

Prior to the Biblical Economic Seminars a questionnaire is given to participants which are then handed back to the instructor for needs assessment. The following is an interesting question from one of the groups:

***How do I forget the past of my not abiding by God's design for my finances?***

When I first heard this question I was a bit stunned. It is not a common question but it is valid. The answer also goes much deeper than just in finances. It responds to anything that we do against God's design and word.

Do we ever really forget what we've done? From experience, we know that memories fade when we are not currently involved in the situation. When we get our finances straight and work a good plan that keeps us in the positive our old behavior becomes a thing of the past. While we continue to repeat bad behavior, those results remain a focal point and source of other negative thoughts as well.

The devil is the accuser of the brethren. When we decide to do the right thing, here comes the devil to say, "remember when", or "you know you're just going to mess up again". Those are lies if you really want to do the right thing. Say this out loud; "I'm on the right track for my financial future."

*Finances are a blessing from God. We have stewardship over all things that the Lord has given us, and we don't always do what we know is right. Here are some scriptures to help change your attitude, mind and heart so the process of forgiving yourself can begin. Then put the old things where they belong—out of your present.*

- **Philippians 4:6**  
Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
- **Psalms 119:37**  
Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.
- **Psalms 119:107**  
I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word.
- **Psalms 143:11**  
Quicken me, O LORD, for thy name's sake: for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

When we have done things that we need to be rescued from, and Jesus is the only way it is going to happen, say these scriptures from your heart. We all need change. The word "quicken" means to come to life, be revived. Old things are put away and newness of life.

- **Matthew 7:7**  
Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:
- **Luke 11:9-10**  
And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; **knock**, and it shall be opened unto you. For everyone that asks receives: and he that seeks finds: and to him that knocks it shall be opened.

Remember, the process of forgetting what you've done as a habit is to consistently do what needs to be done. Then we can begin to look at some of the other questions like budget, organization, and having a daily and monthly check of your status for the plan that works for you.