

Revelation #86 – Would you rather be RIGHT than happy? Why asking forgiveness is so hard!

This is a phrase we may have heard before, often referring to someone we may think of as self-centered or narcissistic or just very insecure! Someone who is '*always right*' tends to irritate and put off people. We don't usually take the time to find out why someone is acting this way, but to run away from them as quick as possible or work hard to prove them wrong! Yes, sometimes it is because of pride and arrogance, but what if there is a deeper underlying reason why they have such a strong need to be right? I personally struggled with this "*dis-ease*" and discovered in my late thirties, after my divorce, what the cycle was that was driving it.

This is what the cycle looked like for me: If I ask for forgiveness it means I am wrong; If I admit I am wrong, it means I have failed; if I failed it means I'm bad; if I'm bad it means I'm shameful; if I'm shameful it means I'm rejected; if I'm rejected it means I'm worthless; if I'm worthless it means I'm a piece of garbage; which means I'll be alone and abandoned; which equals PAIN! **Asking forgiveness equals pain!** THEREFORE, I can NEVER admit I'm wrong or ask forgiveness for fear of the pain, rejection, and abandonment I expect to experience!!

Logic doesn't enter the equation. It's all about survival! When in this cycle, I didn't realize it was a self-defeating, self-destructive, and self-fulfilling action that would actually cause the very thing I was afraid of: abandonment, loneliness, and rejection! When we associate something with pain, we try to avoid it at all costs!

From my own personal history of growing up with an alcoholic father who divorced mom and abandoned us when I was six years old, I developed such a deep insecurity and fear of abandonment. When you add to that, my father was beaten by His alcoholic father, and the generations of fathers before him, it is now a generational pattern affecting my life! From what we've learned about generation sin and their effects, I was set up to re-experience this same fear of rejection and abandonment, going all the way back to the Garden of Eden!

With out even knowing it, I was cooperating with this destructive cycle until someone had the love and grace to help me see it and CHOOSE to break from its grasp! It was a significant piece of my healing when I discovered during a counseling session that I was walking in so much victim and self-pity. At the time, I was believing, "*Why can't I have these? It's a small comfort in exchange for all the hurt and rejection I've experienced.*" When my counselor helped me realize that when I agreed with self-pity I was agreeing with a spirit of death, something clicked in me! I was able to make a different choice!! It wasn't easy, but it changed the course of my life!

I still wrestle with it occasionally, especially if I am feeling unloved or unvalued or unappreciated! That's where growing in my intimacy with Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit have made a huge difference! I can go to THEM for comfort and reassurance and strength! Having my core identity rooted in them helps guard my heart from walking in self-pity and death.

