Redeeming the Past – Romans 8:28

**Part 2 of the Moving Forward Series**

**Introduction: Redeeming What’s Behind**

Every one of us has chapters of our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we wish we could rewrite.

Paul encourages us to “forget those things which are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” (Phil. 3:13–14).

Romans 8:28: God works \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ things for good for His glory and our good.

While we don’t dwell on the past, we serve a God who can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it.

# I. Letting Go of the Past (What “Forgetting” Really Means)

Forgetting doesn’t mean \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ memory—it means choosing not to dwell on the past or let it define us.

Don’t be defined by past \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Don’t be distracted by past \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Don’t be shackled by past \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

# II. Nothing Is Wasted: God’s Sovereignty and Redemption

Romans 8:28 promises God works \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ things for good.

God can even use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for good – the Cross proves it.

Nothing is wasted in the hands of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God.

# III. Redeeming a Sinful Past – Examples of Grace

David – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & murder → repentance → restoration.

Paul – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ → preacher.

Peter – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Christ → forgiven → leader.

Rahab – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ → ancestor of Jesus.

No matter what you’ve done, if you turn to God in repentance, He can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you and use you.

# IV. Redeeming a Painful Past – Purpose in Our Suffering

Joseph’s story – betrayed, enslaved, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – yet says:

“You intended to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me, but God intended it for good.”

God uses pain for: growth, helping others, and bigger \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

# V. From Misery to Ministry – Your Story for God’s Glory

Testimony is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Luke 8:39.

What was once a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ becomes a testimony.

God uses your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to bring glory to Jesus.

# VI. Redemption Through the Cross – Hope for Everyone

The Cross is the ultimate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus took all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and shame on Himself.

Redemption means to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ back – Jesus paid for our freedom.

He wipes away \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and gives a new start.

# Conclusion: Trusting God with Your Past

God never wastes our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Your past doesn’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you – God does.

Your past is not the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of your story – by God’s grace, it can be the beginning of a new one.

Surrender your past, trust His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and focus forward.