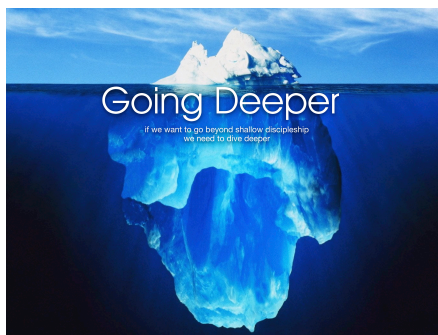


SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Break the Power of the Past

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
November 14, 2021



- Our past **impacts** us but it doesn't have to **define** us.

How do you break the power of the past?

1) Recognize the **patterns** in your family of origin.

Exodus 20:5-6 (NLT) You must not bow down to them [idols] or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. ⁶ But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands.

2) Choose to be **defined** by your new family **identity** in Christ.

Romans 8:14-17 (NLT) For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. ¹⁷ And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.

- Our identity is no longer determined by the blood of our **biological** family, but the blood of **Jesus Christ** who purchased our freedom with his life.

3) Put off sinful patterns and learn to live in the **family** of God.

Colossians 3:1-14 (NLT) Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honour at God's right hand. ² Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. ³ For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory. ⁵ So **put to death** the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. ⁶ Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. ⁷ You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. ⁸ But now is the time to **get rid** of anger, rage, malicious behaviour, slander, and dirty language. ⁹ Don't lie to each other, for you have **stripped off** your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. ¹⁰ **Put on** your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. ¹¹ In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us. ¹² Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must **clothe yourselves** with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. ¹⁴ Above all, **clothe yourselves** with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.

Big idea: Break the power of the past by living IN Christ and FOR Christ.

What next steps can you take to break free from the past so you can flourish?

- **Complete a Family Genogram**
Genogram link found on Sequoia APP
- **Live in Christ and for Christ within the **family** of God.**

Impact Communities are the way we live out our faith together at Sequoia.

Action Step: Get connected to an Impact Community or re-commit to one.



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Break the Power of the Past
#6 of 7 - November 14, 2021

- 1) Last week we looked at the truth that love is the measure of a mature Christian from 1 John 4. Where did you see God working in your life in this regard this past week? How did your action step go?
- 2) Complete the Discipleship Self-assessment survey. <https://www.emotionallyhealthy.org/mature/personal-assessment/> (Link in Sequoia APP)
- 3) Read Colossians 3:1-14. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? What is the genre (poetry, history, prophecy, parables)? Where does it fit in the Bible? What's the theme of this chapter, or passage? What's the historical and cultural context?
- 4) **Observation:** What "jumps out" in this passage? What interesting details do you observe? Is anything repeated? What questions come up about the passage? What imagery is used to explain things? Are there connecting words or ideas?
- 5) **Meaning:** What meaning is inferred in this passage and what does this tell us about living in Christ and for Christ? What implications do we see for those who want to follow Christ? How does this help us break the power of the past? How does living in this way impact our relationships within the family of God?
- 6) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through this passage? (Take some time for Listening Prayer). How does this passage call on you to change the way you live? What will you do this week as a result of this teaching? What aspect of this teaching do you need to pass on to others?



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