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“UNSHACKLED!” - Pacific Garden Mission
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Daily Devotional

“The Ability To Change” – Jayme Anderson

ANNCR: June 28th “The Ability To Change.” So, you’re late for an important meeting. You should have left 30 minutes ago, but you overslept. So, you take a dubious shortcut. Now, you’re lost. So, you start speeding, zooming recklessly around slower traffic. Now, you blow a stop sign, endangering yourself or others. But you have no choice, right? Your tardiness has forced you into this situation—this series of ever-increasing bad decisions. Like a highway of failure that has no exit ramp. Today we’ll hear from Jayme Anderson, a woman who thought she was powerless to such an inevitable decline. She’s here to share with us her true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

JAYME: I spent the summers with Grandma, who took me to church, but back home I was rebellious and often skipped school. By high school, I was drinking, doing drugs and staying out all night. Still I graduated.

I married a man who worked at a bar, while I seemed to live at bars with my friends. After six years of marriage, my husband divorced

me when I started injecting cocaine. My drinking and drug use affected my work, so I tried rehab and stayed clean for three months, until a friend lured me back into a bar. Be careful of the friends you choose; they can lead you astray.

Before long I was fired. With no money, I began stealing. I even took my mom's tax money – two thousand dollars – to buy drugs. I sank so low I sobbed and thought about suicide.

Then I fell in love again and we lived together until Mom, who had gotten religion, called it sin. So we moved near Grandma in another state. One night, driving drunk, we had a bad accident, and I was thrown through the windshield. My fiancé died while I was in a coma for weeks. All the time, Grandma's church was praying for me, and I survived – blind in one eye.

I spent six months in rehabilitation, and now I live with Grandma. I went to church with her and received Christ as my Savior. You know, we can't change the past, but God can change the future.

ANNCR: The apostle Paul says in Romans chapter 6, verses 6 and 7, ***“We know that the person we used to be was crucified with him to put an end to sin in our bodies. Because of this we are no longer slaves to sin. The***

person who has died has been freed from sin.” Friend, even as Christians, we can find ourselves following one bad decision after another, but we’ve been given the freedom to change! We are not bound to the next bad decision. So when you are tempted to believe that your past sins or current failures define you, call out to Jesus. His death and resurrection gives us the ability to change the outcome and realign ourselves with Him. 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 Anabel Armour.

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