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### When Our Past Overshadows our Present

1. Living in the \_\_\_\_\_ of our past

A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_

I know about my sins, and I cannot forget my terrible guilt. **Psalm 51:3 (CEV)**

B. The \_\_\_\_\_ inflicted by \_\_\_\_\_

The parents ate green apples, The children got stomachache? **Ezekiel 18:2b (MSG)**

Question: How has the past affected me?

2. Putting the past in it's \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>18</sup>“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. <sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. **Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV2011)**

A. Be \_\_\_\_\_ about your past in order to \_\_\_\_\_ in the present

You can't heal a wound by saying it's not there! **Jeremiah 6:14 (TLB)**

B. Stop \_\_\_\_\_ in the past

<sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, ... forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the

goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV2011)**

C. You \_\_\_\_\_ what happened to you - You \_\_\_\_\_ who God says you are

<sup>6</sup> Since you are God's children, God sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, and the Spirit cries out, "Father." <sup>7</sup> So now you are not a slave; you are God's child, and God will give you the blessing he promised, because you are his child. **Galatians 4:6-7 (NCV)**

Question: Am I willing to own the past, so that I can live in the present?

3. Experiencing \_\_\_\_\_ in our stories

<sup>4</sup> But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, <sup>5</sup> that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!)

**Ephesians 2:4-5 (NLT)**

A. Extend \_\_\_\_\_ to your past

B. \_\_\_\_\_ God with your story

Questions: Am I yielding to God's work of redemption in my life?

### My Next Step Today Is To...

- Memorize and/or meditate on Philippians 3:13-14
- Give praise to God for his work of redemption in my story.
- Let go of something from my past so that God can bring me to the story He has for me.
- Surrender control of my story as I trust my life fully into God's hands, receiving Jesus as my Savior and Lord.