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**“UNSHACKLED!” - Pacific Garden Mission**  
**(Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.)**  
**Daily Devotional**

*“Seeking Forgiveness” – David Weiss*

ANNCR: June 14<sup>th</sup>, “Seeking Forgiveness.” Have you ever eaten crow? As the saying goes, you’re forced to eat crow when you fall from grace and have to acknowledge your faults to those around you. The idea of eating a feathery scavenger might make you squirm...or is it the memory of a humbling experience? It is never easy to acknowledge our faults, whether they were honest mistakes or brazenly cruel and selfish choices. But the reality is, we’ve all made them. So now what do we do? As believers, is there any benefit to facing our past failures? Today we’ll meet a man who asked himself these same questions. He’s here to share with us his true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

DAVID: As the son of missionaries, I grew up in Africa with very strict parents. I’m Dave Weiss. In the eleventh grade I came to the U.S. to live with relatives. I was a good student, but friends soon taught me to drink. I attended a Christian college for one year, but my heart was in the world. I married Sharon while I was a student in Chicago. My drinking increased with co-workers on the job and

caused problems in our marriage. Sometimes I stayed out till two or four a.m. I was also unfaithful to Sharon but lied to cover myself.

Sharon took the children to church, but I rarely went. Too hung-over. Then one day I nearly died in a big car accident. I knew I should quit drinking, but as soon as I recovered, I was back in the bars. My boss warned me to quit, but I couldn't. Sharon finally asked for a divorce, so I moved out. When she sought reconciliation, I refused. We divorced after 18 years of marriage.

Three years later, I finally gave my life to Christ and asked Him to help me quit booze. I memorized Bible verses and went to church. I even became a chaplain, helping others. While listening to Christian radio – ten years after our divorce – I heard someone talk about forgiveness. I invited Sharon out to dinner where I asked her to forgive me for destroying our marriage. Despite being divorced all that time, God spoke to me about restoration, and I asked her to remarry me.

Both our parents and our children came to our second wedding. But the most important person there was Jesus Christ who set us free.

ANNCR: Jesus said in Matthew chapter 5, verses 23 and 24, *“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.”* Friend, what Jesus is saying here is that simply deciding to move past our sins is not enough. If we are truly transformed, we will want to let others know, accounting for our wrongs and doing our best to be reconciled with those we have mistreated. This is a challenging and unpleasant process, but it is one we are called to do, so God can be both honored and glorified. 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 Kennetha Gaebler and Elizabeth Kupferschmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and Steve Bayorgeon.

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