

Title: Three Months Of Blessings; Getting Off Pause

Text: Philippians 3:13- (NKJV)

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead.

<Introduction>

***Science fiction love stories about time travel. Writers like using it as their story line.

<Movies like: Back to the Future>

- The Bible addresses **EACH** time zone in our lives.
- 1. The **PAST**: We are to forget.

Isaiah 43:18 - (NKJV)

***Do not remember the former things,
Nor consider the things of old.***

- 2. The **PRESENT**: We are to trust.

Proverbs 3:5-6 – (NKJV)

(5) Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; (6) In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

3. The **FUTURE**: We are to hope.

Colossians 1:5 – (NKJV)

***...because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven,
of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the
gospel.***

I. The **CHALLENGE** of the past.

A. The reason we don't **REMEMBER** the things we should is we don't **FORGET** the things we should.

B. There are **KEYS** to forgetting.

1. We can forget because we are forgiven. Isaiah 43:18 is **TRUE** because Isaiah 43:25 is true.

Isaiah 43:18 – (NJKV)

***Do not remember the former things, nor consider the
things of old.***

Isaiah 43:25 – (NJKV)

***I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My
own sake; And I will not remember your sins.***

2. We forget things which are **UNIMPORTANT** to us.

3. We forget because we're **CARELESS**.

1 Peter 5:7- (NKJV)

casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

- a. You can't forget what you're **HOLDING** on to.
- b. You can be careless because He **CARES** for you.

II. Forgiveness releases the **POWER to forget.**

A. Forgiveness makes important things **UNIMPORTANT** so we can forget.

B. Forgiveness is a **CHOICE** which releases the power to forget.

1. Forgiveness isn't the inability to **RECALL** an event.
2. Forgiveness puts events in the past so they can no longer **CONTROL** us.

III. Putting forgiveness in **PERSPECTIVE**

A. The definition of forgiveness is to give up resentment and the desire to **PUNISH**, to quit being angry.

1. These are feelings of the person **WRONGED**.
2. Forgiveness does something for **ME** regardless of the other person
3. It does not hurt to forgive; it **HURTS** not to.

B. Forgiveness is not saying that what they did is **RIGHT** or that it did not hurt.

C. Forgiveness isn't saying that they have a right to do it **AGAIN**.

D. Forgiveness used as a **VERB** means to send away, but used as a **NOUN** it means to receive.

1. As I forgive I send away hurt, **RESENTMENT**, and anger so I can receive healing.

2. Forgiveness brings a parallel **RELEASE**.

Luke 6:37(KJV)

Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will forgiven.

3. Forgiveness allows me to change and put events in the **PAST** whether or not the other person does the same.