



But...My Past

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new!— 2 Corinthians 5:17

We have all done things. Made mistakes. Failed. Fallen short. I know I have. In fact, it took me a long time to believe that God would truly forgive me because I struggled so much with forgiving myself.

But God does forgive.

Maybe you're carrying around shame from decisions you made years ago. Maybe the enemy constantly reminds you of who you used to be, what you did, where you went, or who you hurt. Perhaps you believe God could forgive you, but surely He could never use you.

But...your past is not a surprise to God.

He knows every dark sin, every secret thought, every downfall, every failure, and every mistake you've ever made. Yet He still calls you. He still loves you. He still has a purpose for your life.

When you sincerely repent, ask Christ into your heart, and surrender your life to Him, something supernatural happens. You are not merely improved—you are made new. God washes

**you clean, strengthens you to walk away from the darkness,
and begins transforming you into who He created you to be.**

**You don't have to keep living in the prison of who you used to
be.**

**If God has forgiven you, why are you still holding yourself
hostage?**

**The enemy wants you to wear your past like a permanent label.
God wants you to wear His grace.**

**Think about the people God used throughout Scripture. Moses
was a murderer. Rahab was a prostitute. David committed
adultery and murder. Peter denied Christ. Paul persecuted
Christians.**

**Yet God used every one of them mightily.
Why?**

**Because God's calling is not based on your perfection. It is
based on His mercy, His grace, and His power.**

**Your testimony is not that you never fell. Your testimony is that
God picked you up.**

**The old life, the old mistakes, the old shame, the old identity—
they no longer define you. They are part of your story, but they
are not your future.**

Stop introducing yourself by your failures.

Stop measuring your worth by your worst moments.

Stop disqualifying yourself when God has already qualified you through Christ.

Your past does not disqualify you.

Your scars do not disqualify you.

Your failures do not disqualify you.

Your regrets do not disqualify you.

If anything, they become the very evidence of God's redeeming power.

God is still writing your story, and He specializes in turning messes into messages, pain into purpose, and broken people into vessels for His glory.

Don't look at where you've been.

Look at Who is leading you now.

God can still get the glory from your life.

Prayer

Father, thank You for Your forgiveness and mercy. Help me to stop defining myself by my past and start seeing myself through Your eyes. Thank You that when I came to You, You made me a new creation. Teach me to walk in freedom, to receive Your grace, and to trust that You still have a purpose for my life. Remove every lie of shame, guilt, and condemnation, and remind me that my identity is found in Christ alone. Use my

story for Your glory and help others see Your redeeming power through my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Reflection:

If God only used perfect people, He would use no one. The miracle isn't that God found flawless people to work through—it's that He takes broken people, restores them, and uses them anyway.

Be blessed everyone!

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