

Discipleship Pathway 1

Session 4: Leaving your past/Living by faith

Salvation isn't just about being saved from something (the penalty of sin), it's about being transformed into something (the likeness of Christ). When we place our faith in Jesus and receive Him as our Lord and Savior a _____ begins in our life.

Leaving your past

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:17

The Apostle Paul describes it as the _____ life passing away and a _____ life beginning. We must leave our past behind in order to embrace the new life that God has in store for us.

Read: Philippians 3:13-14

We must focus on _____ the past and _____ to what lies ahead.

Why do you think it is so hard to forget our past mistakes?

Why is forgiving ourselves so difficult?

The pain of our past lives, the shame our our poor choices, and the guilt associated with our sinful behaviors are big obstacles to overcome. We can easily become weighted down by feelings of _____.

Condemnation according to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary is defined as: to declare to be reprehensible, wrong, or evil usually after weighing evidence and without reservation.¹

Although we may have _____ regarding our past behavior, scripture is clear that there is no condemnation for those who have placed their faith in Christ.

Read: Romans 8:1

What does that scripture mean to you personally?

¹Merriam-Webster Dictionary- Accessed 11/29/22- <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/condemning>

Condemnation does not come from God. According to **John 10:10**, it is the _____ that comes to steal, kill and destroy, but _____ came to give us life. In fact, God has a wonderful plan and purpose for your life.

Read: Jeremiah 29:11

God has a preferred future for your life. One that is filled with hope and centered on Christ. It is towards this new life that we are reaching. A new life lived by _____.

Living by faith

Read: Hebrews 11:1 & 11:6

Take time to discuss: What is faith?

According to the Holman Bible Dictionary the concept of faith is primarily that of a personal relationship with God that determines the priorities of one's life.² Merriam-Webster defines it as a belief and trust in and loyalty to God.³

Where does faith come from?

Read: Romans 10:17

Faith, however, is more than just something we _____, it is something we _____.

Read: Romans 1:17

What does it mean to live by faith?

Read: Galatians 2:20

Living by faith requires us to _____ in the Son of God and _____ to a transformation in our heart, mind, attitudes and behavior.

Read: Ephesians 4:20-24, Romans 12:2

This week's reading plan: Read: Genesis Ch. 31-40, Proverbs Ch. 4

²Holman Bible Dictionary- Accessed 11/29/2022-<https://www.studylight.org/dictionaries/eng/hbd/f/faith.html>

³Merriam-Webster Dictionary- Accessed 11/29/22- <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/faith>