

## **Leave the Evil of the Past in the Past By Knowing, Thinking, and Doing the Truth**

This seminar will demonstrate the biblical instruction and direction and practical application of knowing, thinking, and doing biblical truth to enable the counselee to overcome the sins of the past and glorify God in the present.

I. Biblical basis in responding to and overcoming personal sin and suffering (Romans 7:24 - 8:2; Ephesians 2:1-6; 1 Corinthians 6:11).

Because of this promise of God, there is no past sin, or evil from our past, that if confessed and repented of, is beyond the forgiveness, cleansing and freedom of Christ in us.

II. Hope and guarantee that far exceeds trials and hardship in the past and present life. Instead of dwelling on past failures and sins and allowing those to govern our present and future, we must join with the Apostle Paul in his exhortation to press on - Philippians 3:12-17.

III. Romans 6: 1-11. Baseline - confirms who we are in Christ now and not bound to our old self and sin. Our adoption into Christ and our union with Christ. Christ's sacrifice took our sins and when we were baptized into His death by saving faith, we were spiritually immersed into Christ and united and identified with Him. All our sins, past, present, and future have been forgiven.

IV. Not letting go of past evil, sin, or negative spiritual effects of suffering may be unbelief, lack of faith, or little faith. Unbelief and lack of faith will prevent one from moving forward.

V. Process of change that brings hope and relief:

Awareness/Acknowledgement of sin or error

Conviction of the Holy Spirit

Confession

Forgiveness

Repentance

Transformation/Sanctification

VI. The enemy desires us to remain in bondage to the past evil. Knowledge of the presence and effects of spiritual warfare and the ways and wiles of the enemy is crucial to enable us to recognize the enemy (Ephesians 6:12; 2 Corinthians 10:3-7). We have an Advocate Who stands between Satan's accusations and the throne of God (Hebrews 9:24; 10:14-23).

VII. Our counselees must come to know the truth of God's grace and forgiveness, know God more and closer, learn to think and focus on the truth and turn from the lies and from the self-pit, and then do the truth by putting into practice the way of truth and life.

VIII. **Know the Truth of God's Grace.** A confident and practical knowledge of sanctifying.

- A. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 – (Teach; reprove; correction; training in righteousness).
- B. 2 Peter 1:3-11 – (We have all we need for life and Godliness, thus our equipping).
- C. Colossians 1:9-14 (Grow in knowledge of God; wisdom, understanding, discernment).
- D. Jeremiah 17:5-10 (Trust in God and God as our trust)
- D. 1 John 1:9 (Know the grace of God in His forgiveness and cleansing).

IX. **Change in thinking to focus on the Truth of God's Grace.** Pathway to right thinking:

- A. Ephesians 4:22-24 (Put off old sin/wrong thinking; renewed in right spirit of our mind; put on righteousness in heart and thought to think and then do works of righteousness).
- B. Rom. 12:1-2 (Be transformed in heart and mind to practice righteousness).
- C. Philippians 4:8 (Pattern of thinking right to know the peace of God and right thinking).

X. **Do/Practice the Truth of God's Grace.** Philippians in 4:9 “*What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me – to practice these things and the God of peace will be with*

*you.*” It’s not enough to believe and know the truth, we must **DO** the truth! Scriptural pathway to learning HOW to do what we’re called to.

- A. Philippians 3:12-16 (Receive God’s forgiveness and cleansing and press on!)
- B. Philippians 2:12-16 (Work out our salvation and walk faithfully in our sanctification).
- B. 2 Cor. 5:9-10 (Make it our ambition to be pleasing to the Lord in every way).
- C. Colossians 1:9-14 (Walk to be pleasing to Him; equipped to be fruitful in the Lord.
- D. 1 John 5:3-12 (Our confidence as overcomers)
- E. Ephesians 4:25-5:2 (Practical and descriptive aspects of our faith walk)

XI. Homework Strategies. Homework or heart work must deal with change from the inside out. Change the way we think, changes what we do, which changes how we feel.

- a. Getting and keeping the Mind Right
- b. Put off/Be renewed/Put on
- c. Assurance of salvation.
- d. Examine yourself.
- e. Ephesians 1: 3-14



## SANCTIFICATION

