

HOUSE TO H[^]OUSE

This is a resource for you to take the word God gives us in His house to your house!

A **HELPFUL TIP**: RE-watch the sermon online (*available @ facebook.com/journeychurch.family*) by yourself or with others.

I'M DREAMING OF A LIGHT CHRISTMAS: THE WEIGHT OF THE PAST

Sunday, December 29, 2019

In a crowded busy holiday season it's common for people to be weighed down. By family, relationships, finances, regret and failure; just to name a few. This series will help you see the weight in things that God never asked you to carry. His solution is simple: Let go of the baggage and travel light.

"The past is in the past..."

Queen Elsa, Disney's Frozen

POWER THOUGHT —> Sometimes, however the past doesn't always stay in the past. Maybe it's a problem losing your temper and you've said things you wish you didn't say, but they haven't been forgotten. Maybe it's a cycle of sin you've been struggling with what feels like your whole life. Maybe your marriage is having a hard time moving forward because of something that happened in the past.

WHAT AREA(S) OF YOUR PAST DO YOU HAVE TROUBLE KEEPING IN THE PAST?

The disciple **PETER** can relate to this struggle!

SCRIPTURE CHALLENGE —> READ LUKE 22:1-62 (NIV)

LUKE 22:61 NIV

The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter.

WHAT DID PETER FEEL IN THAT MOMENT?

Guilt *"I can't believe I just did that."*

Shame *"What if others find out?"*

Regret *"I wish I could take it back."*

3 THINGS THE ENEMY WILL SAY TO YOU ABOUT YOUR PAST:

YOUR UNFORGIVABLE.

YOUR UNLOVABLE.

YOUR USELESS.

JOHN 21:15-17 NIV

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." 16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." 17 The third time he said to him "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time."

I don't have the power to change my past, but God has the power to change my future!

POWER THOUGHT —> The love of Jesus is always about healing and helping!

How do I throw off the weight of the past?

1. **Close the DOOR of the past!** We do this by accepting the truth that God's GRACE is bigger than all of our sin.

1 JOHN 1:9 NIV

If we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

YOU ARE FORGIVEN. YOU ARE LOVED. YOU ARE HIS CHILD.

2. **Step into YOUR future!** God saves you from your past so you can step into the future He has for you. (The focus of the questions of John 21:15-17 was Christ was putting the call back into Peter's life!)

PHILIPPIANS 3:12-15 NIV

12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus

PRAY: Heavenly Father, before I walk into the next year, I make a confession of the sins I have in my life. (*vocalize those sins*) I give them to you and I make declaration here today that I am leaving my sin and mistakes, my guilt and doubts, my fears and failures behind me. I press on to a new year and will choose to make 2020 about you and not me. I choose today to live a life where my past remains in my past. I know I can't go back and change it, but I know through the blood of your son, Jesus, my future has been changed. Thank you for all You have done and have in store for my life. In Jesus' Name, **AMEN.**