



# Relationship w/Jesus

## ARTICLE

# Water Spots

intentional

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In my small world as I do my daily duties of cleaning, I don't worry about the little things. Little things like cobwebs in the basement, magazines on the coffee table, and water spots on my silverware. In fact I never had water spots on my silverware until one day . . .

As a Sister in the church diligently dried the church silverware one day after a dinner, she said she couldn't stand water spots on silverware it just drove her nuts.

Now, I tell you today, I never had water spots on my silverware before. I really didn't. I have done the dishes for years, by hand, and let them drip dry then put them away. No water spots. Zero, zilch, none. But just as soon as water spots were mentioned, I thought about them, and sure enough, the very next day I had water spots. I was surprised, even shocked at the sight. I went from no water spots to water spots that plagued my silverware.

So here was my predicament; what was I to do now that I have water spots? Will they bother me? Will they dictate to me to dry all of my silverware every time I wash them? Will I be ashamed if guests seen my water spots?

Water spots are so much like our past. Yes, the very thing that plagues us from time to time. We are not looking for it and yet sometimes our past reaches up to grab us by surprise and we are stunned by it. Then the forgotten failures and the forgotten hurts show up to slap us around. For years you went without those memories, untouched by them, day by day. Until something provoked them; was it something someone said, was it a scent, an event? Something happened and these water spots of memories demanded to be noticed. They are obstacles, unavoidable, and they capture our attention.

When the past shows up, ask yourself: Are they from God? Or are they from our adversary the devil?

Yes, **sometimes God allows our past to be brought back to our memory** to give us a chance to fix us. Perhaps it is unforgiveness, or for you to ask for forgiveness.

When we forgive, it releases us from the bondage of pain and bitterness. It's difficult to forgive without the Lord's help. Prayer is the key to forgive; pray and ask our Lord Jesus for direction, pray for those who caused the hurt, and pray for yourself that you will forgive them.



Everyone is susceptible to pain inflicted onto us by others; whether intentional or otherwise. Most people who offend others are not aware. You can go to them and try to talk it out, figure out what had happened and the issue can be fixed immediately.

Or, if you are in a position like I was a few times in my life, where really good friends just refused to talk about the issue. This frustrated me, I said "Lord, how can this issue be fixed if they won't talk?" The Lord, Jesus Christ was so gracious, He knew my heart and how it was breaking. I was able to pray for them, and pray for myself, then I was able to dismiss the issue. I forgave, even when they didn't ask or try. I would think that a friendship/any friendship would be valuable enough for both parties to want to work things out.

If perhaps you were the one who did the damage, and the Lord is allowing you to remember the past and what you've done so you can repent and fix the issue as best as you can. It's not okay to do damage to another person and point your finger at them saying it's their fault. Regardless how you try to spin it or twist the truth. I am amazed at how many people refuse to own up to their own wrongdoings. It is the mature people own up to their own mistakes, and admit it. We're human, everyone makes mistakes. An open and honest apology (most times) will get it right.

If Jesus brought forth the past for you to work on, He will help you work through these memories let Jesus enhance you, strengthen you and make you wiser.

**Or could the past be in your face because the devil is messing with you?** An idle mind is the devil's workshop. It's up to you; do you allow them to stay? Will you allow them to dictate to you, batter you down, depress you; will you allow your past to control you? Or will you decide to conquer those determined memories? Remember Philippians 4:8 and keep Jesus in the forefront of your mind and you will get the victory!

I resolved that the water spots on my silverware will not hinder me. I continue to do my dishes in the same fashion, and today I do not have any water spots. Once in a while I will notice the water spots. But when I ignore them and they just seem to fade away; I just admire the shiny silverware I'm used to.

*"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

*1 Corinthians 15:57*

