak and flooding, followed by a storm at sea with twelve-foot waves. I prayed, "God, if You get me out of this, I'll go to church the rest of my life."

He did, but I forgot my promise until I was back home, managing a gas station again. A minister came by with his daughter, and I went to church with her. She explained salvation, but I didn't understand. Then her sister explained, but I still didn't understand. Finally, she gave me a tract to read. I finally understood that my sins were keeping me from God; so I got down on my knees and prayed, asking God to forgive me and save me. The chip on my shoulder was gone, just like that.

I was twenty years old when I gave my life to Jesus Christ. Two weeks later I stood up in church and gave my testimony. I've been preaching the gospel ever since — 45 years now. After Bible college I launched a ministry to get kids across the country to Sunday school where they too can be saved.

ANNCR: The apostle John wrote in 1 John chapter 1, verse 5, *“This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.”* Friend, the truth is, people are flawed. But God is still good, and the commands and structures He has given us to order our lives remain good. In fact, only He gives us the ability to have faith when people and things around us fail. Because we are trusting fully in the one who is perfect. Will you receive this truth today?

CREDITS: Unshackled Daily Devotionals are produced by Pacific Garden Mission along with our Unshackled Audio Dramas. To find even more true stories of God’s saving, transforming power, visit our website, unshackled.org.

This episode was written by Kennetha Gaebler and Elizabeth Kupferschmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and Rob Maxey.

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