

MOVING BEYOND THE PAST

Lesson 11: Breaking Every Deception

Introduction: Those who have experienced wounds and have scars from the past at times become prey to deception. They most likely do not know they are deceived because of the very nature of deception-it deceives. However, the good news is that the truth confronts deception and brings freedom. A person moving beyond the past can be set free from deception and walk in victory where there is true freedom.

- I. LIE-It is your fault that you were abused, harmed, abandoned, etc.
 - A. "It's your fault that you were molested." "It's your fault you were raped." "It's your fault that I am beating on you." "It's your fault that your father abandoned us." "It's your fault that your mother had a nervous breakdown."
 - B. A victim is a victim, they are not a perpetrator. It is not their fault for whatever harm that has occurred to them. Yes, all of us at times may make poor choices in certain situations, but we are not responsible or guilty for the harm done to us despite our poor choices. This is especially true for children. Also, many individuals have been wounded and harmed in the first few years of their life when they are not even able to make choices. Listen-you are not the guilty party.
 - C. Mark 9:42
"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe to stumble, it would be better for him if, with a heavy millstone hung around his neck, he had been cast into the sea."
- II. LIE-You have not forgiven unless you forget
 - A. "If you really forgive someone you will forget about the harm they have done to you. You must still have unforgiveness since because you told somebody about what happened to you."
 - B. Forgiveness does not require you to forget what happened to you. Forgiveness does not erase the memory. Forgiveness lessens the pain from the memory. Forgiveness gives the ability to move on despite the memory.
 - C. It should be noted if you feel the need to continuously 'repeat the war story', it can be a sign of not truly forgiving. There is a difference between sharing about what has happened to you, but 'playing the tape over and over again' is very unhealthy.
 - D. The only one that can forget sins that have been committed is God.

E. Jeremiah 31:34

"... and their sin I will remember no more."

Hebrews 8:12

"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

III. LIE-If you forgive someone you should trust them.

A. "If you really forgave your father for sexually abusing you, you would trust him." "If you really forgave the person you would not testify against them." "If you really forgave him you would let him come back to the house to live with you."

B. Forgiveness does not require a person to trust someone who has shown they are untrustworthy. Forgiveness does not require not holding a person accountable for their actions. Forgiveness does not wink at or ignore blatant sin-there needs to be a sorrow that leads to repentance by the perpetrator.

C. God wants us to use wisdom. God forgives us but many times still allows consequences to take place. Individuals who do not repent of sinful deeds are more likely to continue in sinful deeds.

D. 2 Corinthians 7:10

For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

Matthew 3:8

Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance,

IV. LIE-God is a wrathful God, determined to make you suffer.

A. "God has a baseball bat waiting to beat you up." "God is punishing you because you did not fight back." "You are dirty in the eyes of god."

B. There is no punishment from God for those who are victims. Guilt, shame, embarrassment, condemnation experienced by victims comes from the devil or a person believing the lies of others. You are not 'unclean' because of the sexual abuse done to you.

C. God wants to bring healing and deliverance to victims, not punishment.

D. We are not guilty for the sin done to us, but we are guilty of the sinful choices and actions (unforgiveness, bitterness, inner vows, bitter root judgments, etc.) we may have made because of what happened to us. But if we confess and repent of them,

there is no purpose for God to punish us. He has forgiven us.

E. Romans 8:1-2

¹ *Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

² *For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.*

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

V. LIE-If a person gets healed from the past or if they will just trust God more, they will always be happy.

A. "People who have emotional healing are always happy." "If you had more trust in God you would be happy." "You must have sin in your life if you are not happy."

B. These are clearly lies because Jesus was not happy at times. He was overwhelmed with sorrow at times. He was disappointed at times. Yet Jesus fully trusted in the Father and Jesus had no sin in his life.

C. Our goal should not be happy all the time. Our goal should be to be filled with the joy of the Lord which is a gift from God. Even though it is a goal and a gift, even joy will escape us at times. The good news is God can restore our joy.

D. Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

James 1:2-4

² *Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,*

³ *knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.*

⁴ *And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

Colossians 1:10-11

¹⁰ *that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;*

¹¹ *strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;*

John 16:20

"Truly, truly, I say to you, that you will weep and lament, but the world will

rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will be turned into joy.

Psalm 51:12

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit.

VI. LIE-God does not do miracles anymore.

- A. “Miracles were done away with after the original disciples.” “We don’t need miracles since we have the Bible.”
- B. There are those who have experienced horrific events in their life. In order for them to achieve complete healing in their life they need God to do an amazing work in their life. They need complete deliverance. The power of the Holy Spirit doing what only God can do. They need a miracle.
- C. Nowhere does the Bible say miracles would stop, it actually states that those believe in Jesus will do miracles. The Bible also talks about supernatural gifts that are given to Christians.

Mark 16:17-18

¹⁷ And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;

¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,

⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,

¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

James 5:14-15

¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.