

REBOOT

"Reformatting the Memory of Past Guilt"

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Colossians 2:13-14

MY RESPONSE

1. I must not _____ from my past.
2. Instead, I must _____ by tearing down the old memorials and build new ones.
 - My past sins no longer have to remind me of my shame, my failures, my unworthiness, or how much God must be mad at me. Instead, I must let my past sins remind me of God's goodness, God's love and acceptance.
 - The only way to have peace with my failure is not to run away from it but to acknowledge it and let it serve as a new memorial— a memorial of God's love and acceptance, and no longer of my guilt.

WHEN I AM UNABLE TO FORGIVE MYSELF

1. I can be _____.
2. I can project my feelings _____.
3. I can transfer my feelings to _____.

THE PROBLEM OF DEALING WITH MY PAST

1. Whenever there is sin or hurt, there is always _____.
2. The only way to pay back the debt to myself is to never have _____. But that is not possible. So I'm stuck.

GOD'S SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF DEALING WITH YOUR PAST

COLOSSIANS 2:13-14

1. God has done something that I am unable to do myself— _____.
 - God took my "certificate of debt" and he cancelled it when he died on the cross (v. 19) and rose from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:17, 20; Romans 4:22-25).
 - I don't owe God and I don't owe myself anymore. It's over. It's done. What I'm trying to pay back, doesn't exist anymore. It's cancelled.
2. This means that I don't have to forgive myself because I have already been _____.
 - At the cross, I lost the right to condemn myself because my debt has been cancelled.

CENTRAL TRUTH:
I can be free from my past guilt because God has cancelled my sin debt.

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you handle guilt from your past? Do you find yourself doing any of the things in "When I am Unable to Forgive Myself?"
2. If forgiveness is about removing debt, how have you attempted to pay back the debt to yourself? Did it work? Is it really possible for people to forgive themselves apart from God's intervention?
3. God's solution to our problem of dealing with our past was to do something that we are able to do on our own – cancel our debt. Read Colossians 2:13-14 and Romans 4:22-25. What did God do and what implications does it have on your ability to deal with your past sins?
4. What does it mean that "At the cross, I lost the right to condemn myself because my debt has been cancelled?"
5. What old memorials have you built that you need to ask God to help you tear down? How harmful have the old memorials been to you?
6. The only way to have peace with your failure is not to run away from it but to acknowledge it and let it serve as a new memorial— a memorial of God's love and acceptance, and no longer of your guilt. How can you begin to set up new memorials today? How can your LG members help?
7. Read the Central Truth statement. What action can you take in the next week to bring about transformation that you seek in yourself in response to the teaching?

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