



# One step at a time

## Lesson 10

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### **Healing Childhood Hurts**

#### ***Introduction:***

Are you still dealing with something that took place in your childhood? Is there something that happened that keeps you down, that keeps you from enjoying life to the fullest? No matter how bad it was, today is a new day and there is healing on the rise.

1. **What is God's counsel regarding childish things?**

When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

*1 Corinthians 13:11*

**God, in His infinite wisdom and power, says as we grow up we must put away childish things including childhood hurts.**

2. **How can I deal with the past and have a happy future?**

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but [this] one thing [I do], forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

*Philippians 3:13*

The Apostle Paul puts it nicely this way; **“Brothers and sisters, I know that I still have a long way to go. But there is one thing I do: I forget what is in the past and try as hard as I can to reach the goal before me.”** (Philippians 3:13 ERV).

### **Dealing with the difficulty of childhood pain from sibling rivalry and bullying**

3. **How was Joseph treated by his brothers?**

4 - And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

20 - Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams.

23 - And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped Joseph out of his coat, [his] coat of [many] colours that [was] on him;

24 - And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit [was] empty, [there was] no water in it.

28 - Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty [pieces] of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

Genesis 37:4, 20, 23, 24, 28

**Joseph was bullied by his brothers. Out of sheer jealousy Joseph's brothers stripped him, threw him in a pit, and sold him as a slave. This was about as bad as it could get. As a result of him being sold as a slave and sent to Egypt he ended up spending about 11 years as a servant and about 2 years as a prisoner.**

4. **Did Joseph allow his early life to destroy his life?**

And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I [am] Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

Genesis 45:4-5

**Time heals all wounds. Joseph was 17 years old when he was sold and 41 years old when he made amends with his brothers. When pride was put aside healing took place. Praise the Lord!**

5. **Can anything good come out of a bad situation?**

But as for you, ye thought evil against me; [but] God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as [it is] this day, to save much people alive.

Genesis 50:20

**Others may mean us evil but God will accomplish good.**

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**Dealing with the difficulty of childhood pain from unbalanced love from parents**

6. **Do we see unfair preference of children in the Bible?**

1 - And it came to pass, that when Isaac was old, and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see, he called Esau his eldest son, and said unto him, My son: and he said unto him, Behold, [here am] I.

4 - And make me savoury meat, such as I love, and bring [it] to me, that I may eat; that my soul may bless thee before I die.

5-6 - And Rebekah heard when Isaac spake to Esau his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt [for] venison, [and] to bring [it].

And Rebekah spake unto Jacob her son, saying, Behold, I heard thy father speak unto Esau thy brother, saying,

34-35 - And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, [even] me also, O my father.

And he said, Thy brother came with subtlety, and hath taken away thy blessing.

41 - And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.

*Genesis 27:1, 4, 5-6, 34-35, 41*

**Because of deceit and one parent favoring one child over the other a family eruption took place to the point that Esau wanted to kill his brother.**

7. **Even though Jacob and his mother were in the wrong did repentance take place?**

And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

*Genesis 33:4*

**Jacob's deception cost him time with family, excommunication from home, and 14 years of servitude. In the end healing took place and when pride was set aside.**

8. **Is there a purpose for what I went through?**

1 - To every [thing there is] a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

11 - He hath made every [thing] beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

*Ecclesiastes 3:1, 11*

**We may not understand what we go through but God can turn a bad situation into one that we will find blessing and peace.**

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**Dealing with the difficulty of childhood pain from abandonment from parents/grandparents**

9. **How to deal with ungodly parents?**

And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal.

But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons [which were] slain; and they hid him, [even] him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.

And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land.

*2 Kings 11:1-3*

**Joash's aunt , Jehosheba, hid Joash in the house of the Lord for six years from the wrath of queen Athaliah (grandmother of Joash). Imagine the emotional scarring that could take place.**

**10. Did Joash allow this dysfunction to destroy his life?**

And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and [gave him] the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king.

And when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard [and] of the people, she came to the people into the temple of the LORD.

And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner [was], and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets: and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason.

But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the host, and said unto them, Have her forth without the ranges: and him that followeth her kill with the sword. For the priest had said, Let her not be slain in the house of the LORD.

And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain.

2 Kings 11:12-16

And Jehoash did [that which was] right in the sight of the LORD all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him.

2 Kings 12:2

**Because God is ultimately in control Joash was eventually made king. Justice was administered to Athaliah. Joash, instead of putting the focus on the negative in his life decided to put his life in God's hands "for as long as he lives, Joash did what the LORD considered right".**

**11. Will God avenge my childhood?**

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, [is] the LORD of hosts: the whole earth [is] full of his glory.

Isaiah 6:1-3

**It is God's will that all should come to repentance and for all to inherit eternal life. Unfortunately some will reject His free gift, rest assured justice will be administered.**

My friends, don't try to punish anyone who does wrong to you. Wait for God to punish them with His anger. IT is written: "I am the one who punishes; I will pay people back," says the Lord". (Romans 12:19 ERV)

***Conclusion:***

When my mother and father forsake me, then the LORD will take me up (Psalm 27:10). No matter the childhood you've had you may now have peace when you give it all to Jesus and ask God for a forgiving and understanding heart.

**Great things are before us, and we want to call the people from their indifference, to get ready for that day. . . . We are not now to cast away our confidence, but to have firm assurance, firmer than ever before. Hitherto hath the Lord helped us, and He will help us to the end. We will look to the monumental pillars, reminders of what the Lord hath done for us, to comfort and to save us from the hand of the destroyer. We want to have fresh in our memory every tear the Lord has wiped from our eyes, every pain He has soothed, every anxiety removed, every fear dispelled, every want supplied, every mercy bestowed, and strengthen ourselves for all that is before us through the remainder of our pilgrimage.**

**We can but look onward to new perplexities in the coming conflict, but we may well look on what is past as well as what is to come, and say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us" (1 Samuel 7:12). "As thy days, so shall thy strength be" (Deuteronomy 33:25). The trial will not exceed the strength which shall be given us to bear it.**

***[This Day with God p. 58 E.G.W.]***