

Urban Legends

Leave the Past Behind

BIG IDEA: Leaving/forgetting our past is both unbiblical and impossible; we deal with our past by harnessing it, bringing it under the light of Christ, and letting God redeem it.

I. The nature of your past

- The past can't really affect us, but our present *feelings* about the past can.
- The Bible looks at our lives from a perspective of eternity – not past or future just right now. We say something is in our past, but according to the Bible it is part of our present, since from the perspective of eternity that is all there is!

II. How to harness your past

- Expose the deeds of darkness (Ephesians 5:11, 13)
- Forgive everyone who sins against you (Ephesians 4:32)
- Grieve your losses (Matthew 5:4)
- Confess and Repent family sin (2 Chronicles 30:7-8)
- Confess and Repent personal sin (1 John 1:9)

*God's view of repentance:

Num 5:5-7 NIV

The LORD said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites: 'When a man or woman wrongs another in any way and so is unfaithful to the LORD, that person is guilty and must confess the sin he has committed. He must make full restitution for his wrong, add one fifth to it and give it all to the person he has wronged.'

"Get saved. Get well. Get going."