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“UNSHACKLED!” - Pacific Garden Mission
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Daily Devotional

“Where We Place Our Trust” – Leo Palomo

ANNCR: March 13th, “Where We Place Our Trust.” What would you say if I invited you to go parasailing? It’s a great activity, I assure you, and I’ll serve as your instructor. (*Chuckles*) Well, you might be a bit concerned, realizing I’ve never, in my life, been parasailing. But let’s imagine you showed up for this uncertain adventure just the same. You’ve decided to trust me. Only when you arrive, you see a shredded parachute with half the cords missing. This adventure just went from uncertain to perilous because of clear untrustworthy factors. The truth is, many things in life vie for our faith, but should we trust them? Today we’ll meet Leo, a man who put all his confidence in money and possessions, until he learned that they fall apart like a tattered parasail in the wind. He’s here to share with us his true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

LEO: We lived in New York City where a thriving beauty shop business inspired my ambitions to make a fortune. From Dad, who was in the Merchant Marine, I got my love for adventure. And after serving a hitch in the Air Force, I went to work in sales and earned a hundred thousand dollars my first year. That’s the year my dad was killed in

a car accident. My mom fell apart. From then on she lived on pills in a mental hospital.

By age 33 I owned sports cars, property and homes. By then I also was using drugs because my life seemed totally empty in spite of all my possessions. My high living came to an end as my business empire began to crumble in 1983. I was forced to liquidate holdings, including the plush condo in which my mother lived. She ended her life with pills, and my health took a nose dive.

I was hiding out on my heavily mortgaged boat when a guy with a Bible came around. I ran him off several times, then went to his Bible study out of curiosity. I learned fast that my priorities were upside down. I had treasure on earth but not in heaven. I needed Jesus. So I prayed to receive Him as my Lord and Savior and since then, my life has peace and purpose. I'm Leo Palomo -- trust me. No, better yet, trust God! Nothing the world has to offer compares with knowing Christ.

ANNCR: King David describes a long list of troubles in Psalm chapter 55, but in verse 22 he says, *“Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.”* Friend, what we place our trust in matters, and the things in this temporary

world are not strong enough to support us. Finances, friends, possessions, even family. These are gifts given to us by God, but they don't last forever. And they can't carry the weight of our burdens. Only God can. 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 Kennetha Gaebler and Elizabeth Kupfershmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and David Stuart.

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