

You Asked For It 5

October 9, 2016 | mediaatvictory.com

What is it about our pasts that bring us so much pain?

There are lies you are believing that have been formed by your past.

You must identify the lies that you believe in order to overcome your past.

As the truth you believe makes you free, the lies you believe imprison you.

You are not defined by your past, but rather your identity in Christ.

Three Areas of Your Past to Overcome:

1. Offenses Toward Others

The lie you believe: My actions define me.

Remedy: Apologize and forgive yourself.

Romans 12:17 – As much as lies within you, dwell peaceably with all men.

Matthew 7:12 – "Do for others what you want them to do for you. This is the teaching of the laws of Moses in a nutshell.

Don't minimize your offense.

Don't demand that they forgive you.

Seek their good only, and then forgive yourself.

Forgive yourself. Unforgiveness against yourself is also a sin.

You are not defined by your sins.

2. Offenses Against You

The lie you believe: This person's actions define me.

Remedy: Forgive the offender.

Forgiveness doesn't change your past, it changes your future.

An offense laced with unforgiveness is like an arrow dipped in poison.

Unforgiveness gives the offender perpetual power over your life and your children's lives.

Ephesians 4:31-32 – ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be gentle with one another, sensitive. Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you.

You may never be more like Jesus, than when you are forgiving someone.

The root of bitterness defiles many.

3. Sins Against God

The lie you believe: God doesn't love me and won't forgive me.

Remedy: Believe His love.

Philippians 3:13-14 – ¹³ No, dear brothers, I am still not all I should be, but I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us.