

TURN UP THE VOLUME **Take your life to the next level:** **DON'T REHEARSE THE HURTS**

SERIES PART 2

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- Ed Traut May 19th.
- Names on the wall.
- God provides Video Curriculum
- Beginnings

Open in Prayer

Our world is filled with people that remember. They say things like, I forgive you but I'll never forget. Offense is easily memorialized. You did this to me, so I'll do this to you.

How many of you have heard the saying "Cut off my nose to spite my face". e.g. To get back at you, I am going to slash the tire on the car, but now I don't have a car to get to work, and it's your fault. Or, I'm going to sabotage the coffee machine at work because I hate my boss, now I don't get coffee either.

They offended me at church and now I'm not going back to church.

Don't rehearse the Hurts.

Pain is often memorialized and people love to share the hurts they have had over and over and over. Mulling it in their heads, visualizing it, rehearsing the event, sharing it over and over.

God built our Spirit, souls and bodies in such a way that we were never meant to carry these issues. WE WERE NOT DESIGNED to exist this way. God said, I give you life and life more abundantly.

John 10:10

Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁰ The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have *and* enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).

Genesis 37

Amplified Bible (AMP)

Once there was a young man who was good looking, had some brothers, and had a bright future. He was a "laat lammetjie" (Late Lamb), a son of his father old age and favored.

He was a little excessive in sharing things and his brothers hated him to the point of death.

Obviously we are talking about Joseph.

They put him in a pit, sold him to some Ishmaelites (Muslims), who in turn sold him to Potiphar, his wife tried to seduce him, he was jailed, went before Pharaoh, interpreted a dream, was made President, and saved the world. His dreams opened the door for him.

When we came to Chattanooga, we came not only to start a church, but to begin something that would change our world. We have a dream.

There was a man who took one small little phrase and began a movement. That movement was begun which still resonates today in our country. He said "I HAVE A DREAM". He was so passionate about his dream that he gave his life for it. If he had to look at all the persecution he experienced and rehearse it, he would never have accomplished his dream.

Often times a dream that comes from God is bigger than ourselves and outlives us.

When Colleen and I came to Chattanooga, we came here with a dream and you all are a part of that dream. Some of you have a dream too, and we here want to stand united with you to help you accomplish your dream. That dream is bigger than ourselves and hopefully will outlive us, if Jesus tarry's.

There have been so many opportunities for us to get hurt by people. So many things that we can rehearse over and over again. Rehash, re-live, and repeat in our minds and thinking.

All that does, is hold us back.

All that does, is keep us in the past.

All that does, is hurt us over and over.

LET YOUR HURT IT GO!

We are here in these last days for one purpose. That is so that we can fulfill God's dream of bringing this world to

Him. Lead them into His presence and bring honor and glory to Him. At the end of the day, it doesn't matter how much money you made, what career you excelled in, or how well you retire.

The reality is, how many lives you affected for God.

The only way you can really change your world is if you live in community.

In our world we just want to live alone, just leave me alone. But God looked at Adam and said it is not good for man to live alone.

Why do we want to be alone, most of the time it is because when we get intimate with someone they might find out something about our lives. Last week we spoke about masks and some people might just sneak in behind that mask and find out who we really are.

They might find out about all our baggage. It doesn't surprise God. He loves you anyway but He wants you to change. He wants you to live abundantly.

How do we impact culture?

We definitely do not do it by rehearsing our hurts.

QUIT REHEARSING THE HURTS.

QUIT feeling sorry for yourself.

QUIT talking about your depression, your pain, your offenses and your baggage.

GET ON TO SOMETHING NEW!

Let's change our culture.

The platform we are trying to build our church on is not a good one. Our culture looks at us and thinks CHURCH, I hate church. we have to become relevant to our culture if we are going to change it.

Paul said it this way.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁹ For although I am free in every way from anyone's control, I have made myself a bond servant to everyone, so that I might gain the more [for Christ].

²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to men under the Law, [I became] as one under the Law, though not myself being under the Law, that I might win those under the Law.

²¹ To those without (outside) law I became as one without law, not that I am without the law of God *and* lawless toward Him, but that I am [especially keeping] within *and* committed to the law of Christ, that I might win those who are without law.

²² To the weak (wanting in discernment) I have become weak (wanting in discernment) that I might win the weak *and* overscrupulous. **I have [in short] become all things to all men, that I might by all means (at all costs and in any and every way) save some [by winning them to faith in Jesus Christ].**

²³ And I do this for the sake of the good news (the Gospel), in order that I may become a participator in it *and* share in its [blessings along with you].

Family, If you are looking for a perfect preacher or church you have not found it here.

We are normal people and yes, I get hurt too, I make mistakes as well. But like you all, I am trying to attain perfection, will I ever be perfect? probably not, but I am going to try to attain perfection.

Jesus said it like this.

Matthew 5:48

Amplified Bible (AMP)

⁴⁸ You, therefore, must be perfect [growing into complete maturity of godliness in mind and character, having reached the proper height of virtue and integrity], as your heavenly Father is perfect.

God expects us to be PERFECT!

But it can never be if we keep rehearsing the hurts.

We can never change our world if we keep looking to pain, death, destruction. That's why we shut off our TV 10 years ago. It just brings on extra baggage.

Quit rehearsing the hurt.

YOU CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST!

Philippians 4:13

Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹³ I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency].

Nothing is going to change in our world if we do not become dedicated to God and His mandate. We need to reach our culture, we need to change our world. We need to be different.

Philippians 4:13

Amplified Bible (AMP)

⁸ For thus said the Lord of hosts, after [His] glory had sent me [His messenger] to the nations who plundered you—for he who touches you touches the apple *or* pupil of His eye:

We need to repent. Every one of us. We need to turn from what has caused us to go the wrong way. We need to fight for righteousness, because the world will not. As Christians, our victory lies in the fact that we are opposite to the world.

When others have road rage, we do not.

When others have bad attitudes, we do not.

When others are lazy, we work hard.

When others don't serve, we serve with all our hearts.

When others are aloof, we bow the knee to bring hurting ones back up again.

When others are un giving or lack generosity, we are generous.

Repentance is the key. Repentance is what takes us into the presence of the king.

Repentance is the door to the blessing of God.

Repentance is what takes us to Heaven.

We are going to have breakfast church in a couple of weeks, what are you going to do to bring people for breakfast?

We are going to the Ocoee river rafting. Some of you all may not want to go on a raft on the river, but there are others that do, what are you going to do?

There are people that want to be in small groups that need help, wisdom and support. You may say something like, I don't want to be in a small group, but what about the hurting person that needs to stop rehearsing their hurts.

Our first Beginnings Event is going to be on Tuesday. You need to be there. Join with the movement to change people's lives. We all want an impactful church, but an impactful church is one where we all show up. **EVEN WHEN WE DON'T WANT TO.**

We are going to have a Baptism event soon.

We need to be the church, and the church is not here.
THE CHURCH IS YOU.

The church cannot become impactful when the church is carrying hurts.

In our daily lives, why would someone want to be a Christian, who is depressed, offended, sick, in pain, angry, resentful, talking badly of others, and gossiping?

NO THEY WANT SOMETHING DIFFERENT TO THE WORLD.

Pray.