

COPYRIGHT 2022-PACIFIC GARDEN MISSION
“UNSHACKLED!” - Pacific Garden Mission
(Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.)
Daily Devotional

“Evil Into Good” – Frank

ANNCR: February 13th, “Evil Into Good.” Have you ever seen someone’s plan backfire? Maybe they were trying to pull off the perfect prank or selfishly “work the angles” to bring about a desired outcome. And then it all went wrong. If you’ve ever observed this situation, you can’t help but shake your head at the irony. This person carefully plans out every step, weaving together the perfect web. Then suddenly, the web falls in on them and they’re trapped by their own scheme. Whether you’ve actually witnessed such an event take place or not, the truth is, it’s happening around us every day – when Satan’s own plans work against him. Today we’ll hear from Frank, a man who found this out first-hand. He’s here to share with us his true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

FRANK: I grew up in poverty, but Mom always fixed good meals and sent us to Sunday school. We also listened to Christian radio. Dad listened, too, but he drank too much and became violent, hitting us with boards or whatever was handy. I prayed to receive Christ when I was twelve years old, but the world drew me away.

I began to stray by keeping the money intended for church. Then I stole merchandise from stores and money from my parents. I ran away whenever I expected punishment. Things came to a head when Dad bought a motor scooter that I would sneak away and ride. When he locked it up, I cut the chain. I was seventeen when he came after me with a board, and I knocked him across the room. Then I went outside and cried at what I'd done. The shame of what I'd become drove me back to God, and I asked His forgiveness.

Mom discovered "Unshackled!" on the radio and we all listened to stories that were gripping and powerful. Dad gave the program his complete attention. Many years later, before he died, Dad and I talked, and I learned that he had accepted Christ. So God uses bad things to accomplish good. He used the shame and degradation of the cross to bring us the gift of forgiveness for sins.

My name is Frank, and I went on to become an art director for a large ad agency, but for many years I've also volunteered at local jails, sharing Jesus.

ANNCR: In Genesis chapter 50, Joseph forgives his brothers for having sold him into slavery. In verse 20 he says, *"But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good."* Friend, Satan is constantly

at work in this world and within our lives to bring about destruction. And sometimes he accomplishes his goal. But our God is the God of redemption, and even our sins can be transformed to achieve His good purpose! When we turn to God in humble repentance, not only do we receive forgiveness, but Satan's efforts backfire and we are given the victory! So are you living in 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 Jack Odell and Elizabeth Kupferschmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and Darwin Apel.

Unshackled Daily Devotionals are made possible by our generous listeners. Would you consider supporting this production and giving a gift today?