

## ~Day 1~

### *The Past Does Not Define You*

*M*y single mother story is terrible. I will not go into too much detail, but it involved a wife, a girlfriend, and me; plus my son's father being incarcerated for seven years. I think that is just enough information to let you know how insane that situation was, without making this whole chapter about re-visiting the past. Instead I want to focus on how you can move away from it.

The only reason I am even going into my past situation is because so often, when people look at me, they do not think that my past would consist of so much drama. I am now this woman with three degrees, who looks put together and composed; who would have thought her past consisted of so much... ratchetness for a lack of a better word.

I tell you this, because I want you to know that the past does not define your present or your future. You may be a divorcee, a widow, a one-night stand, a woman that has never been married, or a woman who became a mother through an unplanned pregnancy. It does not matter.

What does matter is today. Today is a new day, yesterday is gone and passed away. And with every renewing day, you have an opportunity to re-invent yourself. But the key to stepping into your future is letting go of the past. I do not care if you used to be drug addict, prostitute, or

promiscuous. As long as it is in the past, let it stay there and do not let it continue to come into your now.

The most famous trick about Satan is that he loves to remind you of who you use to be.

Remember when you had a child out of wedlock, remember when your marriage did not work out and you got a divorce, remember when you were a bad wife, remember that you are the reason why your child's father is not in your child's life, remember when you used to sleep around, remember, remember, remember.

*"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7*

Do not feed into the devil, do not allow the devil to lie to you or remind you of who you use to be or what you did. Call out these thoughts. The devil is trying to get into your head, mess up your day, and ultimately mess up your future. And he uses the past to do that.

Instead of paying too much attention to the devil, you need to pay enough attention to God. And the word tells us that,

*"For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us."  
Psalm 103:11-12*

All this really means is, once you confess your sins, come to your senses, fear God, and are aware of your wrong doings, God will remember your sins no more. "As far as the east is from the west." Which is extremely far. So if God is willing to not remember what you have done, do not allow the devil to come in and convict

you and do not allow yourself to come in and convict yourself. Move forward from the past, because there is no changing it.

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*Daily Prayer*

Lord,

I confess my sins. Whatever I have done that is not of You, I want to confess it to You and know that, with all my heart, You have forgiven me. And if there is anything from my past that I am not aware of that offends You, then I pray that You bring it to my mind so I can repent of those sins as well.

Whatever I have done, whoever I was, and whatever I have been through that is NOT of You, I pray for Your forgiveness and I ask You to guide my steps so I do not continue to make the bad decisions. I know I am forgiven and know that I am not condemned in Your eyes, so I will no longer condemn myself. And I also will not let Satan convict me of my past wrong doings any further. For by Your grace, I am forgiven.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.