

# Forgetting the Former Things

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In Children's Church on Sunday's we are journeying through the entire Bible. It will take 3 years, but our intention is to not skip a thing! Because even the weirdest stories (especially some of those Old Testament ones...) can be used to point us to Christ. During one of our Sundays not too long ago, we learned about the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and the subsequent saving of Lot and his family. In this story, Lot's wife is given the chance to leave her former life (in a sinful city) and start fresh elsewhere. However, she cannot move on without one last longing look at the city she came from. This action went directly against God's instructions to not look back and she ultimately lost her life because she could not fully part from her past.

In this biblical account lies a valuable lesson, whether we are just accepting Christ for the first time, re-dedicating our lives, or committing to change. A foundational key to transformation is to forget the former things and strive whole-heartedly for what is ahead. Phil. 3:13 says, "... Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (NIV)

The beautiful thing about Christ is that we don't have to wait for destruction to loom in our lives, as Lot and his wife did, before we are motivated to newness and growth. Christ can whisper these promptings into our hearts and souls at any time. My hope and challenge to us today, is that we will be a people who are attentive to His voice. And as we listen, we will keep our eyes fixed forward, striving with joyful ambition toward the heavenward prize God has called us to. Let's not look back with longing but get excited for the future! Hopefully, the best is yet to come.