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“UNSHACKLED!” - Pacific Garden Mission
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Daily Devotional

“Never Coming Down” – David Gentry

ANNCR: February 28th, “Never Coming Down.” When’s the last time you thought about gravity? Gravity’s a simple truth that controls the physical world as we know it, but it’s such a standard part of our lives, we don’t often consider it. We simply build our lives under its control. Because of gravity, every material object within Earth’s atmosphere is constantly being pulled downward, so while we can get objects up in the air, this “triumph” is only ever temporary. Not unlike our search for happiness. Because of sin, trying to satisfy our desires with the things in our world is like trying to be free of gravity. We may reach temporary highs...but we’ll always come back down. David can explain this further from his own first-hand experience. He’s here today to share with us his true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

DAVID: I left home when I was nine or ten years old and lived in foster homes. In high school I lived with a friend whose family took me to church, but I didn’t understand the message of salvation. As a senior, I tried living with my mother, but I couldn’t get along with her boyfriend. So I went to Chicago.

There I learned about drinking and drugs, followed by crime in order to maintain my drug habit. Panhandling, mugging, getting food from the food pantry and then selling it. I was a con artist who finally got busted and put on probation. My next arrest got me two years of hard time.

While I was in prison, I read the Bible and went to chapel services. But as soon as I was released I started using drugs again. I didn't even stop when I had a needle break off in my arm. I was trying to panhandle at a church one day when a man bought me a hamburger and suggested I go to Pacific Garden Mission. I did, and after hearing more about Jesus and His plan of salvation, I prayed to give my life to Him.

Believe me, being high on Jesus was a whole lot better than being high on drugs, and I never came down from that high. I joined the mission program with intensive Bible study, and they helped me find a church where I felt welcome. I'm David Gentry, and today I have a good job, a place of my own and peace in my heart because Jesus loves me and He set me free.

ANNCR: The apostle Paul commands believers in Colossians chapter 3, verses 1 and 2, *“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”* Friend, it is only by looking beyond this world that we can find true life! God is the answer to our longings – not work, relationships, more self-care, or sinful indulgences. These can only provide a temporary fix. But if God is our satisfaction, He will never let us down. 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 Jack Odell and Elizabeth Kupferschmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and Sam Sanders.

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