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**“UNSHACKLED!” - Pacific Garden Mission**  
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**Daily Devotional**

*“The Only Two Options” – Betty Cherry*

ANNCR: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, “The Only Two Options.” Imagine I’m holding a flashlight in my hand, and I want you to guess whether it’s on or off. The only hint I’ll give you....is that the light is not on. Does that narrow it down? (*Chuckles*) I certainly hope so! Because with light, there are only two options – either it’s on or it’s off. But I wonder if this same idea gets muddled when it comes to our Christian walk. You see, in our daily choices, we also only have two options – to follow Christ or to follow satan, to follow life or to follow death. Today we’ll meet Betty, a woman who rejected Christ until she realized the alternative she’d chosen for herself. She’s here to share with us her true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

BETTY: I was living with my alcoholic mother and I already had a baby out of wedlock. When I was nineteen, Mama died. By then I also had a son. I was also raising my cousin’s baby girl, Crissy.

My daughter followed in my footsteps and made me a grandmother, so I was taking care of that child, too. One day a preacher came to the door and wanted us to attend church. I sent the children, who

loved it. But when I learned Crissy was praying for me at church, I stopped sending her. Two years later we moved, and that same pastor came around, so I let the children go again. Then a friend's grandchild died in an accident. Attending that funeral I was horrified at all the grave markers. The shadow of death was oppressive that day as we waited in a procession of more than a dozen funerals. I was so shaken I went to church the next day.

How could God love someone like me? But a woman at church described how she had been a drunk and a drug user until Jesus saved her. I was high on pot that night, so I returned on New Year's Eve at their invitation to see if their love was real. It was. I called on the Lord and He answered, forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. I'm Betty Cherry, and I've taken everyone I know to church because I want them to be free too.

ANNCR: In Deuteronomy chapter 30, Moses is speaking to the Israelites just outside the Promised Land. He says in verses 19 and 20, “*...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life.*” Friend, may we never forget that at each moment a battle is being waged for our souls.

And when we do not choose to honor our Heavenly Father, we are, instead, celebrating the darkness. For there are only two sides, and we must always examine which one we're living for. 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](http://unshackled.org).

This episode was written by Jack Odell and Elizabeth Kupferschmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and Vikki Myers.

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