

A LESSON TOLD Y A BROKEN COFFEE MUG

by Brian T. Hargis © 2016

We don't forgive easily and we often fail to forget the wrong suffered.

Years ago, when my oldest son was just a little guy, he accidentally dropped my favorite coffee mug and it shattered into pieces on the kitchen tile.

I handed Jordan a broom and made hit sweep up the pieces. When all the broken shards and slivers were collected, he had to glue it back together again. He struggled with the puzzle of broken and missing pieces, but after a few hours he finished. Although the mug was no longer usable with all the holes and cracks, it served as a constant reminder to Jordan of what he broke.... something that I cherished.



The mug was a gift that I valued so much, it overshadowed my empathy for Jordan. I failed to put myself in Jordan's shoes and connect with him emotionally. He certainly didn't mean to break it. It was an accident; one that I thought was careless, reckless and could've been avoided.

If we are honest, there are areas of our life that we have carelessly damaged or even changed the course or direction through neglect. Yet we are God's valued possession, redeemable by saving gift of His Son, Jesus Christ!

I'm so glad that my Heavenly Father is far better than I was with Jordan. God doesn't parade my past failures on a shelf so that I can be reminded of it each day. He doesn't throw my past in my face to remind me of how careless I have been. In fact, the Lord didn't make me sweep up a mess and glue it back together. If that was the case, it would still be broken like the coffee mug. Thankfully, God, not me, repaired and salvaged the broken pieces in such a way to make it usable again.....for others.

We are broken, but God rises above all human expectation and exceeds our failure by forgiving and forgetting.

"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." ~Psalm 103:12

Take a moment to allow that to sink in.

The next time you feel like reminding people of their past faults, think about what God did with yours.

Grow in Truth and be blessed!