



# HOLY FORGETFULNESS

Week 32 | January 6, 2025

One of the **greatest gifts** God can bless us with is *a short memory*. The Biblical concept of **forgetfulness** is so much more *than a cognitive process of the brain*. Instead, to forget means to to **let go of**, **move on** from, and no longer **hold onto** something or someone. This does not come *naturally* to most of us, but in it there is so much freedom and life. That's why this week we are praying for God to bless us with a **Holy Forgetfulness** that *releases us* from:

## 1. Our **PAST** (**Hebrews 8:12**)

- a. **NOTE:** We all have **baggage**. Much of it comes from the *mistakes we've made* along the way and the failures that often keep us up at night. Christ came to **redeem** even *our past*, and one of the ways that He does so is by granting us a holy forgetfulness of our sins from days gone by. Once **confessed** and **repented** of, the only purpose in bringing up *former failings* is to learn additional lessons from them or for the **benefit** and **encouragement** of others. Any other agenda is from **the enemy** in an attempt to *hold us back* in shame and guilt. (**Isaiah 43:25**; **Revelation 12:10**)
  - i. **For Ex.** "Father God, thank You for **forgiving us** our sins through *Jesus' death on the cross*. Thank You for **wiping the slate** clean, *remembering no more* the failures of our past. **The enemy** has tried to convince us that we are still held as guilty for all of those mistakes, but they are wrong. Please **silence their lies** at this moment and instead, Lord, grant us *a holy forgetfulness* of the times we have fallen so that we can move onward towards what **You have planned**."
    1. **REMEMBER:** *Self-shaming* is a fruit of pride. It is **arrogant** to fixate on something that God has *forgiven you* of. (**Psalms 51:7**)

## 2. Our **PAIN** (**Colossians 3:13**)

- a. **NOTE:** We all have **painful memories** that we wish we could forget. Many of these are a result of *the wounds* inflicted by others over the years and oftentimes leave **nasty scars** as time goes by. God also wants to *release us* from this pain so that we can move forward into the **wonderful plans** He has in store for *the future*. Through forgiveness, He has given us **the tool** to do so, even *modeling the way* through Jesus. Because forgiveness sets us free and allows us to **forget** all of the ways *others have hurt us*, it makes sense that our enemy would seek to keep us **in bondage** by consistently dredging up *old memories* and *past hurts* that have already been dealt with. (**Ephesians 4:32**; **2 Corinthians 2:10-11**)
  - i. **For Ex.** "Lord Jesus, thank You for **paying the price** of our sins on *the cross* of cavalry. Thank You for loving us while we were **still Your enemies** and for *forgiving us* before we even asked. Grant us today the **desire** and **power** to *forgive others* as You have forgiven us so that we might be freed from the **painful echo** of what they did. *Come into that memory*, Lord, and wipe it clean by the power of **Your blood**. For *the cross was sufficient*, for my sins and for theirs."

1. **REMEMBER:** *Harboring unforgiveness* limits your **growth** by hindering your hearing and healing. (Matthew 18:32-35)

### 3. Our **PREFERENCE** (Isaiah 43:18-19)

- a. **NOTE:** Over time we all develop **hopes**, **dreams**, and **ambitions** as well as a certain inclination to our former and *preferred way* of doing things. While many of these plans of ours may **seem harmless** on the surface, they are *powerful tools* for the enemy when they interfere with God's **sovereign agenda**. God longs to *set us free* from even this as we surrender all of **our expectations** to Him and instead *seek after His will* for our lives. It can be an unpleasant process, but the **promises of God** await all of those who are willing to *give up* and *forget* their preferences for life. (Matthew 5:3; Matthew 16:25)
  - i. **For Ex.** "Holy Spirit, thank You for leading us into **all truth** and for teaching us the *will of the Father*. Thank You for working in us to **mold** and **shape** us into the *image of Christ*. Please come now and fill, search, and guide us along the path You wish us **to follow** and send down *Your fire* to burn away any of our personal **preferences**, **agendas**, or **expectations** that might *interfere*. Set us free from our former way of thinking and instead grant us the ability to **see things** from Your *point of view*."
  1. **REMEMBER:** *Holding on* to **expectations** leads to confusion, discouragement, and disillusionment. (John 6:60,66)

### Questions for Reflection:

- Are feelings of **guilt** over *your past* keeping you from producing fruit in **the present**?
  - *Forgive yourself* for the mistakes you've made (surrendering them to God) and when the **enemy** tries to bring them up remind them that *the cross* has already paid that price.
- Has God **grown quiet** in your life? Has your *growth* and *healing* slowed or stagnated?
  - Examine yourself for any trace of **unforgiveness**. *Confess it* to God and give to Him whatever they did so that you can be **set free** by "*remembering no more*" their sin.
- Are you facing **confusion** or **discouragement** in your life? Have you become *disillusioned* with your faith, *dissatisfied* with your job, or *discontent* with your family?
  - Ask God to search you and reveal what **unmet expectation** you are *holding onto*. Break the demonic agreements associated with it and instead **embrace God's plan** with *faith-fueled contentment*.